



Best Practices Summary

- Clearly define the expectations for both the student and the mentor.
 - For student:
 - Establish a work schedule
 - Identify activities requiring student participation
 - For advisor:
 - Identify times when you are available to your mentee
 - Discuss what the mentee's expectations are for their mentor
- Develop a project outline with defined milestones and a final capstone.
 - Ensure the project scope is feasible within the given deadline
 - Periodically assess progress and:
 - adjust if the project is more difficult than first believed
 - or
 - if the project scope is correct, but the student is struggling, have a discussion with the student to determine the cause.
- Establish a community
 - Team undergraduates with senior members of the research group
 - Have group lab meetings or journal clubs
 - Encourage attendance of research seminars in your department
- Make a strong investment in:
 - skill development early on and then foster independence
 - creating an atmosphere in which the student is comfortable asking questions or for help