

Postgraduate Research Group

Potentially Useful links

Below is a collection of links and resources that you may find useful in the course of your research. These are mostly generic, and I have grouped them in somewhat arbitrary categories. I upload them here with the caveat that none of these links/resources are officially sanctioned by UWTSD.

General:

- Royal Literary Fund (general guidance on research degrees):
 - <http://www.rlf.org.uk/resources/introduction-dissertation/>
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- Collection of funding bodies, with links to others:
 - <http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/research/scholarships/externalall>
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- Info on open access theses, with collection of various publishers' policies:
 - <http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/library/openaccess/theses>
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- 30 tips for successful academic research and writing:
 - <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2012/11/28/lupton-30-tips-writing/>
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- Building your skill set:
 - http://www.universityaffairs.ca/career-advice/career-advice-article/grad-students-engage-alternative-non-academic-career-activities/?utm_content=bufferbc997&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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- General info on jobs.ac.uk on PhDs, particularly funding opportunities:
 - <http://www.jobs.ac.uk/phd>
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- Collection and brief analysis of potentially useful computer software/online resources:
 - http://www.academiaobscura.com/useful-tools/?utm_source=ReviveOldPost&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ReviveOldPost
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- Various videos on the PhD process by Prof. Tara Brabazon:
 - <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/14-essential-phd-questions-answered/2006473.article>
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- Collection of TED talks on the research productivity:

- <https://www.academic-consulting.co.nz/blog/ted-talks-for-research-productivity.php>
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- Dr Kelly Trezise, 'A Modern Guide to Beginning an Academic Career' (language warning!):
- <http://kellytrezise.com/modern-guide/>
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- A wealth of resources on various subjects available from the School of Advanced Study, University of London (thanks to Dolly Yang for providing them):
- <https://port.sas.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=87§ion=4>
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- For Part-time researchers, a series of videos from *Vitae* that may be useful:
- <https://www.vitae.ac.uk/doing-research/part-time-researchers>
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Distance PGR Study:

- Blog with some thoughts on being a distance PhD student:
- <https://patthomson.net/2017/04/13/a-doctorate-at-a-distance-take-two/>
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- Some more thoughts on being a distance research students (aimed at University of Glasgow students, but some principles still apply):
- <http://researcherdevelopment.academicblogs.co.uk/can-you-see-me-in-the-distance-a-blog-about-distance-learning/>
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- Yet more thoughts a distance (and part-time) student (from University of Exeter):
- <http://blogs.exeter.ac.uk/doctorscollege/2018/03/12/the-challenges-of-a-part-time-distance-pgr-student/?platform=hootsuite>
- ---
- 'Managing the Long-Distance Dissertation':
- <https://chroniclevitae.com/news/1749-managing-the-long-distance-dissertation>
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- Time-management - juggling employment and research:
- https://www.theguardian.com/higher-education-network/2016/apr/27/how-to-juggle-a-full-time-job-and-a-part-time-phd?CMP=share_btn_tw
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- Article from *The Guardian* with some thoughts on the development of distance learning (not specifically aimed at PGs, but some relevant info):
- <https://www.theguardian.com/higher-education-network/2017/nov/22/2vcs-on-are-university-degree-models-stuck-in-the-past>
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- Running a writing group for distance students:

- <https://doctoralwriting.wordpress.com/2014/05/28/is-your-babys-head-non-standard-tailoring-writing-groups-for-off-campus-phd-students/>
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- Thoughts on part-time study (aimed at part-time PGRs):
- <https://researchinsiders.blog/2018/08/09/part-time-study/>
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Literature Review:

