

PhD Journey

Love it , Enjoy it, Give it time

PhD Time Table

Year one (MPhil)

Year two

Year three

Research Proposal

- Research Question
- Aims and Objective
- Literature Review
- Methodology
- Identify the problem

supervision

- Weekly meeting
- Meeting Record
- Reading Record

Literature Review

- What to read
- Critical analysis

Upgrade to PhD

- MPHIL
- Upgrade to PhD

Collecting Date

- Ethical Approval

Structuring PhD Thesis

- Introduction
- Literature Review
- Methodology
- Result and Finding
- Conclusion

Approval of Submission

- Both supervisors

Viva

- Internal Examiner
- External Examiner

Viva Result

- Pass with no corrections
- Pass with minor Corrections
- Major Corrections
- Resubmission
- MPHIL
- Fail

Key Skills

- ▶ Divide your time
- ▶ Time management
- ▶ Read more and more and focus on your topic
- ▶ Take notes and summarise what you read
- ▶ Learn at least 3 things\facts each article should be related to your topic
- ▶ Building confidence and self-esteem
- ▶ Keeping records of meeting
- ▶ Keeping records of reading
- ▶ Always attend short courses that are related to your PhD

Top frequent PhD questions:

1. What are the essential points for PhD?
2. How I should behave with my supervisor?
3. What are the techniques for finding more articles?
4. How I should write my critical analysis?
5. How I should build an argument relevant to my topic?
6. How to find a gap in the previous studies of my topic?
7. How I should structure my writing?
8. How can I track all my meeting?
9. How can I track my reading?
10. How to survive my viva?

What are the essential points for PhD?



How I should behave with my supervisor?

- ▶ A good supervisor constantly challenges your opinion and makes you learn how to defend your ideas and grow
- ▶ Supervisor is just a guide and directions to your right path
- ▶ Good communication, however be focused
- ▶ Do not share your personal information to them unless it is necessary
- ▶ Always be happy and show them you are a good student and working hard

Notes:

- ▶ Contact the SACB in case of you have a problem with your supervisor to be directed

What are the techniques for finding more articles?

- ▶ Search method
 - Title (key words)
 - Abstract (problem) (finding)
 - Conclusion (gap)
- ▶ Reference



How I should write my critical analysis?

- ▶ Analyze the all main topics of your thesis
- ▶ Consult a dictionary or encyclopaedia to understand material that is unfamiliar to you
- ▶ Provide enough argument
- ▶ Think critically and objectively
- ▶ Using reasons and evidence to support your points
- ▶ Engage in debate



How I should build an argument relevant to my topic?

- ▶ Identify your own point of view
- ▶ Consider how you'll persuade other people of your point of view
- ▶ A good argument is based on solid evidence (factors)
- ▶ Evaluate the available evidence to see if it really does support your point of view.



How to find a gap in the previous studies of my topic?

- ▶ What are their theories?
- ▶ What research has been done on the subject?
- ▶ Are there different schools of thought about this subject?
- ▶ What did they find?



How I should structure my writing?

- ▶ The examiners do not want to know what other theorists said, they want to know what you thought of them.
- ▶ Problem statement
- ▶ Aim
- ▶ Objective
- ▶ Research methodology (Qualitative and Quantitative and Case study)
- ▶ Finding
- ▶ Discussion
- ▶ Conclusion

Notes:

- ▶ Make sure that the topic passes ethical approval from the U.K. and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- ▶ Make sure that the topic is feasibility and can be implemented.

How can I track all my meeting?

Keep records for all the meeting with the supervisor, books and articles.

Meetings record:

Date:

➤ Done:

1) 2) 3)

➤ Next meeting requirement:

1) 2) 3)

➤ Questions:

1) 2) 3)

How can I track my reading?

<u>Author</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Problem statement</u>	<u>Methodology</u>	<u>Finding</u>	<u>Gap</u>
1)						
2)						
3)						
4)						
5)						

How to survive my viva?

- ▶ Check your institution's policies and practices
- ▶ Re-read your thesis – and keep up-to-date with research
- ▶ Draw up lists of possible questions
- ▶ Bring a printed copy that is exactly the same as that of your examiners
- ▶ Focus on your contribution
- ▶ Expect your viva to last between one and three hours
- ▶ You may need to move from friendly questions to complex debates

Notes:

- ▶ take time to consider before replying
- ▶ remember to breathe and to speak reasonably slowly
- ▶ don't take criticism personally
- ▶ don't take offence; don't get angry
- ▶ enjoy the opportunity to talk about your research

possible questions for the viva

▶ General questions

- Why did you decide on this particular research question?
- What have you found the most interesting aspect of your research?
- How did your thinking about this topic develop as you went through this research process?
- Now that you have finished the research, which part of the process would you say you enjoyed the most, and why?
- Were there any surprises along the way?
- How did doing this research change you as a researcher?
- Can you describe your main findings in a few sentences?
- Talk us through your method of analysis
- What are the research, practice, theoretical implications of your findings?
- How would you hope that this research could be followed up and taken further?

Publication and workshops

- ▶ Publish some scientific articles in your topic during your PhD studies.
- ▶ Attend conferences and workshops to be updated with other research

Notes:

- ▶ Publishing such papers will result to a reward from the SACB

Useful Links

- ▶ Useful reading:
- ▶ Murray, R. 2003: How to survive your viva. Maidenhead:Open University Press.
- ▶ Rugg, G. & Petre, M. 2004: The unwritten rules of PhD research. Maidenhead:Open University Press.
- ▶ Tinkler, P. & Jackson, C. 2004: The doctoral examination process: a handbook for students, examiners and supervisors. The Society for Research into Higher Education and Maidenhead:Open University Press.
- ▶ Wellington, J., Bathmaker, A., Hunt, C., McCulloch, G. & Sikes, P. 2005: Succeeding with your doctorate. London:Sage.

Useful Links

- ▶ Murray, R. (2003). *How to survive your viva: Defending a thesis in an oral examination*. Maidenhead: Open University Press.
- ▶ Phillips, E.M. & Pugh, D. S. (2000). *How to get a PhD: A handbook for students and their supervisors, 3rd ed.* Buckingham: Open University.
- ▶ Twigg, D. (1997). *Preparing for the PhD Viva*. Retrieved from <https://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/ld/resources/presentations/viva>.
- ▶ <https://www.vitae.ac.uk/doing-research/doing-a-doctorate/completing-your-doctorate/your-viva>.
- ▶ <http://cloudworks.ac.uk/cloudscape/view/2014>.

PhD Journey

End of session...