Managing a Committee: Strategies for Effective Negotiation and Communication with Multiple Committee Members

Friday, February 19, 2016
1:00-2:30pm | 396 Voorhies

Working with multiple advisors or committee members can be stressful, as interpersonal relationships become complicated and implicit and even conflicting expectations can occur. In this workshop, participants will learn strategies to organize and manage a committee effectively. You will acquire the skills to set goals and manage expectations with multiple faculty members via writing as well as other forms of communication, and to negotiate your progress and the evaluation process of the progress with advisors. Tips will also be offered to help you make decisions when there are disagreements among different members of the committee. For graduate students who need to assemble a committee by themselves, this workshop will help you decide whom to invite and how to convey your decisions to faculty members respectfully and gracefully.

Instructor: Jingjing Chen, Graduate Writing Fellow, University Writing Program
Jingjing Chen is a third year PhD student in the Sociology Department. She studies family structure, social inequality, gender and social change. Currently, she is working on how divorce changes over time, and how it reflects and induces social inequality. Jingjing obtained her MA from Renmin University of China with a degree in Public Policy in 2013. She has been working as a teaching assistant in the Sociology Department, and has been working with students from various fields of study.

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