Policy: The CNR RAs are available to provide guidance and technical assistance for student projects, including dissertation, DNP projects, and course assignments or group course projects. Student using this consultation service are still expected to take leadership and do the substantive work related to their project.

DNP Projects

Before Bridge Committee Meeting: The RAs are available in assisting the students with power analysis, fixing control charts and occasionally clarifying the analysis of the aims.

After the Bridge Committee Meeting: The RAs are available to help with changes to data analysis plan and power analysis, monitor accuracy of data collection, and assist with setting up the analysis.

The total amount of time allocated per student will be up to 6 hours. The CNR director will be available when needed to provide additional support before and after the Bridge Committee meeting.

The RAs will not be available for making changes to the aims or the aim statement, editing the control charts, or running the analysis for the students.

PhD Projects

Before Proposal Defense: The majority of the assistance provided before the proposal defense will be handled by the CNR director due to statistical complexity of the projects. The assistance will include guidance regarding the analysis plan, statistical tests, and power analysis. When appropriate, feedback regarding research questions will be provided in order to improve the strength of the analysis.

After the Proposal Defense: CNR director assist with addressing possible changes to the analysis plan or statistical analysis as well as review and provide feedback on results of statistical analysis. RAs will be available to assist with providing feedback regarding data formatting, errors while running the analysis program, importing the dataset into the statistical package, as well as comment on analysis if appropriate.

The total amount of time allocated per student will be up to 8 hours (includes both CNR director and RA time). The CNR director will be available when needed to provide additional support before and after the Bridge Committee meeting.

The RAs will not be available for making changes to research questions, or running the analysis for the students.
**Procedure:** If a student’s consultation needs seem to go beyond the level of guidance and technical assistance, the student should be referred back to the faculty member who is overseeing her or his work. The appropriate faculty person is different based on the type of requirement that the student is trying to meet:

- **All graduate students:** if the question is in the context of a course assignment, refer the student back to the course instructor for more direction.

- **MS students:** if the question is about a comprehensive exam paper, refer the student back to the options coordinator and/or advisor.

- **DNP students:** if the question is about a DNP project, this project is completed as part of a course. Refer back to the course instructor or faculty advisor.

- **PhD students:** if the question is about a PhD dissertation, refer the student back to the academic advisor.

A joint meeting with the student and the appropriate faculty member (instructor, options coordinator, or advisor) will be needed to address a significant change to a dissertation analysis plan or aims. This would be also appropriate to clarify what the student needs or what the next steps are.

When significant change might be needed to aims or data analysis plan in a DNP project, the course faculty or faculty advisor needs to be notified before any suggestions are relayed to the student. They should be the first person the student talks to regarding the changes.

**Just for RAs:** you might say "this is a bigger question, and we need to involve your advisor. If you want, I can schedule a time to meet with you and your advisor together to talk through the issues. Or if you feel comfortable relaying these issues back to your advisor, you can do that, and then we can meet again after you get your advisor’s suggestions on how to proceed."