



MAKERERE UNIVERSITY



# Fitting your supervision within the DRGT Rubric and Timelines

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# Makerere Univ. graduate programme Plans

## Plan A: Course Work and Dissertation: A student must:

01

Complete coursework consisting of a minimum of 18 Credit Units during the year

02

Submit a Dissertation (8-10 CUs)

03

External examination of Plan A Dissertation shall be mandatory

04

Seminar Series will be mandatory. Students must present

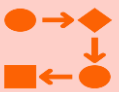
# Makerere Univ. graduate programme Plans



A student must complete coursework that shall constitute 75% of the entire workload for the Degree.



A Student must submit a Report on a supervised Short Project/Field Attachment/Industrial Training carried out. (300 hours equivalent to 8 weeks; 5CU)



External examinations of Projects/Reports shall be done as in course work.



Seminar Series will be mandatory

# Study Plan

## • Semester 1

- Provisional Registering - Colleges/Schools/Department/Unit.
- Attendance of relevant courses, including cross-cutting courses – Research methodology; Proposal writing, Scholarly writing, etc.
- Developing draft proposal
- Developing Research Instruments
- Review of the Draft proposal by the Doctoral Committee
- Review of the study plan with guidance from supervisor(s).

## • Semester 2

- Attendance of discipline specific course
- Development of full proposal and presentation to the Doctoral Committee.
- Presentation of full proposal to the School Higher Degrees and Research Committee (students may be discontinued if they fail at this level, however, they may be allowed to appeal).
- Presentation of progress report.
- Revision of the reviewed study plan.
- Provisional registration / Full registration.

# Study Plan

- **Semester 3**

- Registration for the semester - School/Department and DRGT with a developed proposal.
- Laboratory / fieldwork, data collection.
- Presentation at seminars
- Review of study plan.

- **Semester 4**

- Attendance of courses where applicable.
- Continued Field/ Lab work.
- Data analysis
- Presentation in a seminar – Draft chapters
- Review of Study plan.
- Presentation of the first paper.

# Study Plan

## • Semester 5

- Development of a draft or outline of thesis.
- Commencement of the writing process/ Data analysis.
- Presentation at seminar/DC.
- Review of Study Plan.
- Presentation of a second paper
- Publication of a paper

## • Semester 6

- Finalising of writing.
- Final seminar presentation to DC.
- Submission of thesis/dissertation.
- The Examination process.
- The public (open) defence/Viva voce examination.

