

2. Getting support

The supervisor/supervisee relationship

Follow this link to the Centre for Sociology, Anthropology and Politics *Companion for Undergraduate Dissertations* and listen to social science lecturers talking about what the relationship between a supervisor and a dissertation student.

<http://www.socscidiss.bham.ac.uk/vidpages/s10vid.html>

Working with your supervisor

Although this site from the University of Melbourne is aimed at postgraduate students, it offers really useful advice on how to work with your supervisor. It covers issues such as: getting to know your supervisor, different supervisory styles, making the most of your time with your supervisor, evaluating supervision and dealing with conflict.

<http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/lisu/resources/thesis/pg008.html>

The Dissertation Success site also offers guidance on how to manage your relationship with your supervisor:

<http://www.dissertationsuccess.com/pm/supervisor.htm>

Dissertation meeting templates

Sometimes it is useful to have structure in your dissertation meeting. Having a simple proforma that you can complete might help. Below is a template that you could use or adapt for your own supervisory meetings.

Date of meeting:	Attendees:
Brief statement on progress since last meeting:	
Action points from last meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">••••	
Areas of discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">••••	

Agreed action arising from discussion	When?	Who?
Date of next meeting:		

Peer support

The Internet offers many opportunities to gain support from students at different universities. Social networking sites, discussion boards and forums are just some of the ways. These two links take you to forums where dissertation students discuss the progression of their projects and ask for advice and guidance from peers:

www.socialpsychology.org/forums/student

www.thestudentroom.co.uk