

## **Biostatistics Two-year Advising Plan**

Students and advisors should meet early to discuss their program plan of study. All students will have different needs and interests; meeting monthly with advisors is a good way to start building relationships.

### **Year 1: Fall Semester**

- Within the first month of classes, the student should email their advisor to arrange an initial meeting. During this first meeting:
  - Review the role of an academic advisor and discuss the scope of their guidance.
  - Review your resume with your advisor. Discuss career goals and skills or experiences you want to gain in your degree program to position you to meet your goals.
  - Schedule recurring meetings with the advisor (recommended: three times per semester).
- Email your advisor an outline of events and milestones that you expect to complete each semester during your program of study (understanding that updates may occur). Complete and review a MyPlan (from [Sample Plans of Study](#) in MyUI) in consultation with your advisor before spring registration opens. When your MyPlan is complete and approved by your advisor, email the Graduate Program Coordinator (GPC) to confirm your MyPlan has been completed.
  - Does the MyPlan deviate from the recommended sample plan of study? Are there courses that you want to take that are not on the list of elective courses or do you feel that a course should be waived due to prior experience or coursework? If so, additional approvals may need to be obtained and the GPC will coordinate that process.
  - Have you ensured that your MyPlan meets all requirements and that the courses are generally offered in the semesters in which you have added them? Refer to the [Student Handbook](#) for degree requirements.
  - Develop a student opportunities plan; community contacts to network with, Graduate College resources, CPH student organization events that would be useful, etc.
- Look into the work of other faculty in the college and consult with your advisor to learn more about their area of research, if applicable.
  - Is there anyone in the college (or outside of the college) who is doing work you are passionate about? If so, reach out to them and ask to meet them.

### **Year 1: Spring Semester**

- Review your MyPlan with your advisor before early registration opens for next fall.
  - Do any updates need to be made or is everything on track towards the targeted graduation term?
- By middle of the spring semester develop a summer plan, if applicable.

- Preceptorship research may span multiple semesters. Review the Preceptorship Guidelines in the [Student Handbook](#). Discuss with your advisor your interests and potential strategies to investigate a preceptorship for year 2.
- Discuss plans to prepare for the MS Core or PhD Comprehensive Examinations, if applicable.
- Discuss with advisor/GPC what has gone well and what barriers you encountered during your first year in the graduate program.
  - Discuss potential ways to take advantage of what went well and how you can overcome those barriers in year 2.

### **Year 2: Fall Semester**

- Review last year's meeting schedule. Are monthly meetings still needed with your advisor?
- Review student opportunities plan with your advisor and GPC for upcoming year.
  - Which events/programming were missing from last year?
- Review your MyPlan with your advisor before spring semester registration.
  - Do any updates need to be made or is everything on track towards the targeted graduation term?
- For MPH students, early in this semester discuss opportunities for Applied Practice Experience (while consulting with Jeanie Kimbel).
- For other students, finalize preceptorship plans.

### **Year 2: Spring Semester**

- Review and discuss with your advisor the progress you've made during the Applied Practice Experience, internship, preceptorship, capstone, etc., if applicable.
  - Review the deliverables from these experiences.
- Discuss with advisor and GPC what has gone well and what barriers you encountered during your time in the program.
- Discuss with your advisor and/or DGS ways your advisor/department can continue to provide guidance in your job search.