

Student experiences from the Mentorship Programme
M.Sc. Economics
Jan-June 2020

It has been an honor to be able to communicate with the professors at this university. However, with the support and guidance of each professor throughout my first year in MSc Economics, I have been very well able to manage and conduct myself through all the subjects till date.

I would like to inform you that with such motivation across the course, there didn't arise a necessity to specifically consult the assigned mentor as he had already been a great source of enlightenment through this paper on Environment and economic development which I had been attending in the second semester.

Hence, I put forward my report to be a success given the high end knowledge and information shared by each professor which resulted in my overall development throughout this 1st year at the university.

With the continuous guidance and support from all our professors, things have been really smooth this semester. I have not personally interacted with my mentor. However, interactions with him during lecture hours have been sufficient to clear any doubts or issues. I appreciate the effort by our faculty for understanding our concerns, especially during the current pandemic scenario. Fortunately, I have been able to conduct myself well, both academically and personally. I have seen tremendous positive change in me over the past one year of MSc. Economics here at TERI. Our professors have provided us clarity of thought and inculcated knowledge and tools which will contribute positively to our professional future. Thus, I'm grateful for what I've learnt so far and look forward to the coming academic year.

I had a conversation over email with my mentor. I was very happy to see her concern at such challenging times. The difficulties which I faced were same as most of the class was facing at that time and I shared with her also. Initially, it was very difficult to manage with the online classes, too much of the screen time and household chores, all of a sudden. Gradually things were falling in line as I was becoming habitual to it. It is commendable how the whole of our faculty also managed with their new experience and helped us in each and every aspect.

Due to the limited time window of this semester I didn't get a chance to interact with my mentor. However, he was always very supportive and understanding about the stress level and hardships faced by all of us during this pandemic as all his decisions were a result of the discussions he had with us during online classes as in order to overcome the barriers of online mode of examination he even put in the extra effort to set up a 24 hours assessment followed by our feedback for the same. He never failed to express his consideration towards us and was available whenever we required any kind of help. Looking forward to having more interaction with him in the time frame of the remaining semesters.

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I had a brief discussion with my mentor about how I had been coping during the lockdown. I had expressed concerns regarding excessive exposure to laptops and the resulting physical stress during the period of online classes. Another concern was the possibility of technical glitches at the eleventh hour that could result in penalization for late-submissions. All of this was taken care of by the faculty.

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I had met my mentor when classes were still being held in the college. She asked me how I had scored in the previous semester, and I told her which subjects were my problem areas. She advised me to speak to faculty for Growth Economics, and told me ways on how I could do well in Econometrics this semester. Since she only taught us Economics, she was able to monitor my progress throughout the semester in her subject, and I felt like I could manage Growth Economics relatively fine. I was in touch with my mentor regarding projects throughout the semester as well.

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I am writing this mail in regard to the action taken report for the mentor-mentee meeting. It was a great privilege to be under the shadow of my mentor throughout the first year in Msc. Economics. I would like to thank all the faculty for their constant motivation which helped me become much more confident. Thus I did not require any one-to-one interactions with my mentor as he was really supportive of us during his lectures. His appreciation and guidance to a great extent provided necessary support I needed to overcome the obstacles this year.

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Due to the limited time we spent on campus this semester, I never happened to meet my mentor. However, she expressed her concern about how I was coping with the classes and assessments in the current situation through mails. She was really sweet, supportive and

even offered to help with any difficulties faced. So, that's all the interaction I had with my mentor this semester. Looking forward to having more in the next.

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I have never had an interaction with my mentor, apart for academic issues. He was always helpful in academics and I have been to his office to get my doubts cleared a number of times. As a mentor, there's nothing to mention in the report.

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My mentor has been very supportive and understanding throughout both of the semesters. She was always available for meetings and discussions. I was facing difficulties to cope up with a few subjects and her guidance helped me a lot. She advised me to personally talk to teachers and sort issues meanwhile she also got in touch with them personally. I was asked to regularly keep updating with my marks. Even for the second semester, her guidance helped a lot with the subject econometrics since this was my first encounter with the subject. Overall, she has always been there to help and sort our issues.

I have not approached my mentor personally. But whenever our class faces any problem, she always come forward to support the class and ask for the problems, queries, feedback and suggestion. I am very much confident whenever I will face any problem she will always there to support me and gives me the best guidance.

I shared my problem of academic stress with him in detail once in the month of February this semester. I had health issues earlier so I have to devote time in maintaining good health along with college work that I used to get thus was facing time management problem. Sir suggested in detail a nice schedule for completing the tasks of this semester and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. I tried following his suggestion and it did help me to some extent.

I've been in contact with my mentor. I have improved in my class performance compared to last semester, but there is still scope for improvement. It was easier to clarify my doubts this time as I was more comfortable communicating with the professors.

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