



# UiO • Department of Mathematics University of Oslo

# **Advice for New PhDs**

**Kris Shaw** 

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### A bit about me

Kris Shaw associate professor since March 2021 (Room 1114)

- **PhD** from University of Geneva in 2011.
- **Postdocs** at University of Toronto, TU Berlin, Fields Institute of Toronto, and Max Plank Institute Leipzig.
- At UiO since March 2018.
- Leader of the TMS group "Algebraic and topological cycles in complex and tropical geometries".











Chi Ho Yuen, Cédric Le Texier, Edvard Aksnes, Anine Andresen, Eline Mannino

# Me as a PhD

- Began at the University of Toronto.
- Finished at the University of Geneva.
- Research visits to TU Berlin, MSRI Berkeley, UNAM Cuernavaca, Paris 6.
- Supervisor's first student.

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#### My advice

- Ask to schedule regular meetings with your advisor!
- Participate in conferences/schools (online or in person).
- Collaborate and discuss with others.
- Seek out and create networks (PhD lunches, student seminars, social activities).

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# Me as a supervisor

- Currently supervising two PhD students, two Masters students.
- Supervised one Masters and two Bachelor projects to completion.
- Have co-authored three publications with other PhD students.

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#### My advice

- Schedule regular meetings with your advisor!
- Write and share!
- Know and share your learning and working style.
- Ask for help from your advisor and others.

### Me as a mathematician/human

- Originally from Canada
- Queer non-binary
- Active interest in diversity inclusion and equity (events such as GEMS of combinatorics, QTMC, GAIN)
- Other interests include skateboarding, swimming year round, seeing friends, spending time in nature, traveling, and my current struggle to interior decorate

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#### My advice

- Prepare for winter!
- Find and build community.
- Be aware of imposter syndrome, minority stress, mental health.
- Work hard, enjoy your time in and around Oslo, and know that real life sometimes gets in the way!

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