

**Marlene Stum**  
**Professor and Extension Specialist**

Note: At this time, I am not accepting new advisees. I am available to serve on masters and doctoral thesis committees if completion is expected within 2-4 years.

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As an advisor I believe it is my role to support, nurture, and mentor graduate students as they pursue their individualized goals. I am committed to contributing to the development of future family professionals as researchers, practitioners, and teachers. I value honesty, transparency, mutual respect, and accountability in the advisor/advisee relationship and when working on student committees. I believe advising must be student-centered and respect the individual value of all students.

**What I expect from you:**

- Meetings can be arranged when input, feedback, and discussion as needed with me as a committee member. I expect students to take the initiative to contact me as needs and concerns arise.
- I prefer communicating by email or when needed by phone/text (651-888-1227).
- Pay attention to program requirements and deadlines.
- Be upfront and transparent about disagreements or conflicts so that resolutions can be found.
- Provide me two weeks lead time for feedback on drafts.
- Commitment to publishing and presenting your scholarly work.

**What you can expect from me:**

- Accessibility and responsiveness
- Being supportive, challenging, and nurturing to develop theory, methods, and practice expertise.
- Thorough and critical review of your academic work with a commitment to high quality over quantity; and high quality but not perfection.
- To challenge you to be able to justify and defend your scholarly work.
- Dedication to understanding your strengths and challenges to support your success.
- Support, problem-solving, and good listening skills
- Respect for your goals, demands, and life's challenges.
- Agreeing to serve on your committee if we determine I am a good fit (content or methods) to mentor you in your thesis project.
- Opportunities to utilize existing datasets addressing critical later-life family issues.
- On-going support as you pursue professional opportunities (guidance, letters of recommendation).

**Joint Responsibilities:**

- Mutual respect
- Commitment to excellence
- High ethical standards

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Celebrating accomplishments