- Video from NY State University:
- http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/tutorials/litreview/?utm_content=buffera5b25&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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- Dealing with secondary literature:
- http://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/graduateschool/Filestore/Filetoupload,597638,en.pdf?utm_content=bufferbbeac&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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- Strategies for reading and reviewing scholarship:
- http://www.raulpacheco.org/resources/reading-strategies/?utm_content=buffer6ec5b&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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- Guide for critiquing manuscripts and papers for submission:
- http://www.sciencemag.org/careers/2016/09/how-review-paper?utm_source=sciencemagazine&utm_medium=facebook-text&utm_campaign=reviewpaper-7757
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- Following from above, a different take on the peer-review process:
- <https://thepoliticalmethodologist.com/2015/12/31/an-editors-thoughts-on-the-peer-review-process/>
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- Finding the Gap: the complexities of the literature review:
- <https://scholarstudioblog.wordpress.com/2017/08/03/find-the-gap-why-the-literature-review-is-hard-to-write-and-teach/>
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- Keeping on top of published research – London School of Economics blog:
- <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2017/05/24/a-number-of-freely-available-tools-can-help-you-improve-your-literature-review-routine-and-stay-on-top-of-published-research/>
- ---
- Managing your notes:
- <https://thesiswhisperer.com/2018/06/06/help-im-drowning-in-my-own-notes/>
- ---
- Cecile Badenhorst, 'Helping Students Write a Literature Review – Part 1' (see links at bottom of the page for Part 2 and other related reading):

- <https://doctoralwriting.wordpress.com/2017/09/06/helping-students-write-a-literature-review-part-i/>
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- Blog on 'How to read an academic book':
- https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/98tl9u/monday_methods_how_to_read_an_academic_book/
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Literary resources:

- EThOS: online repository of theses, good for finding people at a similar stage in your field.
- <http://ethos.bl.uk/Home.do;jsessionid=0637DF87F6E10E2223E5F64C57745381>
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On Writing:

- Academic phrase bank: very useful when you can't find the words!
- <http://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/being-critical/>
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- Tips on cutting down words:
- <https://twitter.com/thesocreview/status/829674724594626560>
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- Guide on technical writing:
- http://wssa.net/publications/techwriting/?utm_content=buffer8fc67&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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- Ten tips for academic writing:
- http://www.raulpacheco.org/2013/02/improving-your-academic-writing-my-top-10-tips/?utm_content=buffer1a8c0&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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- 'Reading vs. Writing':
- <https://c18thramblings.wordpress.com/2019/01/22/week-69-reading-vs-writing/>
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- Ten tips on how *not* to do write a PhD:
- <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/how-not-to-write-a-phd-thesis/410208.article>
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- General grammar tips:
- <http://www.quickanddirtytips.com/grammar-girl>

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- Writing tips from the other side, discussing how the examiners read a thesis and what students can do to help them:
- <https://patthomson.net/2017/04/03/how-an-examiner-reads-a-thesis/>
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- Creating a title – dos and don'ts
- <https://medium.com/@write4research/why-do-academics-and-phders-carefully-choose-useless-titles-for-articles-and-chapters-518f02a2ecbb>
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- Review of writing software – 'Scrivener':
- <http://hmtturnbull.com/scrivener-review/>
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- Making time for a research day:
- https://researchvoodoo.wordpress.com/2017/03/05/plan-your-research-days/?utm_content=bufferea65f&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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- The Difficulties of Finding your Daily Work Routine:
- <https://uofgpgrblog.com/pgrblog/2017/9/18/the-difficulties-of-finding-your-daily-work-routine?format=amp>
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- Dr Raul Pacheco-Vega, 'Developing a Structured Daily Routine for Writing and Research':
- <http://www.raulpacheco.org/2018/11/developing-a-structured-daily-routine-for-writing-and-research/>
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- The PhD 'sticking points' – by Pat Thomson:
- <https://patthomson.net/2018/02/19/phd-stuck-points-thesis/>
- ---
- The doctorate as a narrative:
- <https://doctoralwriting.wordpress.com/2018/02/19/turning-facts-into-a-doctoral-story-the-essence-of-a-good-doctorate/>
- ---
- How long does it take to write a doctoral thesis?
- <https://doctoralwriting.wordpress.com/2018/03/19/how-many-hours-writing-for-the-doctorate/>
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- Blog from University of Glasgow – 'Writing up your thesis – Approaching the final stages':
- <https://uofgpgrblog.com/pgrblog/2018/4/4/writing-up-your-thesis-approaching-the-final-stages>
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- Transcribing interviews (the website seems to have quite a lot of info for those using interviews):

