Graduate Student Advising Philosophy
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As an advisor I help students achieve their educational and career goals while becoming independent, life-long learners and outstanding researchers/teachers. I also aim to create an active peer mentoring community among my current and former advisees, and find that the ideal mentoring community is one where we all learn from each other.

I work best with students who conduct theory-driven risk/crisis communication research that informs policy and practice – including applying for and executing multidisciplinary grant-funded projects. My most successful advisees are independent, focused, and flexible high-achievers who proactively engage me in their research, teaching activities, and graduate program planning. My approach to research methodology is to pick the best method(s) to answer the research questions/hypotheses, whether that be qualitative and/or quantitative research.

Below I summarize my primary responsibilities as an advisor and what I expect of my advisees. I encourage you to consider whether we would be a good fit for a successful mentoring relationship in terms of: (1) research topic fit, (2) methodological and research approach match, and (3) advising/work style compatibility.

My primary responsibilities as an advisor are:
1. Assist with course scheduling, program planning, and successful completion of degree requirements to optimize time in graduate school.
2. Assist with research plans each semester to optimize high-quality, realistic research goals.
3. Assist with research submissions to peer-reviewed conferences and journals, and work with committed students until their work is published.
4. Assist with teaching strategies, pedagogical development, and any classroom challenges.
5. Assist with grant proposals – both ones I generate and ones students may bring to our team.
6. Assist with successfully preparing for comprehensive exams.
7. Assist in developing, researching, and writing outstanding dissertations.
8. Assist in preparing for a successful job search, whether that be in higher education or outside of the academy.
9. Assist with navigating work-life balance, time management, etc.

I expect my advisees to:
1. Be self-starters who engage me and other faculty for direction and inspiration.
2. Make meaningful contributions to the field through their own research as well as through joining research teams as relevant and feasible.
3. Be engaged in the discipline through submitting to and attending conferences, workshops, and other relevant and feasible opportunities.
4. Carefully consider their evolving academic and career goals and openly share this information with me.
5. Prioritize their graduate studies and be open with me about their successes and challenges.
6. Be able to productively respond to my and others’ feedback, and always strive for improvement.
7. Take responsibility for their education by following through on their commitments, managing their (and my) time well, and taking primary responsibility for managing degree requirements.
8. Be productive teachers and departmental citizens.

If you think I might be a good fit to serve as your advisor, let’s talk about your interests and aspirations.