Guidelines for Ph.D. advisees Michael Rubens, UCLA

Current UCLA Ph.D. students are very welcome to schedule meetings to discuss their research and seek feedback. In order to work efficiently, please follow the guidelines listed below.

Meetings

- Please make appointments via the booking tool on my website.
- Important: Before the meeting, please send me a brief e-mail with (i) the objective of the meeting, (ii) any material you want me to read.
 - It is more efficient to send me information on beforehand; this way the time slot can be used for feedback rather than merely bringing me up to date.
 - At initial stages of a project, the best way to convey me this information is a one-page summary or slides. If you send me a full paper, clearly indicate which sections/pages you want to discuss.
- Please come to meetings prepared. Have a clear idea on what you want to get out of the meeting. A good way to prepare for meetings is summarized on John Asker's website.
- Only book 30 minutes meetings if the agenda of the meeting warrants it; otherwise book a 15 minutes slot.

Requirement to follow my Ph.D. class

- If you want to obtain feedback on a regular basis and/or want me to serve on your committee, I expect you to take my class "ECON 272a 'Topics in Industrial Organization".
- I also expect you to take ECON272a if you would like to work for me as an R.A.
- I am happy to discuss research with students who did not take my class, but with the understanding that this has a more occasional character.

Writing samples and slides

- When you send me writings and/or slides for feedback, they do not need to be perfect it is work in progress after all. However, it is important that your writings and slides look professional and do not include obvious typos, errors, or mistakes. It is usually better to send shorter, but clean, writings/slides.
- This applies more in general. Readers will often presume that sloppy writing is correlated with general sloppiness in your work, even if this might not be true. Be mindful of the signal you send.