- <https://www.qualtranscribe.com/blog/diy-how-to-transcribe-your-research-interviews>
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- Dr Meagan Tyler, 'Public Engagement: Writing an Opinion Piece'
- <https://theresearchwhisperer.wordpress.com/2013/04/16/public-engagement/>
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Conferences/networking:

- Links to further reading on networking at conferences:
- <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/researcher-hub/postgraduate/knowledge-exchange/networking/>
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- A few tips for humanities students on creating and presenting a poster at conferences:
- <http://digitalhumanities.berkeley.edu/resources/creating-and-printing-posters>
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- Some more tips on conference posters:
- <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2018/05/11/how-to-design-an-award-winning-conference-poster/>
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- Dennis Meredith, 'How to un-suck your Powerpoint slides!':
- <http://www.slideboom.com/presentations/1629623/Why-your-Powerpoint-slides-suck>
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- Article from *The Guardian* on asking questions at conferences:
- https://www.theguardian.com/higher-education-network/2015/nov/11/dont-be-a-conference-troll-a-guide-to-asking-good-questions?CMP=share_btn_tw
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- The Thesis Whisperer, 'Academic Assholes and the Circle of Niceness' (a little on questions at conferences):
- https://thesiswhisperer.com/2013/02/13/academic-assholes/amp/?_twitter_impression=true
- ---
- Dr. Ann Rowen, "'Question Club" – postgraduate workshop' (on questions in an academic setting):
- <http://predoctorbilty.co.uk/community-acuity-9-question-club-postgraduate-workshops/>
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- Dr. Amy Pistone, 'Some unsolicited advice for junior people at classics conferences' (specific to Classics/Ancient History in the USA, but some more general advice too):
- <https://www.amypistone.com/some-unsolicited-advice-for-junior-people-at-classics-conferences/>
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- On organising a conference:

- <https://sgsahblog.wordpress.com/2018/05/14/organise-a-conference-they-said-itll-be-fun-they-said/>
- ---
- More on organising a conference, especially promoting:
- <https://www.exordo.com/blog/promoting-your-conference/>
- ---
- Basic guide on getting the most out of conferences:
- https://thesiswhisperer.com/2017/05/24/making-the-most-of-your-conference-money/?utm_content=buffera551e&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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- Extensive guide on making the most of an academic conference (aimed at Social Sciences, but generally useful):
- <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2018/03/16/how-to-make-the-most-of-an-academic-conference-a-checklist-for-before-during-and-after-the-meeting/>
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- Money worries and conference attendance:
- <http://www.universityaffairs.ca/opinion/speculative-diction/its-time-to-re-think-academic-conference-funding/>
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- On Conference Fees and the Growing Expenses:
- <https://www.theguardian.com/higher-education-network/2017/aug/30/expensive-academic-conferences-give-us-old-ideas-and-no-new-faces>
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- Mental Health and Conferences:
- <https://richardsonphd.wordpress.com/2017/08/16/mental-health-and-conferences-a-practical-guide/>
- ---
- The Art of Conversation at Academic Conferences:
- https://thesiswhisperer.com/2017/08/30/8424/?utm_content=buffer3ff15&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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Health and Wellbeing:

