

Co-supervision

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Co-Supervision Session

1. Brief overview talk about supervision and co-supervision
2. Group work
3. Presenting results to plenum
4. Open discussion

Supervision

- ▶ What is supervision?
 - ▶ Academic guidance and support
 - ▶ Training in research practices
 - ▶ What is research?
 - ▶ Feedback
 - ▶ Problem solving
 - ▶ Career advice

How to be a good supervisor - some general principles

- ▶ Be available
- ▶ Be clear - the good and the bad news
- ▶ Be consistent in feedback
- ▶ Point out risks
- ▶ Determine the right level of ambition, scope
- ▶ Guide to independence - reasonings
- ▶ Establish a good working relationship

The supervision relationship

- ▶ Supervision is always a relationship
 - ▶ Students and supervisors have different expectations, needs, and personal styles
 - ▶ There is no one size fits all
 - ▶ Some prefer hands-off supervision, some clear task definitions
 - ▶ Some like to chat about weekend plans, some prefer a strictly professional relationship
 - ▶ Some prefer regular meetings, some prefer ad-hoc encounters
 - ▶ ...
 - ▶ Establish expectations, agree on a working style that works for all parties
 - ▶ Adapt to requirements of the situation (e.g. beginning of thesis vs. finishing)

The "sandwich"

- ▶ As a co-supervisor, you're in-between the supervisor and the student
- ▶ What is your responsibility and what is not?
 - ▶ Defining the task, level of ambition, or "just" problem solving
- ▶ What would you like to learn as part of the supervision?
 - ▶ Supervision as a skill
- ▶ What is the purpose of the co-supervision?

do's
and
don'ts

Group work - tips and tricks for supervision

2	1
3	4

- ▶ In small groups, fill in a flip-chart
 1. My best supervision experience was...
 2. My worst supervision experience was...
 3. I found most difficult to handle a supervision situation where...
 4. What really worked for me in supervising students is...
- ▶ You have 20 minutes
- ▶ Then we return and present result to everyone
 - ▶ Followed by open discussion