Unclear expectations from a research advisor can be stressful and create difficult working conditions. Below are my thoughts on some important components of our work together. They are not exhaustive, so please ask me about anything or bring up your own concerns.

Activities outside research

Some valuable grad school experiences include: applying for funding, journal reviews, summer internships, outreach, and presentations. We should both seek out opportunities that match your interests, but I will let you know if I think you've overextended yourself.

Authorship

The projects we work on together might be led by you, me, or one of our collaborators. We will have regular conversations about authorship, responsibility, and ownership of ideas. This can be uncomfortable, but it will protect your time and research profile.

Communication

I use Discord as a shared space to maintain updates about research. Having a single place to track everything we've done is helpful and saves time. We should both agree on when to expect responses to messages (for example, within 48hrs) before following up.

Culture

Inclusive and positive spaces are important to me. I promise to respect you, and you should respect others as well. If you feel unwelcome here, please talk to me. Anyone that discriminates against or harasses others will be reprimanded and reported.

Documentation

Before meetings, share a brief (rough) writeup of your progress or questions. This is a helpful starting point for manuscripts and reduces the amount of time you'll spend explaining things. No one has thought about your research as recently or deeply as you.

Meetings

We'll set aside a weekly time to meet, but you can cancel the meeting any week that you don't require it. Afterwards, someone should share a summary of the meeting to make sure that we're on the same page. I can do this, unless you have detailed comments.

Progress

You should certainly plan to take regular time (e.g. vacation) away from your studies to avoid burnout, but communicate this in advance so that we can adjust timelines. If I'm ever concerned about the progress you're making towards graduation, I will reach out.

Working hours

Under most circumstances, your graduate work should be treated like a fulltime job. However, your regular working period may be different from my own. When I work on nights/weekends, there is *no expectation* that you reply until your own working period.