



Mentorship in Graduate Education



The American
University in Cairo



The Context

- Founded in 1919; Located in Cairo - incorporated in Delaware
- Independent, private, not-for-profit university
- Accredited by the Middle States Association, USA, with individual national and international accreditation of different programs and schools.
- About 6,500 students, including 1,200 graduate students
- About 480 faculty members, with 45% international faculty
- Offers 53 master and 2 doctoral programs – English language for instruction and administration





Mentorship

Supervision

Advising





At AUC, we recognize...

- It is a complex form of pedagogy
- It is essential for a successful graduate studies experience
- It is a unique relationship
- It requires engagement of the supervisor and the supervisee
- Student anxiety in selecting a supervisor is not uncommon
- Challenges for faculty supervisors oftentimes not sufficiently recognized





Guiding Principles

- Mutually consensual
- Student-centered and adapted to student needs
- Pedagogical process focused on knowledge creation
- The student must be actively engaged and responsible for his/her/their progress and development

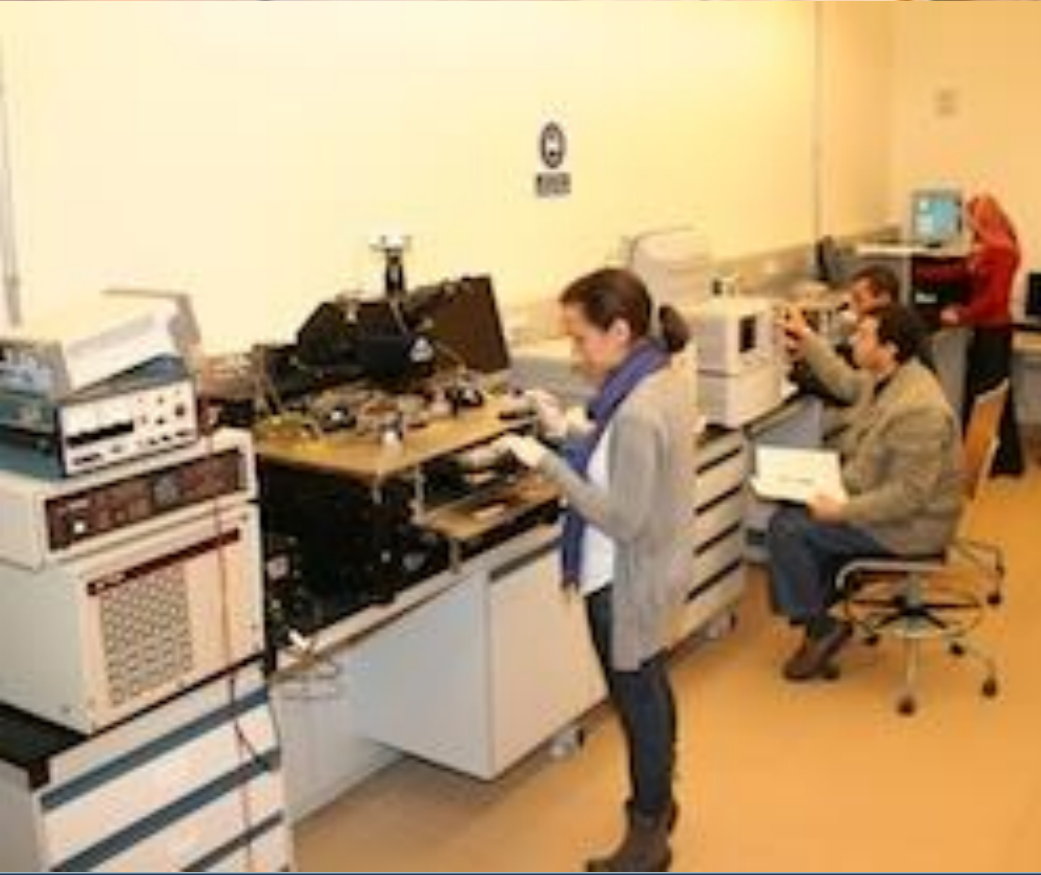




Main Elements

- **Agreement** - setting clear expectations for mutual responsibilities and details of the supervisory process *(the methods and frequency of contact and responses; maintaining records of progress; and mutual commitment to the relevant university requirements and regulations, etc.)*
- **Documentation of progress** *(milestones accomplished; metrics on progress towards degree completion; addressing potential conflicts)*
- **Mechanisms for addressing possible conflicts** *(resolution at the lowest possible level; possible incremental escalation adherence to established university procedures and processes)*





Main Elements

- **Support to students**
(university-wide academic workshops)
- **Support to faculty supervisors**
(engagement in self-reflective practices; maintaining a campus-wide discussion)
- **Recognition of good supervision practices**
(guideline; award?)



An aerial photograph of a university campus during the golden hour. A wide, paved walkway runs through the center, flanked by rows of palm trees and green lawns. On the left, a large, modern building with a grid-like facade and glass windows is visible. In the background, more campus buildings and a hillside are visible under a warm, orange sky. The text 'aramadan@aucegypt.edu' is overlaid in the center of the image.

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