# Our students

01

Businesslike



keep focus on the course. They don't like interference in family life

02

Personal  
oriented



Less discussion on PhD

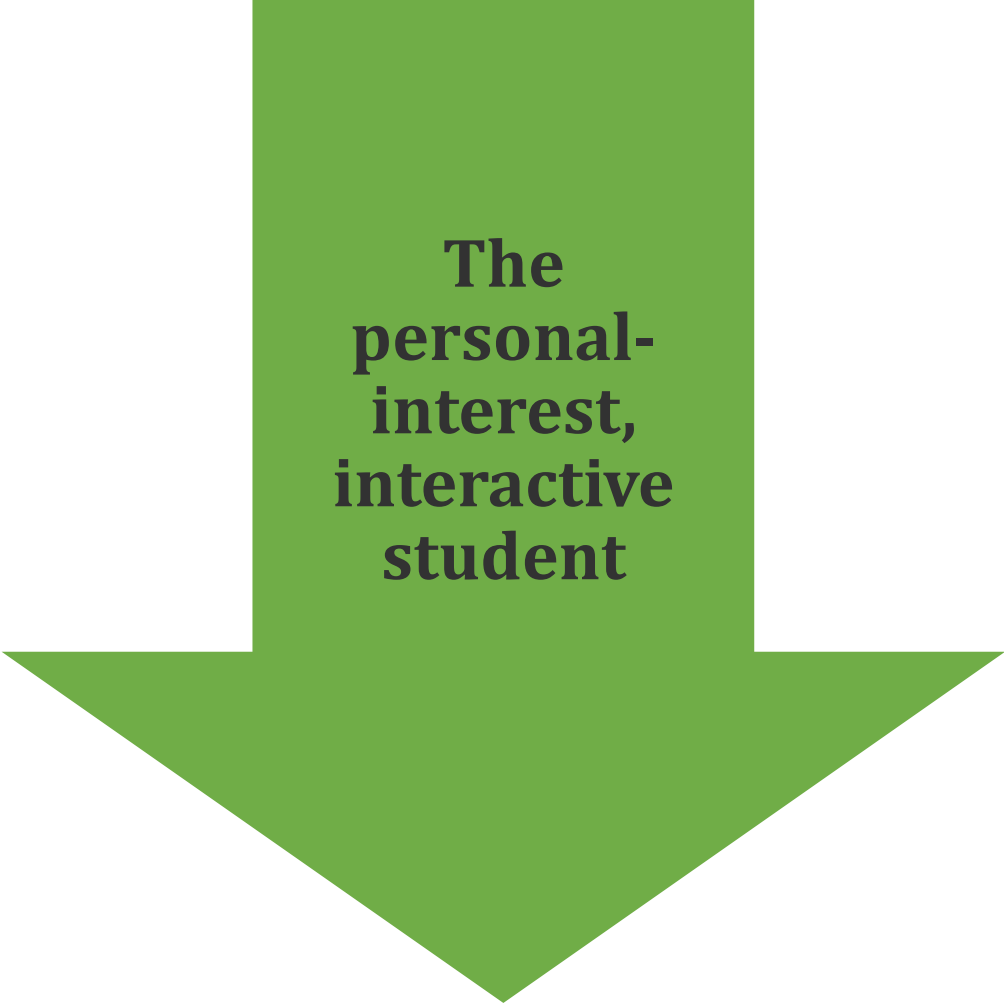
03

Independent  
student



Prefer to work alone. Few meetings

- Want personal touch. They social-emotional bonds, with trustful and fluid arrangements.
  - Prefer meetings which start with small talk
  - like to share experiences beyond the PhD work.
  - Want continuous advice on their performance, with attention to their personality;
- Expect a lot of detailed, to-the-point suggestions for improvements.



**The  
personal-  
interest,  
interactive  
student**



# Supervisor and students expectations

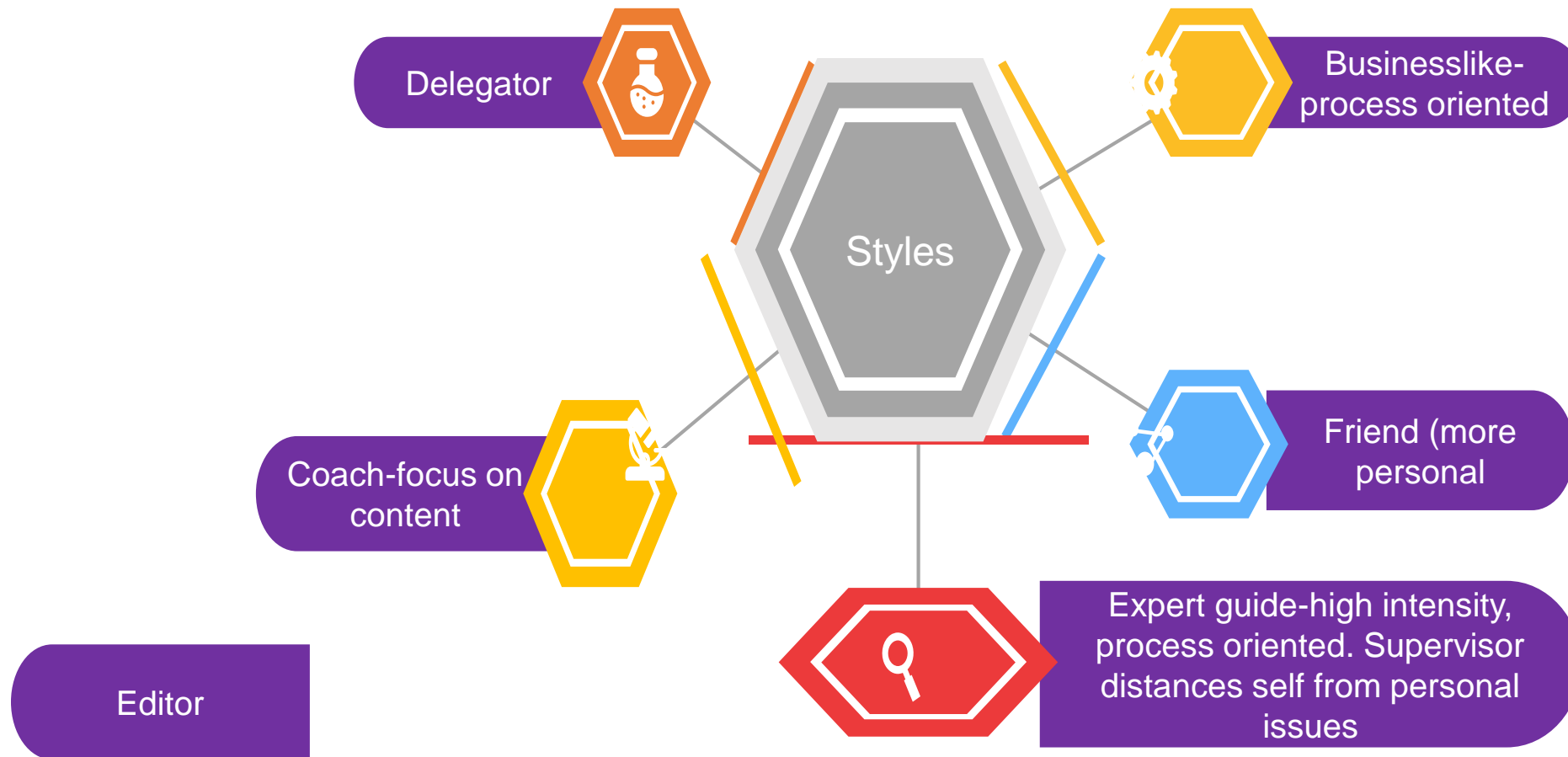
- Students

- To be independent
- Present written work that is not just a first draft (hence more a product than a process style of management).
- Regular meetings with their PhD students
- Honesty about progress reporting
- Their advice to be followed
- Be excited about their work

