

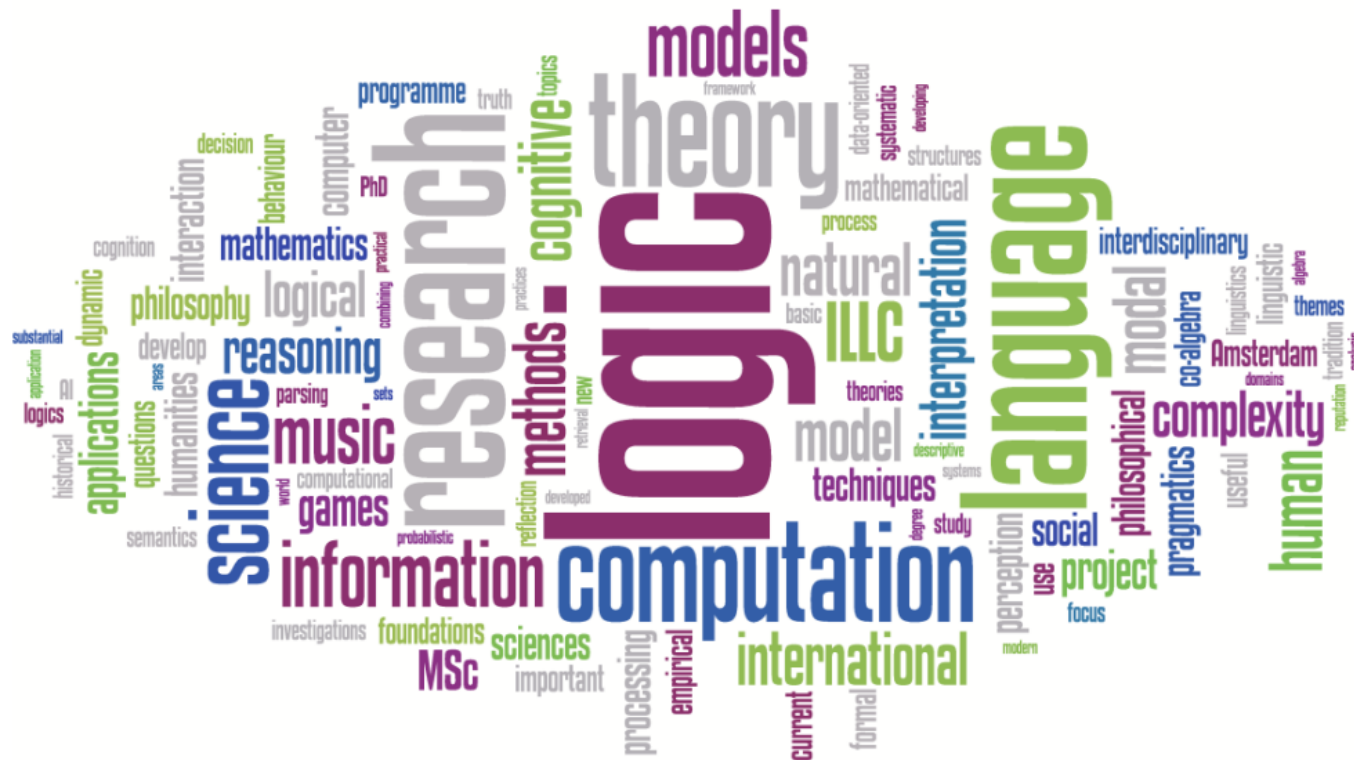
The Academic Mentorship System of the MoL

Ulle Endriss

Institute for Logic, Language and Computation

University of Amsterdam

(based on earlier versions by Maria Aloni and Chris Schaffner)



Purpose

Advice & Guidance (good times)

- **Study choices**: courses, projects, thesis topic and supervisor
- **Career choices**: academic profile, grants, (PhD) applications

Assistance & Diplomatic Services (bad times)

- **Assistance** in case of (academic) problems
- **Mediation** in case of conflicts

See also: <http://msclogic.illc.uva.nl/people/mentors/>

Expectations

What your mentor will expect from you:

- Proactive attitude
- Courtesy and manners

What not to expect from your mentor:

- To have research interests perfectly aligned with yours
- To know everything, solve all problems, be available 24/7

General Advice

Your **ideal timeline**:

- Mandatory courses for your track in 1st and 2nd semester
- Thesis topic/supervisor fixed *well before* end of 3rd semester
- 90EC + formal approval in the system by end of 3rd semester
- Thesis defense by end of 4th semester (usually June)

Other good advice:

- Don't obsess about your **choice of track** (it's a formality)
- Aim for **30+€ EC** each semester (not much more or much less)
- Feel free to sit in on a course for a week before deciding
... but please only **register** for courses you intend to take
- Be **open**, embrace **interdisciplinarity**, but also **specialise** eventually
- Understand the importance of **social interaction** and **seminars**
- Talk to people in case of **problems** (particularly your mentor)