

How to Work With Your Faculty Mentor

How to Find a Faculty Mentor

- Talk with your faculty advisor to see if they will be your mentor or connect you to other faculty.
- Talk with instructors in classes to see if they will be your mentor.
 - Take advantage of office hours and selecting your electives.
- Initiate a relationship with faculty by asking for feedback or opinions for your project/assignments.
 - Ask for resource recommendations or opportunities.

Maintaining Good Relationships

Three rules to maintain great relationships with faculty mentors:

1. Be prepared – Respect your mentor's time.
2. Bring something visual/physical for better discussions.
3. Bring progress and problems – Have goals for each meeting.

Working With Your Mentor

Pre-research:

Brainstorming; feedback; finding a research niche

Groundwork:

Research direction and clarification; literature reviews; preliminary discussions

Research Method Development:

- Bias-check to ensure the research method will have accurate results.
- Use their experience to guide your project development.
- Continue to check-in with them to identify research pitfalls.

Analysis and Conclusion:

- Check the logic and consistency of your analysis and conclusion.
- Compare how you are interpreting your results.
 - Confirm that the results suggest accurate conclusions.

Presentation and Delivery:

- Work with mentors to improve your communication.
 - Research presentations are meant to teach the audience. Ensure you are delivering accurate information to them.
- Mentors can provide feedback on presentation format and delivery

Be honest, open-minded, and share your concerns!

- Don't be afraid to express your stress about your research! Mentors can help you through it.
- Listen to their feedback and work with them to apply their critiques accurately.