## **Graduate Advising Philosophy**

## Dr. Xiaoli Nan

My advising philosophy centers on guiding students to fulfill their intellectual and professional ambitions. I encourage students to establish both immediate and long-term objectives early in their academic journey and maintain transparent communication with me. As their advisor, I am committed to helping them set challenging yet attainable goals that align with their interests.

It is imperative for graduate students to complete all degree requirements. In my role as an advisor, I provide essential mentorship and support in course selection, developing study and examination plans, crafting dissertation proposals, and finalizing dissertations. Both students and I should be well-versed in the regulations and requirements set by the department, college, and university.

I motivate students to strive for excellence in their fields of study and aim for high-impact research positions in academia, government, or industry after graduation. I advocate for early involvement in both independent and collaborative research projects. The goal is to produce impactful research that contributes to conference presentations and peer-reviewed publications. As an advisor, I am dedicated to mentoring students in these areas and, when appropriate, include them in my research initiatives.

I expect students to take initiative in their graduate studies, actively ensuring they are progressing appropriately and cultivating their research agendas. My approach does not include constant oversight; rather, I promote independence and self-motivation.

The advisor-student relationship I foster is professional, built on trust and cordiality. While my advisory role is strictly professional and not personal, I recognize that personal challenges can affect academic performance. In such cases, I am open to understanding these issues to better tailor my advisory approach.

Ultimately, my goal is to collaborate closely with students to create a graduate school experience that is both intellectually enriching and professionally rewarding, extending this collaborative spirit into future research endeavors.