- Supervisors to:

- Read their work well.
- Constructively critical,
- Good knowledge of the research area
- Willing to share their knowledge
- Be available when needed,
- Are friendly, open and supportive
- Be role models,
- Act in their best interest

# Supervision style

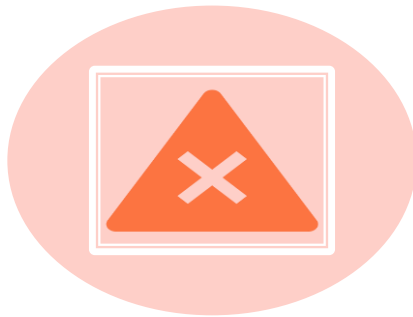


# Year 1

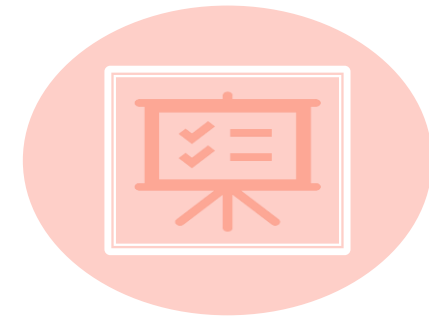
The first year of candidature is crucial



negotiate a mix of formal and informal interactions



Build relationship



Provide relevant sources of expert advice

Encourage self-confidence and simultaneously monitors progress

# Subsequent years

- Frequent interaction reduces and the relationship becomes more like a peer relationship.
- consistently encourage and assist candidates to draft thesis text, and to publish and present their research in journals and at conferences

# Pedagogy of good supervision

01

hands off'

- Candidates left largely to their own devices.

Assumption –confident, independent, knowledgeable, skilled, organised

02

'hands on'

go through a number of iterations of thesis and publication drafts with candidates

- supervision tend to be associated with faster and more completions.

# How can we ensure students meet timelines

- One to one: provides personal attention and nurturing
  - tailor work to fit the needs, interests, and issues of a particular student
  - provide the much-needed safety and privacy
- Group supervision: build confidence and peer support
  - Good for student who enjoy the experience of learning and sharing amongst their peers
  - foster collaborations
  - involve academics and other experts in candidates' research e.g. presentation to others

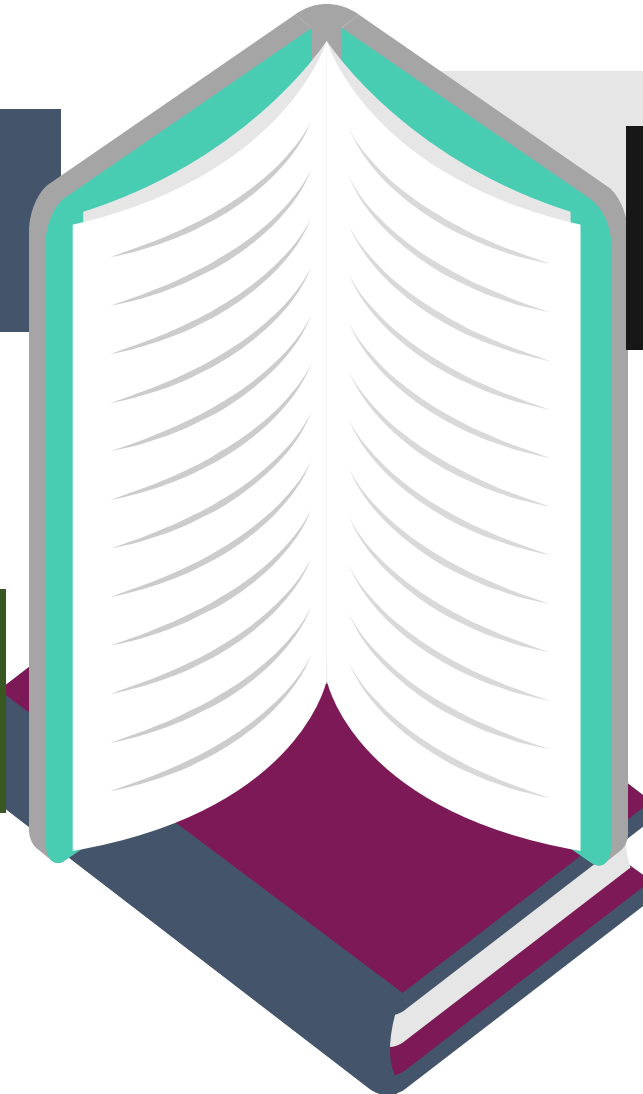
Mouton gives five general rules for a healthy and successful relationship

dignity, respect  
and courtesy

no harassment

accessibility

Privacy and honesty



# Chemistry between student and supervisor

- The success of a supervisor-PhD candidate relationship partly depends 'chemistry' between supervisor and PhD candidate.
- Any incompatibility affects completion
- During the process PhD candidates tend to know more about the details of a research topic than their supervisors, which can threaten the relationship



# THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

