

## **Michelle Murray Yang** **Advising and Mentoring Philosophy**

My advising philosophy is based on the belief that the purpose of advising is to help each student cultivate her or his own unique voice as both a scholar and as an educator. To that end, I aim to help students develop programs of study and research driven by their specific intellectual interests. As an advisor, I see my mission as helping students prepare for the type of academic future they seek—whether that future is predominately focused on teaching, research, or a combination of the two. To that end, I view advising as a student-driven collaboration.

### **As an advisor and mentor, I assume the following responsibilities:**

1. Provide guidance on developing and successfully completing a plan of study
2. Provide thorough and timely feedback on student work
3. Support student collaborations with other faculty members within and across research areas
4. Assist students in preparing for their comprehensive exams
5. Work with students to develop their scholarly credentials by reviewing their submissions to academic conferences and journals
6. Work closely with students on subject selection, research, and writing for undergraduate honors theses, master's papers, and dissertations
7. Impart professional development advice
8. Help students develop their teaching skills
9. Aid students as they develop academic and/or non-academic job market materials

### **As an advisor, I expect my advisees to:**

1. Take initiative in their academic studies and take responsibility for their progress
2. Responsibly manage and prioritize the demands of their academic studies
3. Thoughtfully consider and address feedback provided on their work
4. Set and meet project deadlines
5. Fulfill the requirements for maintaining good standing within the department
6. Complete required paperwork on time
7. Cultivate the qualities of an effective department citizen: engage in respectful communication, be a team player, and positively contribute to the department's culture
8. Maintain open communication with me about their advising needs

### **Requirements for Serving as an Advisor/Committee Chair:**

1. In order for me to serve as a student's advisor or the chair of her or his committee, there must be a clear connection between my research interests and the student's scholarly work.
2. In order for me to serve as a student's advisor, she or he must have successfully completed at least one course with me.

3. I will not be offended if a student asks me to step down as advisor if she or he believes another faculty member's research agenda is a better fit for her or his project. I do expect students to inform me of such changes in person or in writing so I can accurately keep track of my advising responsibilities.

**Requirements for Serving as a Committee Member:**

1. In order for me to serve as a member of a student's committee, there must be a clear connection between my research interests and the student's scholarly work.
2. I will not be offended if a student asks me to step down from her or his committee if she or he believes another faculty member's research agenda is a better fit for her or his project. I do expect students to inform me of such changes in person or in writing so I can accurately keep track of my advising responsibilities.

Please feel free to drop by my office or schedule an appointment with me if you have questions regarding my advising philosophy. I am happy to chat with you about your professional goals and whether I might be the right fit for your advising needs.