

Role perception scale

This scale (adapted from Moses, 1985) can help you to clarify your expectations of your supervisor. Each pair of statements expresses an extreme view that supervisors and students may take. Estimate your position on each issue and mark it on the scale. You could ask your supervisor to do this too and then discuss it together.

	Supervisor responsibility	Rating	Student responsibility
1	Selecting research topic	1 2 3 4 5	Selecting research topic
2	Deciding on theoretical framework	1 2 3 4 5	Deciding on theoretical framework
3	Ensure access to necessary facilities	1 2 3 4 5	Identify and access necessary facilities
4	Select appropriate research methodology	1 2 3 4 5	Select appropriate research methodology
5	Deciding on thesis structure	1 2 3 4 5	Deciding on thesis structure
6	Supervisor should initiate and decide on frequency of meetings	1 2 3 4 5	Student should initiate and decide on frequency of meetings
7	No close personal relationship with student	1 2 3 4 5	A close personal relationship with the supervisor is essential
8	Devise time- line and keep student on track	1 2 3 4 5	Develop a timeline and keep self on track
9	Should insist on reading all chapter drafts and give feedback	1 2 3 4 5	Responsible for asking supervisor for feedback on chapters
10	Terminate candidature if thinks student is unlikely to succeed	1 2 3 4 5	Expects support from supervisor even if having difficulties
11	Should assist student in writing, editing and proofreading	1 2 3 4 5	All writing, editing and proofreading
12	Should provide a bibliography of all the resources needed	1 2 3 4 5	Should be responsible for locating all resources

Based on adaptations by: Kiley & Cadman (1997) University of Adelaide: Advisory Centre for University Education; Ryan & Whittle (1995); and Conrad (2001) Griffith Institute for Higher Education. The adaptations are all based on:

Moses, I. (1985) *Supervising postgraduates*. HERDSA Green Guide No 3, Kensington: Higher Education Research & Development Society of Australasia.