- Time-management - juggling employment and research (yes, it is here as well, as there are both distance and campus based students with this issue):
- https://www.theguardian.com/higher-education-network/2016/apr/27/how-to-juggle-a-full-time-job-and-a-part-time-phd?CMP=share_btn_tw
- ---
- Toyin Alli, 'How to set deadlines for yourself and follow through' (video):
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uL4SjsQrKxQ&feature=youtu.be>
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- Collection of links on Mental Health and graduate studies:
- <https://scholarstudioblog.wordpress.com/2016/10/09/mental-health-in-academia/>
- ---
- Collection of planners and guides for PG Research:
- <http://www.ithinkwell.com.au/resources>
- ---
- Dealing with stress in PhD studies:
- <http://thegradstudentway.com/blog/?p=1727>
- ---
- Juggling academic workload (aimed at staff primarily, but still some useful insights):
- https://theslowacademic.wordpress.com/2017/07/28/when-things-arent-slow/?utm_content=buffer611d8&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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- Dr Jon Tennant, 'Shit I learned during my PhD', reflections of a palaeontologist:
- http://www.academiaobscura.com/shit-i-learned-during-my-phd/?utm_source=ReviveOldPost&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ReviveOldPost
- ---
- Reflections on mental health in PhD life:
- <https://richardsonphd.wordpress.com/2017/10/10/a-phd-is-a-mental-minefield/>
- ---
- Reflections on doing PG Research with a chronic illness:
- <http://researchandramblings.blogspot.com/2018/06/8-tips-for-navigating-grad-school-with.html>
- ---
- Article 'Harness the Power of Groups to Beat the "PhD Blues"' in *Nature*:
- <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-05589-w>
- ---
- Homesickness amongst PGR international students (aimed at University of Glasgow researchers):
- <https://uofgpgrblog.com/pgrblog/2017/11/25/dorothy-be-damned-homesickness-and-the-expat-in-glasgow>
- ---
- 'Having a child during a PhD' – ongoing research project looking for participants:
- <https://havingchildrenukphd.com/>
- ---
- 'Are you ok?' – blog on mental health with some useful further links:
- <https://happyacademic.wordpress.com/2018/10/24/are-you-ok/>
- ---

- Helena Pozniak, 'Postgraduate Pressure...'. From *The Guardian*, 23rd Jan 2019:
- <https://www.theguardian.com/education/2019/jan/23/postgraduate-pressure-expectations-can-feel-impossible-to-sustain>
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Supervision:

- A blog with some useful tips on your relationship with your supervisor:
- <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/blog/how-manage-your-phd-supervisor>
- ---
- Tales of bad supervisors and how to avoid them:
- <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/features/monsters-and-mentors-phd-disasters-and-how-to-avoid-them>
- ---
- Position of the student between intra-supervisor disagreements:
- <https://thesiswhisperer.com/2014/01/29/mum-and-dad-are-fighting-what-should-i-do/amp/>
- ---
- Dr Kay Guccione, 'Trust ME!' project (collection of blogs and materials available online):
- <http://predoctorbilty.co.uk/whats-on-the-trust-me-blog/>
- ---
- Dr Abigail Winter, 'Dancing around the edges of supervision...' (blog on the importance of a 'critical friend' and seeking support outside your supervision team):
- <https://thesupervisionwhisperers.wordpress.com/2018/06/19/dancing-around-the-edges-of-supervision-without-stepping-on-anyones-toes/>
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Postgraduate Research Environment:

- Blog on using Peer Learning in PG Research environment:
- <http://arts.brighton.ac.uk/projects/networks/issue-16-january-2012/peer-support-and-the-learning-experience-of-postgraduate-research>
- ---
- The benefits of a writing group:
- <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/opinion/how-make-writing-humanities-less-lonely>
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- More on a writing group:
- https://theresearchwhisperer.wordpress.com/2017/08/22/melbwriteup-18-months-on/?utm_content=buffer1c0e2&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
- ---
- Yet more on a writing group:
- <https://doctoralwriting.wordpress.com/2017/12/04/seven-things-to-think-about-when-organising-a-writing-retreat-group-boot-camp/>
- ---
- Inclusivity and PGR groups:
- <http://ukcge.ac.uk/article/creating-inclusivity-ac18-385.aspx>
- ---
- The PhD skillset and going beyond research:
- <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/blog/exactly-how-valuable-phd>
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- Using social media as an academic (this document in itself shows some of the advantages – many of the blogs and articles collected here were found using social media):
- <http://researcherdevelopment.academicblogs.co.uk/social-media-for-pgrs-boosting-your-academic-visibility/>
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- Following above, a blog on using Twitter professionally:
- http://redwritinghood.blogs.latrobe.edu.au/2017/06/how-useful-is-twitter-professionally.html?utm_content=buffer7957d&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer&m=1
- ---
- Some reflections on social class and the academic environment:
- <https://richardsonphd.wordpress.com/2017/07/26/workingclassphds/>
- ---
- Dr Jane Draycott on her self-funded, full-time PhD:
- <http://nadinemuller.org/brains-time-money/jane-draycott/>
- ---
- Article from *Nature*: ‘Train PhD students to be thinkers not just specialists’:
- <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-01853-1>
- ---
- Blog on ‘Doing a PhD in your 50s’:
- <https://phdwomenscot.wordpress.com/2018/03/02/week-9-doing-a-phd-in-your-50s/>
- ---
- Transition into postgrad research study:
- <https://thinkaheadsheffield.wordpress.com/2018/05/30/a-step-forward-in-smoothing-pgr-transitions/>
- ---
- Thoughts on part-time study (aimed at part-time PGRs):

