

Good advice and information for students:

- Don't hesitate to use your opportunity for feedback even if the supervisor seems busy. The teachers get time to supervise you and do not see you as bothersome because you want supervision.
- Don't be afraid to remind your supervisor to answer e-mails if it has been more than four days since you sent your e-mail. An e-mail can easily get lost in a mailbox that receives many e-mails on a daily basis. Most supervisors will therefore appreciate the reminder.
- Plan all meetings with your supervisor in the beginning of the course. Supervisors have many other tasks and may have trouble finding time in their calendar on short notice.
- Don't postpone your scheduled supervision because you don't think that what you have made is good enough. It is a condition of academic life that things will never be good enough and could always have been different. If you postpone you risk not having use of your supervision. Remember that your supervisor has seen a lot of half-finished work and that part of the process is to get feedback on your work along the way.
- Supervisors react to complaints in different ways. Some think that it is good that you complain since mistakes can happen, others get mad. Try first to get into dialogue with your supervisor. There may be some grounds for the evaluation that you didn't think of. If you still disagree with the assessment, it is your right to complain. It will not have consequences for your further studies and you can always choose another supervisor later in the future. Complaints about supervision and grading are rare, but around half of the cases are judged in favor of the student.
- Group feedback is a great benefit when it comes to distribution of resources and the academic development of the student. Students can get more time for supervision all in all, since many of the points from the supervisor get told to all students. That means that there is more time to go into other topics in the individual supervision session. Group feedback also has an academic benefit. Firstly, it strengthens your competences of giving feedback on each other's papers. Secondly, many students experience getting new perspectives that they would not have discovered on their own and hearing questions, they didn't know you could ask. To make sure that all get the most out of a group feedback session it is good idea to have an agenda. Generally it is the responsibility of the supervisor to facilitate the meeting.

- Most supervisors have fixed ideas on how to structure a paper, which theoretical perspectives to use and other preferences. This doesn't mean that they are not open for doing things differently, but that they are used to work in a specific way. Be aware that the suggestions from your supervisor are not the only way to do things. Much is up to you and this is what trains you in selecting, arguing and taking a critical stand. Ask your supervisor if what he or she says are suggestions or instructions (for example academic regulations) if you are in doubt.