



Jodi Dworkin

Professor and Extension Specialist

This advising statement is a working document to enhance our working relationship. It is designed to open dialogue and create space for discussing your goals, and how we can best work together to reach those goals.

Communication:

The easiest way to get in touch with me is via email. I usually respond quickly (usually within a day). If something needs a response and you haven't heard from me, assume it is still in my inbox and please send me a reminder. If my door is open, you are always welcome to stop in for a chat, to share something amazing that happened, or discuss challenges you are encountering.

Meetings:

In general, I expect students to participate in weekly team meetings, and to show up prepared and ready to contribute. I also schedule individual meetings with students that ensures we have time to connect when needed, and also allows for just a quick check-in if there's nothing pressing to discuss. If meetings are short, that's okay, but I like to check in.

Feedback:

I am always willing and available to provide feedback. I appreciate advance notice so I can block time on my calendar and give your work sufficient attention. I am usually able to get feedback to you within 3 days. I always provide a lot of feedback on writing. As I go through a paper, I include all my thoughts, questions, and accolades. Please take this as a sign that I have devoted significant time to whatever you have sent me. I expect that you think about every comment, and expect that you won't simply accept my track changes or suggested edits. Comments are an opportunity to think about how someone else has read your work, think about whether or not that was what was intended, and then envision how you might be able to make your point differently.

Program Requirements:

We will check in at least annually about your program requirements and degree progress. I expect that you will spend time with the graduate handbook, and be familiar with process and forms. I may miss something; please do not expect me to keep track of it for you.

Publications:

I very much view the portfolio as a minimum set of guidelines. I expect students to graduate with multiple first author publications and even more co-author publications. In addition to building your CV, you are gaining critical experiences to support your development as a scholar and your independence. Similarly, I expect students to be actively submitting to present at least one peer-reviewed professional conference paper or poster each year. I want students to be authors, and to understand how authorship is determined so they feel confident in negotiating that and advocating for themselves. I expect students will recognize my contributions and the contributions of others with authorship. Authorship is something we will discuss throughout a project. Please ask questions.

Leadership & Professional Development:

I expect you find professional spaces that you can call home – they don't need to be the same places I call home. However, there is value in engaging in similar spaces as it allows me to connect you with other current and emerging scholars in the field. And I expect you to be engaged with the communities in those

spaces. This includes seeking out service opportunities in the department, college, university, and profession, as well as volunteering to review conference proposals and journal manuscripts. This kind of networking is critical for your growth and development as a scholar, and identifying future career opportunities.

Personal Life:

I have one and expect you to have one too. And this requires communication. When there are no classes during spring break and winter break, your RA and TA appointments continue and I expect that you'll continue to make progress on your work. If you are traveling, please communicate about that ahead of time so we can plan accordingly and adjust work as needed. If you have family needs that may require you to participate in a meeting virtually or bring children to meetings – no problem – just communicate with me so we both know what to expect.

Ethics:

I expect all my students to abide by the [University of Minnesota](#) code of conduct, and all ethical standards of research as outlined by the [APA](#) and the [National Council on Family Relations](#) (NCFR).

What I expect from you:

- Take responsibility for your own learning, identify research questions or outreach projects that you are interested in and propose publications and presentations
- Willing to challenge yourself and me
- Hold high expectations for both of us and your peers
- Willing to work hard, make a lot of revisions, and attend to details (do not expect me to be your APA editor)
- Be intellectually curious
- Meet deadlines
- Go above and beyond – if you don't know how to do something, don't wait for our weekly meeting to ask, go find the answer. If you are running analyses and you don't find what you're expecting, ask yourself why, and find other ways to ask your question.
- You will be presented with opportunities – it is your responsibility to take them (and we can talk about when to say no)
- As you move through the program, I will expect you to take on more responsibility, leadership, and initiative for your scholarship.

What you can expect from me:

- Support and mentoring to help you reach your goals
- Regular meetings and email conversations
- Timely responses
- Willingness to problem solve
- Support for developing research projects, ideas, and your scholarly voice
- Opportunities for publications and presentations
- Meet deadlines
- Intellectual curiosity
- High expectations for both of us
- Opportunities to talk about and create work-life balance