

## Doctoral experience of supervision at one South African university

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The support that PhD students receive through supervision plays a significant role in the timely and successful completion of their studies, the quality of the research they produce, as well as their satisfaction with the doctoral process as a whole. This study aimed to explore the supervision experiences of PhD students at Stellenbosch University. I analysed quantitative survey data collected from 263 PhD students at Stellenbosch University to explore their experiences of supervision.

I found that the gender and age of a PhD student does not influence their experience of supervision; however, doing their PhD on a full-time or part-time basis and the academic discipline in which research is conducted, influences their supervision experience. I also found that students' satisfaction with their supervision is not influenced by the number of supervisors, but by an increase in the frequency of supervision.

The study provides insight into PhD students' supervision experiences at Stellenbosch University specifically and I hope that the study will add to the greater body of research about PhD student experiences of supervision, especially within the South African context.

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