

Postgraduate Research Group

Bibliography

Below you will find a collection of books/articles relating the PG research process which are slightly longer/more in-depth than the 'useful links' page. Most of these avoid focusing on specific subject areas (except perhaps for case studies). Again, I point out that none of these are approved by the university in any way; I merely post them here for your interest. Some of them may be available from UWTSD libraries (I haven't check them all).

There are many works out there that claim to be a guide to doing a PhD. Firstly, while they all have their own merit, I do not believe any work can be a comprehensive 'how-to' guide for research degrees. Secondly, you will notice a large focus on the PhD as the be all and end all of research degrees; this is obviously not the case, but does demonstrate some of the biases in academia. That said, a lot of the advice in these works is applicable to all research degrees. Again, I add the caveat that this list is in no way approved by UWTSD, but merely a personal collection of works hosted on a university platform.

Books:

- Bodewits, K. 2017, *You Must be Very Intelligent: The PhD Delusion*. Springer.
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- Hayton, J. 2015, *PhD: An Uncommon Guide to Research, Writing, and PhD Life*.
- ---
- Petre, M. and Rugg, G. 2010 (2nd Ed.), *The Unwritten Rules of PhD Research*. Open University Press.
- ---
- Talbot, C.,J. 2015 (4th Ed.), *Studying at a Distance: A Guide for Students*. UK Higher Education Humanities and Social Sciences Study Skills. Available via UWTSD Library catalogue.
 - Not aimed at PGRs specifically, but may be of some use for distance students.
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- Thomson, P. and Walker, M. 2010, *The Routledge Doctoral Student's Companion*. London- New York: Routledge.
 - Comprehensive edited volume aimed at researchers in Education and Social Sciences, but still has useful info for all disciplines. Available via the UWTSD library catalogue.
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- Wright, G. 2017, *Academia Obscura: The Hidden Silly Side of Education*.
 - A tongue in cheek view of academic life.

Articles:

- Agee, J. 2009, 'Developing Qualitative Research Questions: A Reflective Process'. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*, Vol. 22, Issue 4. Available from:
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09518390902736512?src=recsys>
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- Bryan, B. and Guccione, K. 2018, 'Was it Worth it? A qualitative exploration into graduate perceptions of doctoral value'. *Higher Education Research & Development*. Available from:
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07294360.2018.1479378>
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- Golding, C. 2017, 'Advice for Writing a Thesis (based on what examiners do)'. *Open Review of Educational Research*, Vol. 4, Issue 1. Available from:
https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23265507.2017.1300862?utm_content=buffer3b449&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
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- Meschitti, V. 2018, 'Can Peer Learning support Doctoral Education? Evidence from an Ethnography of a Research Team'. *Studies in Higher Education*. Available from:
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/03075079.2018.1427711?scroll=top&needAccess=true>.
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- Pacheco-Vega, R. 2018, 'Reviews: Writing your Doctoral (PhD) Dissertation' – reviews of various books on the PhD process:
<http://www.raulpacheco.org/resources/resources-for-graduate-students/writing-a-doctoral-phd-dissertation/>
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- Parker-Jenkins, M. 2016, 'Mind the Gap: Developing the Roles, Expectations, and Boundaries in the Doctoral Supervisor-Supervisee Relationship'. *Studies in Higher Education*. Available from:
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/03075079.2016.1153622?scroll=top&needAccess=true>.
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- Robbins, S. 2016, 'Finding Your Voice as an Academic Writer (and Writing Clearly)'. *Journal of Social Work Education*, Vol. 52, Issue 2. Available from:
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10437797.2016.1151267?src=recsys>
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- Sousa, B.J. and Clark, A.M. 2017, 'Getting the Most out of Academic Conference Attendance: Five Key Strategies'. A short note on attending academic conferences:
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1609406917740441>.
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- Sverdlík, A. et al. 2018, 'The PhD Experience: A Review of the Factors influencing Doctoral Students' Completion, Achievement, and Well-being'. *International Journal of Doctoral Studies*, Vol.13, 2018, 361-388. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.28945/4113>.
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- Various authors 2018, *TOR: Journal of the South West Doctoral Training Partnership*. An online publication based in Social Sciences with wider relevance to PG Researchers more generally. Contains several articles that may be of interest. Available from: https://www.swdtp.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/2018_TOR4thIssue_FINAL1.pdf.
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Reports:

- Cowling, M. 2017, *Happiness in Postgraduate Research in UK HEIs 2013-2015* [HEA Report]. Available from: <https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/knowledge-hub/happiness-uk-post-graduate-research-uk-heis>
 - This report was written on behalf of the Higher Education Academy (HEA) based upon the previous cycle of the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES).
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- Guccione, K. 2018, *Trust Me! Academic leadership behaviours in creating 'quality' doctoral supervision*. London: Leadership Foundation for Higher Education. Available from: https://www.lfhe.ac.uk/en/research-resources/research-hub/small-development-projects/sdp2016/Sheffield-po.cfm?utm_source=Research&utm_campaign=SDP (free registration required).
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- Metcalfe, J., Wilson, S., and Levecque, K. 2018, *Exploring wellbeing and mental health and associated support services for postgraduate researchers* [Vitae/HEFCE report, May 2018]. Available from: <https://re.ukri.org/documents/2018/mental-health-report/>.
- ---
- Welsh Government 2018, 'Support for Doctoral Study: Consultation and Responses'. Available from: <https://beta.gov.wales/support-doctoral-study>
 - The outcome of this consultation is that as of 25th Jun 2018, eligible PhD students normally resident in Wales are entitled to a loan of up to £25,000. Like the English system, this action was taken in an effort to widen access to PhD research degrees. You can apply via Student Finance Wales. Eligible students are: 59 years old or under, not in receipt of other funding, registered on a PhD programme beginning after 31st Aug 2018 for between 3 and 8 years. Please consult the documents for full conditions.
 - From a quick read through, it is unclear to me how this affects MRes, MPhil, Masters by Research, and other research degrees in general – I can only suggest that you contact the Welsh Government and/or Student Finance Wales directly for clarification.

Guides/Handbooks:

These guides are freely available on the internet. They are often from other universities, and obviously carry no weight at UWTSD. However, there are some useful 'tips and tricks' elements within them that you may find useful. I repeat the caveat here that this document is in no way approved/supported by UWTSD.

- University of Glasgow, *Postgraduate Research Student Handbook 2017-18*. Available from: https://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_549236_en.pdf
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- University of Sheffield, *Doctoral Times*, Issue 18 (Winter 2018). Available from: <https://www.flipsnack.com/Tuostimes/doctoral-times-issues-18-winter-2018.html>
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- McCulloch, A. & Stokes P. 2008, *The Silent Majority: Meeting the Needs of Part-time Research Students*. Published by the Society for Research into Higher Education. Available from ResearchGate (search for Alistair McCulloch) or from myself (Chris).