VIRTUAL MEETING BEST PRACTICES

These tips will help ensure that your virtual mentorship meeting runs effectively.

BEFORE THE MEETING

Test your technology
Test technology ahead of time and make sure you are comfortable with the platform’s functionality (i.e. making calls, sharing screens etc.).

Determine your meeting location
Consider where you will physically be during the meeting. Where possible, take the meeting in a room that is quiet, well lit and has a strong Internet connection.

Confirm the meeting coordinates
Ensure that everyone is aware of the meeting details including the date, time, duration and meeting platform (this should be coordinated by the student mentee).

Set the expectation to use cameras
Seeing faces during your meetings will enhance your conversation. All mentorship meetings are recommended to be conducted via video call. Communicate with your mentor before your meeting so that everyone agrees to using cameras.

Be camera ready
Make sure what you wear (that is visible on camera) is appropriate for the call.

DURING THE MEETING

Be on time
Log-on to the meeting a few minutes early to ensure that you are able to connect to the call successfully.

Speak clearly
Speak clearly and slowly to ensure you are heard and to allow for any audio delay (there can often be a two to three second delay with video call platforms).

Stay focused
When possible, avoid unnecessary distractions (i.e. social media, working on other projects etc.) while taking the call.

Be flexible
Recognize that these are exceptional times and many may be balancing family responsibilities. Be flexible to allow for meeting schedule changes, meeting breaks, or any other family participants joining the meeting.

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