- <https://researchinsiders.blog/2018/08/09/part-time-study/>
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The Viva:

- Collection of 'common' questions others have experienced in their vivas:
- <http://www.lboro-phd-network.org.uk/links/the-viva/>
- ---
- Article on the position of the examiner(s) in the Viva process:
- http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23265507.2017.1300862?utm_content=buffer3b449&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer&
- ---
- Tips on Defending your Viva (aimed at Humanities students):
- <http://www.hookandeye.ca/2017/02/how-to-defend-your-dissertation-like.html?m=1>
- ---
- The selection of examiners – aimed at supervisors and students:
- <https://doctoralwriting.wordpress.com/2017/08/04/framing-your-advice-what-would-your-examiners-think/>
- ---
- Several videos on the viva process from the School of Advanced Study, University of London (thanks to Dolly Yang for providing them):
- <https://port.sas.ac.uk/mod/page/view.php?id=1927>
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- Dr Mary Frank, 'What nobody tells you about "minor corrections"':
- <https://thesiswhisperer.com/2019/03/06/what-nobody-tells-you-about-minor-corrections/>

The End of PhD life and beyond:

- Video on binding your thesis from Dr Emma Cole:
- <http://www.document-centre.co.uk/blog/24032017161036-everything-you-want-to-know-about-binding-your-phd-thesis---video-/>
- ---
- Alternatives to the post-doc (aimed at Science PhD students):
- <http://thegradstudentway.com/blog/?p=2153>
- ---
- Post PhD jobs – going into industry:
- <http://thegradstudentway.com/blog/?p=1985#.WYGctreosdU>
- ---
- 'How to master the Humanities job search'
- <https://reinventphd.georgetown.edu/How-to-Master-the-Humanities-Job-Search>

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- Dr Katherine McDonald, 'Academic Interview Questions':
<https://katherinemcdonald.net/2016/12/01/new-resource-questions-for-academic-job-interviews/>
- ---
- Dr Peter Matthews, 'How to tailor a job application':
<https://wonkhe.com/blogs/how-to-tailor-a-job-application/>
- ---
- Alison Mayne, 'Publishing as a PhD student':
<https://sgsahblog.wordpress.com/2017/05/16/publishing-as-a-phd-student/>
- ---
- The Thesis Whisperer, 'How to make an Index for your book/dissertation':
<https://thesiswhisperer.com/2018/04/11/how-to-make-an-index-for-your-book-or-dissertation/>
- ---
- Alternative Career Path, 'From Doctoral Study to Administration':
<https://www.chronicle.com/article/From-Doctoral-Study-to-/238708>
- ---
- Dr Sayali Haldipurkaar reflects on her 'untraditional' post-PhD career:
<https://thinkaheadsheffield.wordpress.com/2018/09/14/sheffvista-86-dr-sayali-haldipurkar-research-officer/>
- ---
- Post-PhD and Leaving Academia:
<https://www.universityaffairs.ca/career-advice/beyond-the-professoriate/leaving-academia-look-to-those-whove-already-made-the-transition/>
- ---
- Postdoctoral Jobs database (mainly comprised of US institutions):
<https://postdoctorals.com/>
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- Video from Taylor and Francis (publishing house), 'What to think about before you start to write a journal article' (aimed at PGRs/ECRs):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fxYVyL_s3P0&feature=share