Managing the Relationship with your Supervisor/Tutor - A Short Guide

It is totally normal to experience relationship difficulties in all walks of life. Overcoming these difficulties will help stand you in good stead with other relationships generally and in the workplace!

- Identify what the problem is and what you would like to be different.
- Think of options that might solve the problem.
- Consider what you could do differently to improve the situation.
- Determine if there is something that your supervisor or tutor could do differently. If so, book sometime to talk with them about it. We often expect other people to instinctively know and respond to our needs but in reality, it needs to be pointed out.
- Communicate to them what you want to achieve from the meeting and what you would like to be different. Manage your supervisor proactively and positively and they will respect you!
- Don't be afraid to ask for help. It's what they're there for? It's a strength to ask for help not a weakness!
- Describe the problem, what you think are the options, the pros and cons of each, a solution if you have one, where you need help or input, agree actions to implement solution and overcome potential barriers.
- Remember your supervisor may have ideas too, and thoughts to communicate. If you want a good working alliance, you need to be open to hearing new things, to collaboration and possible change in your own behaviours.

Study Strategy Sessions: Student Counselling Service, every Wednesday 12.30 - 1.20. Book your place at reception or at www.bristol.ac.uk/student-counselling.