**Your Adviser:**

Your doctoral adviser is your point person in the department. S/he helps you develop your plan of study, offers academic support, advises you about your comprehensive exams and dissertation, and monitors your overall academic progress. The adviser-student relationship is a stable one across the program.

**Your Teaching Supervisor:**

You are likely to have multiple teaching supervisors, depending on what teaching assignments you have in any given semester. The teaching supervisor is rarely your adviser. When you assist in a course, the instructor of that course is your teaching supervisor. When you are teaching a course, the teaching supervisor should be a faculty member from the area of study in which the course is located, who has some knowledge of or experience with the course you are assigned. S/he will offer advice for teaching, review your syllabus and exams in advance, observe your teaching, and comply with the other responsibilities laid out in the teaching contract.

**Teaching Supervisor Policy**

Each graduate student teaching a Communication Studies course, including an online course, must have a faculty supervisor and turn in a signed teaching contract before the beginning of the each semester of teaching. The supervisor is not always or even often the student’s adviser but a faculty person familiar with the course the student is teaching and/or with whom the student may have served as a TA for the course. A faculty supervisor must be a regular member of the UNC-Chapel Hill Graduate Faculty from Communication Studies, in other words: a tenured or tenure-track faculty member with full appointment or joint appointment in Communication Studies.