



# ASKING FOR ADVISOR FEEDBACK

4 TIPS FOR THESIS STUDENTS

## 01

**DON'T PUT  
IT OFF**

**Waiting until the last minute to show your advisors your work is not a good move.** Get input early enough to apply it and often enough to keep moving forward confidently. Negotiate a timeframe with your advisors.

**How to say it:**

"I'd like to share a **rough outline** for Chapter IV with you to make sure I'm on the right track."

"Can we have a **quick check-in** soon so I can run my plans for Chapter III past you?"

## 02

**PROVIDE CONTEXT  
AND BE SPECIFIC**

**Let advisors know what you're working on and what you're struggling with.** If you need input on your content but the writing is still rough, make it clear that you'll be putting extra effort into editing at a later stage.

**How to say it:**

"I'm reconsidering the **organization** of the case studies. Do you have recommendations for a better structure?"

"Is there any material you'd **recommend I cut** from Chapter II?"

## 03

**KEEP THEIR  
EXPERTISE IN MIND**

**Your advisors or second reader may have different areas of expertise.** These differences may inform who you ask first about different sections of content, or how you frame your request for review from each.

**Examples:**

One of your advisors is an expert on using **quantitative analysis**: they'll have unique input for your **methodology** chapter.

One of your advisors has vast **knowledge of technologies** used by other researchers: they'll have insight on your **literature review**.

## 04

**RESPECT PET PEEVES  
AND PREFERENCES**

**Every advisor is different. Yours may have specific non-negotiables related to format, structure, or grammar.** These may be field-specific or just a preference. Streamline the review process by working within these parameters.

**This might sound like:**

"Remove all **distracting marks**, notes, colors, and tracked changes before you share a draft with me."

"**Passive voice** drives me nuts. Please try to get rid of it before I see your draft."

For more information, on working with your advisor, explore the resources on our "Advisors and Advising" page.

