

Graduate Master's Degree Advisor / Supervisory Committee Policy

Upon admission to a master's program, the program or academic unit will assign the student an advisor who is a member of the graduate faculty. When research and a thesis are degree requirements or the student has selected a thesis option, the program or academic unit will appoint two additional faculty members to serve on the graduate student's supervisory committee. The chair and a majority of the members of a master's student supervisory committee must be full members of the graduate faculty.

Graduate Doctoral Advisor/Supervisory Committee Policy

Upon admission to a doctoral program, all students will be assigned a doctoral advisor who functions as a mentor and guides the student in the completion of degree requirements and scholarly work. A temporary advisor (e.g., program director) can be assigned initially in programs that assign doctoral (research) advisors after the completion of rotations or other developmental experiences. Normally, the doctoral advisor will serve as the dissertation committee chair, once the student reaches doctoral candidacy. The dissertation committee must be chaired by a member of the UMKC doctoral faculty. In some cases, following the procedures of the

specific program, the doctoral advisor need not be the dissertation committee chair but must be, at a minimum, either a graduate faculty or adjunct graduate faculty member.