

Mentoring Plan Guide

This is a guide to assist with mentoring activities and development of Mentoring Plans. Different funding agencies are requiring Mentoring Plans for students and postdoctoral fellows working on projects. This guide offers options for developing a mentoring plan that can be tailored for different funding agencies' specifications.

Faculty mentors are the primary sources of mentoring for students and postdoctoral fellows. Mentors determine the elements of the orientation, meetings, and trainings specific to the research area in which the student or postdoctoral fellow will be participating. Auburn University strongly values and recognizes effective mentoring through annual mentoring awards offered by the Provost and Graduate School. To support mentoring, additional training and courses are noted below that can be included in a plan. Additional Auburn online research resources can be found at the [Research Resource Hub](#).

Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows are required to complete **Auburn Basic RCR CITI training for all faculty, postdocs and students**. To complete this training, [login to CITI](#) with your Auburn username and password after selecting Auburn University from the list of SSO-enabled organizations. Students and postdoctoral fellows may also need to complete additional CITI modules required for their research (e.g., International Research; Research in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools). Required CITI can be included as part of the plan. Below are additional options that can be included in a mentoring plan.

RCR Training

- **GRAD 7200**: Introduction to Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research, offered through the Office of Research Integrity & Compliance
- **GRAD 8200**: Principles of Responsible Conduct of Research and Scientific Integrity, offered through the Office of Research Integrity & Compliance
- **RCR Workshops**, offered through Office of Research Integrity & Compliance
- **Case Studies in Mentoring series**, offered through Office of Research Integrity & Compliance
- **Instruction in Responsible Professional Practices**, offered through a faculty mentor, department, or college

Career Counseling and Guidance

- **Career Advising**, offered through Auburn University Career Discovery and Success, Graduate School, department or college
- **CV Preparation and Interviewing Skills**, offered through the Graduate School, college, department or faculty mentor
- **Mentoring Compact**, offered through Auburn University Career Discovery and Success, Graduate School or Faculty mentor
- **GRAD 8100**: Professional Development, offered through the Graduate School

Teaching and Mentoring Skills

- **Case Studies in Mentoring series**, offered through Office of Research Integrity & Compliance or the Center for Clinical and Translational Science
- **Effective Mentoring**, offered asynchronously through the Graduate School
- **Teaching and Mentoring Skills**, offered through the Graduate School, Biggio Center, college, department or faculty mentor
- **Instruction in Responsible Professional Practices**, offered through a faculty mentor
- **Faculty Mentor Training**, offered through the Graduate School
- **Creating a Harassment-free Lab**, offered through the Graduate School
- **Cultural Awareness**, offered asynchronously through the Graduate School
- **GRAD 8100**: Professional Development, offered through the Graduate School

Publications and Presentations

- **Preparing Research Presentations and Publications**, offered through Auburn Library Innovation and Research Commons, Miller Writing Center, college, department, or faculty mentor
- **AI and Machine Learning in Research**, offered in a self-paced module through Biggio Center
- **Three Minute Thesis Professional Development and Preparation**, offered through Graduate School and the Graduate Student Council
- **GRAD 7200**: Introduction to Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research, offered through the Office of Research Integrity & Compliance
- **GRAD 8100**: Professional Development, Offered through the Graduate School
- **GRAD 8200**: Principles of Responsible Conduct of Research and Scientific Integrity, Offered through the Office of Research Integrity & Compliance

Grant Proposal Training

- **Grant Writing, Scientific or Technical Writing**, offered through Miller Writing Center, College of Agriculture's Grant Specialist Tim Hooper, college, department, or faculty mentor
- **Training in Preparation of Grant Proposals**, offered through Graduate School, college, department, faculty mentor, CITI Essentials of Grant Proposal Development, or CITI Proposal Services and Faculty Support
- **GRAD 8100: Professional Development**, offered through the Graduate School
- **[Grant Library](#)**, offered through the Center for Clinical and Translational Science
- **Resources and Trainings**, offered through the Center for Clinical and Translational Science

Effective Collaboration Skills

- **Course or Session Offerings on Collaboration**, offered through the Graduate School, department, or college
- **Opportunities provided on research projects**, offered through faculty mentor

Contact Information

[Dr. Jennifer Kerpelman](#), Associate Vice President for Research, Office of the Senior Vice President for Research and Economic Development

Relevant Resources

- [Auburn Library Innovation and Research Commons](#)
- [Auburn Career Discovery and Success](#)
- [Biggio Center](#)
- [Graduate School](#)
- [Miller Writing Center](#)
- [Office of Research Integrity and Compliance](#)
- [Proposal Services and Faculty Support](#)