



# THE STUDENT-FACULTY RELATIONSHIP

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## A BRIEF AGENDA

- The student-teacher relationship
- Academic expectations
- Some university supports
- Some advice for parents
- Questions and responses



## STUDENT-TEACHER RELATIONSHIP

- As distinguished from high school:
  - A combination of classroom exchanges, assignments, mentoring, and extra-curriculars
  - Ongoing mentorship across semesters as students grow; community building within departments
- Multiple faculty roles:
  - Teachers, scholars / artists, community members
- By design, we are busy but available:
  - academic advising, office hours, research partnerships



## ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

- Excellence, excellence, excellence!
- Pre-class preparation is key
- Approximately two hours of study for each hour in class – college is a full-time (plus) job
- Transition from consumers of knowledge to producers of knowledge
- Competently and creatively challenging authority – question everything



## ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

- Some of the biggest challenges for students:
  - Active reading: note taking, textual criticism
  - Learning to ask, “Why do we pose the question this way?”
  - Using office hours effectively
  - Responding to written feedback
  - Making time for high-impact extra-curricular activities (summers, internships, spring breaks)
  - Developing the courage to pursue lofty goals
- Again, train to smartly question authority



## SOME OF OUR SUPPORTS

- Chandra Shipley's advising center
- Writing center
- Library faculty
- Dean of students
- Counseling services
- Career center
- Department tutors and student workers
- First-year and ongoing advising w/ faculty



## SOME ADVICE

- This will be a time of lots of decisions
  - Moving from a highly structured to a less structured environment
  - The best help from parents probably comes in the form of probing questions
  - Try not to panic when daughters and sons change majors (med-school? maybe not)
- Creating a safe place for experiential learning, including occasionally falling down (and learning how to get back up)