

# Matching expectations (student and supervisor)

The following list is intended as a tool for you as a new PhD student in order to match expectations with your supervisor. We recommend that you bring the list to one of the first meetings with your supervisor and go through the topics you find relevant. Some topics might be postponed until later in your studies.



Kind regards,  
PHAUST (The PhD association at Aarhus University, Science and Technology)  
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PhD Association at Aarhus University, Science and Technology

- Meetings
  - How often: Should they be scheduled regularly or only when there is something to discuss?
  - Purpose (discussion of articles, methods, progress...)
  - 'Whom do I turn to with my everyday problems?' (main supervisor, co-supervisor or someone else at the department/in the group)
  
- Practical matters
  - Office space
  - Computer
  - Licences for software
  - Budget for books, conferences, fieldwork etc.
  - Insurance
  - Holidays
  - Maternity/paternity leave
  
- Planning
  - PhD-planner: the initial PhD plan and half year evaluations
  - How to prioritise between courses, teaching and the project
  - How to prioritise between different projects ('is more than one project a good idea for me?')
  - How to set realistic deadlines. Short-term deadlines for parts of the project?
  - Study abroad: When and where is it relevant to go?
  - In what way will your supervisor be involved in the different parts of the project (eg. writing articles, abstracts, planning of study abroad, networking...)?
  - How to handle unforeseen obstacles that might delay the project?