

Advising Qs*

Graduate students have a variety of “advising” resources at their disposal, from their academic advisor and Graduate Program Advisor Leslie Abadie to workshops in the department or elsewhere on campus and—not least—their fellow graduate students. Advisor styles, as well as advisee needs, vary widely, so where you turn for what kind of advice will depend on those styles and needs. Wherever you turn, here are some questions for both advisees and advisors to consider.

CLARIFYING EXPECTATIONS

Frequency of advisor-advisee meetings?	Discuss
In summer months or during sabbatical?	Discuss
Relations with co-advisors?	Discuss
Letters of recommendation, proposals	How much lead time needed?
Conduct/ethics?	Review AHA guidelines , discuss

ACQUIRING SKILLS

Time management skills (a life-long quest!)	How – tips?
Bibliographic and data management skills	How – tips?
Citation forms – footnote, bibliography	How – tips?
Analytical skills – secondary, primary sources	How – tips?
Skills in synthesis	How – tips?
Digital history skills	What, how?
Teaching experience/pedagogical training	What, how, when?
Any special, field-specific skills needed?	Discuss
Languages – required, additional?	Which, when?

SETTING GOALS AND MEETING BENCHMARKS

Prepare for multiple career paths?	How, when?
Build an intellectual network	Groups or faculty on campus, professional associations?
Develop an MA research question	When, how?
Conduct MA research	When, where?
Satisfy MA research seminar requirement	History 800 or other? When?
Second-Year Review	When?
Minor requirement	Which option, what courses, when?
Prepare c.v.	When? Models?
Apply for internal funding	When? Preparation needed?
Apply for external funding	When, where? Preparation needed?
Prelim prep and timeline	What fields, when?
Develop dissertation prospectus	How, when?
Conduct dissertation research	When, where, permissions required?
Submit conference proposals	Which conferences, when?
Enhance accessibility of research to other disciplines, to general public	How?
Publications	When, what venues?

* Advising Qs is intended to serve purposes similar to those of the Graduate School’s Individual Development Plan, which graduate students supported by NIH funding are required to use. See <http://grad.wisc.edu/pd/idp>. (rev. 7/29/2016)