



ASKING FOR ADVISOR FEEDBACK

4 TIPS FOR THESIS STUDENTS

01

**DON'T PUT
IT OFF**

Waiting until the last minute to show your advisors your work is not a good move. Get input early enough to apply it and often enough to keep moving forward confidently. Negotiate a timeframe with your advisors.

How to say it:

"I'd like to share a **rough outline** for Chapter IV with you to make sure I'm on the right track."

"Can we have a **quick check-in** soon so I can run my plans for Chapter III past you?"

02

**PROVIDE CONTEXT
AND BE SPECIFIC**

Let advisors know what you're working on and what you're struggling with. If you need input on your content but the writing is still rough, make it clear that you'll be putting extra effort into editing at a later stage.

How to say it:

"I'm reconsidering the **organization** of the case studies. Do you have recommendations for a better structure?"

"Is there any material you'd **recommend I cut** from Chapter II?"

03

**KEEP THEIR
EXPERTISE IN MIND**

Your advisors or second reader may have different areas of expertise. These differences may inform who you ask first about different sections of content, or how you frame your request for review from each.

Examples:

One of your advisors is an expert on using **quantitative analysis**: they'll have unique input for your **methodology** chapter.

One of your advisors has vast **knowledge of technologies** used by other researchers: they'll have insight on your **literature review**.

04

**RESPECT PET PEEVES
AND PREFERENCES**

Every advisor is different. Yours may have specific **non-negotiables related to format, structure, or grammar.** These may be field-specific or just a preference. Streamline the review process by working within these parameters.

This might sound like:

"Remove all **distracting marks**, notes, colors, and tracked changes before you share a draft with me."

"**Passive voice** drives me nuts. Please try to get rid of it before I see your draft."

For more information, on working with your advisor, explore the resources on our "Advisors and Advising" page.

