Mentoring Web Science MSc Students

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The Course

Web Science Mentors

- Address diverse needs
- Bridge between hard and soft science skills
- Different career trajectories:
  - Ongoing study towards PhD vs. job-hunting
  - Marketable skills vs. academic excellence

Enforce network-building

- Enhance network-building
- MSc dissertation topics extend into PhD theses
- Peer discussion helps refine research agendas
- Discussions with potential supervisors lead to success
- Mentors share contacts among students and staff to fast-track network building

Generations of students help each other to succeed

Why it works

- Experience & Skills
- ‘Inherited knowledge’
- Networks

The Mentor Scheme

- Mentors provide guidance on a variety of topics
- They are relatable
- They know the system
- They help overcome barriers to success
- They can convey soft skills
- They help
  - Timely reassurance
    - ‘Don’t panic, you will be fine’
  - Discuss questions as they arise
  - Share knowledge & experience
  - Facilitate group spirit & collaboration
  - Clarify course expectations

How it works

- Web Science MSc students have specific requirements
- Regular group meetings, with different themes
- Timely reassurance
  - ‘Don’t panic, you will be fine’
- Discuss questions as they arise
- Share knowledge & experience
- Facilitate group spirit & collaboration
- Clarify course expectations