

HDR Supervisory Philosophy and Expectations

Supervisor Name: Associate Professor Jason Mills

College: Nursing and Health Sciences

My Supervisory Philosophy

Below you will find my supervisory philosophy. This represents what I believe effective supervision to be, and how I will approach my role. The philosophy also includes my supervisory style.

Effective Higher Degree Research supervision—much like education, generally—is not a mere transaction of skills or knowledge acquisition. It is much more than that; it is an alchemy that fans the burning flame of curiosity and fosters critical thinking and scholarly inquiry to answer important questions of interest. My supervisory philosophy is both relational and functional; my supervisory styles vary to accommodate individual need and timing in terms of support or direction.

As the ‘driver’ of your research, you lead the direction and completion of your research training from the driver’s seat. As your trusted Navigator, I am right beside you to guide with clarity and direct according to your chosen destination.

What I offer to you

Below is a list of the types of guidance and support I will be offering you during your candidature, as well as an overview of the types of support that is outside of my domain.

You can expect to be challenged throughout your research training journey, as growth does not come without challenge. At the same time, you can count on being fully supported in ways conducive to your success. I offer guidance on the basis of my research expertise, together with flexibility to help navigate the research maze alongside the personal ups and downs that inevitably arise in other spheres of life. The University/student support team also provides a suite of resources and support services to assist you. As your research supervisor, I commit to being *approachable, accessible and encouraging* – whilst also being *open, flexible, supportive, and professional*.

My expectations of you

Below are the things that I expect from you during our candidature, including frequency of meetings, work produced and any work commitments.

I value open and honest communication, and to achieve positive outcomes expect this in all of our interactions. This can manifest in a variety of modes, including regular meetings that will vary according to need, mode and stage of candidature – the frequency of meetings can be negotiated and evolve from weekly to fortnightly, to monthly.

I ask that you reflect on your motivations (intrinsic/extrinsic) and commit to following through on these to completion.

My expectations on publications and authorship

Below is my list of expectations on publications and authorship produced during your candidature. These should be read in conjunction with the Code.

As an experienced guide and research supervisor collaborating with you on your research training journey, my input and co-authorship on your thesis-related publications is appropriate in tandem with your lead authorship as the primary investigator/researcher. This is consistent with relevant external codes and Flinders University HDR policies.

Other

Any other expectations, responsibilities or comments are included below.

It can be helpful to remember that regularly taking the time to pause, celebrate milestones and have fun along the way is part of a positive research journey and supervision experience 😊