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# HOW TO GET A PHD OUT OF RESEARCH IN TRUST. INTRODUCTION COURSE FOR PHD STUDENTS NOVEMBER 22, 2011

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## **Responsible/Coordinator**

Associate Professor Lars Fuglsang and Associate Professor Poul Bitsch Olsen, Roskilde University

## **Lecturers**

Associate Prof. Poul Bitsch Olsen, RUC; Associate Prof. Lars Fuglsang, RUC and others.

## **Purpose and Content**

This doctoral seminar is for newly-enrolled doctoral students in the area of organization and management studies addressing trust issues. We suggest those enrolled for less than a year may benefit from the seminar. It is a basic seminar that begins by covering some fundamental aspects of 'doing' the doctorate. A maximum of 10 students will be accepted for this seminar.

In summary, the seminar will address

- the identification of key questions early in the doctoral process
- choice of the research puzzle (identification of the research question) and the role of theory
- the literature review and the process of writing the dissertation
- methodology (the 'science' of method) and your choice of a method appropriate to your research question
- structural issues - the traditional dissertation vs a collection of articles (pros and cons)

## **Literature**

See course outline/literature (below).

## **Location**

Roskilde University, Room: 'det store teorirum', building 44.3.

## **Time**

November 22 2011

## **Teaching language**

English

## **Application**

The students apply for this course when they register for the seminar 23-24 Nov.

<http://trust.ruc.dk/seminars/attend-seminar-at-roskilde>

## **Fee**

The course is free for participants of the Trust-PhD-network and participants in the seminar on processual trust studies, November 23-24

## **Evaluation**

Our Expectations for Student Preparation: See 'Outline and Objectives' (below). Certificates of completion will be issued only to those successfully completing all requirements of the course (including full attendance and submission of the required assignment). PhD-students from Roskilde University will gain 1 erts for this contribution.

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## COURSE OUTLINE

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### Pedagogical Approach

A set of lectures that cover the above topics will be followed by a structured discussion of the lecture topics, based on the specific lecture reading. The course comprises student presentations of their research question and suggested method (and justification). There will be constructive feedback from the instructors. The seminar invites students to include their own present and future research activity only.

### Preparation for the Seminars

Each student is to prepare a 1500-word (max.) description of his/her doctoral work to be received by **November 18** (noon) by mail: pbo@ruc.dk. All will work with these documents (the course assignments) during the student **presentations**. All course-participants will have admission to these papers, soon after they are uploadet.

It should include

- (1) A description of the field of knowledge within which the project is located.
- (2) A preliminary research question. This should be expressed as one sentence.
- (3) A suggested method appropriate to the research question and field.
- (4) A section outlining the student's intellectual obligations and limitations eg. 'What is the source of finance?' 'What are the tutorial/supervisory arrangements to support the doctoral process? 'Is there a prior philosophical commitment whether to research method or research question derived from the supporting organisation?'

Note, that you will present these topics during the seminars. Please try to work out the most important lines of argument and do not get lost in details.

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## SCHEDULE - NOVEMBER 22

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9.30- 10.00: Introduction and presentation, Poul Bitsch Olsen & Lars Fuglsang and participants.

10.00 – 11.00 Research questions and the entrance to philosophy of science and its implications for your choice of method /Poul Bitsch Olsen

Coffee

11.15-12.15: Workshop 1. Research issues and why they should be dealt with, and what the problem is about. /PBO-LF

12.15-13.00: Lunch

13.00-14.00: Student presentations – on the basis of the assignments: Choice of research question related to theoretical background / PBO-LF

14.15 – 15.15: The literature review in trust and processual studies and the process of writing a dissertation /Lars Fuglsang

Coffee

15.30 - 16.30: Student presentations – on the basis of the assignments: Choice of method and how it is related to research question/ PBO-LF

16.45 – 18.00 Workshop 2: The structure of the dissertation – anthology or monography? How to survive the PhD-process/ Flemming Sørensen

18.00-19.00 Dinner

19.00-20.00 Workshop: The life as trust researcher and PhD-student, Kevin Perry

20.00-21.00 Drinks and departure from campus to Roskilde.

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## LITERATURE

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All materials that are accessible from libraries or bookstores are to be obtained by the student. Only articles and/or papers that are not directly accessible will be provided in photocopies.

All preliminary slides (power point) in the lectures will be provided by e-mail in connection to the course.

### Seminar material (compulsory)

There are now many good books that advise the student how to do doctoral research. We believe the following list is of particular good books. They vary somewhat, and we try to represent their particular strength in a sentence or two below. They ALL treat the basic issues of this course: so you should read either ONE entire book or cover the key issues by picking relevant chapters from several books. If you must have one book to read, then you must read

**Olsen, Poul Bitsch, and Kaare Pedersen, 'Problem-Oriented Project Work', Copenhagen, RUC's Forlag (Samfundslitteratur), chapters 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 before the seminar. The book has the advantage that it is available in Danish as well.**

### Supplementary reading

Phillips, E.M. and Pugh, D.S. (1994) 2nd edn., *How to get a PhD: a handbook for students and their supervisors*. Buckingham: Open University Press

*The classic British 'how to do a PhD' book, now in its second edition (ie it is used and useful). It is also short (190 pages). Addresses problems of supervision and common ways of 'going wrong'.*

*A particularly useful (2nd edition!) Danish-language book for interdisciplinary research work*

Fuglsang, Lars and Olsen, Poul Bitsch, eds. (2005), *Videnskabsteori i Samfundsvidenskaberne*, København: Roskilde University Press.

*You should read chapters Indledning & Efterord.*

Booth, W.C., Colomb, G.C., Williams, J.M. (1995), 2nd edition, *The Craft of Research*. Chicago, Ill.: The University of Chicago Press

*This book is also in its second edition (always a good sign). It is about how to conduct research in general, but this is appropriate because your doctoral work is simply a piece of research, perhaps your first piece of research - there will come many others and the same approach to all is appropriate.*

Sternberg, R (1981) 'How to Complete and Survive a Doctoral Dissertation' New York, St Martin's Press

*This US-audience book is very good at recognising the problems of doing doctoral work. The appropriate personal reflections make it a particularly insightful and honest work. Good on the severe emotional strain of*

*writing and how to cope ex. Ch7 'Down in the Dissertation Dumps: How to Get Out'. Not in a second edition, but rather impressively still in print 20 years after it was written - perhaps an indication of the special value it has as an emotional-character guide to the dissertation road.*

Easterby-Smith, M., Thorpe, R., and Lowe, A. 'Management Research - An Introduction', London, Sage. *Management research orientated, but this has an advantage when it comes to method: because 'all methods are game' in management studies, the book takes care to outline the pros and cons of qualitative and quantitative methods and the reasons why some sub-groups of 'management' researchers stay with a particular method. Also in its 2nd edition, Easterby-Smith is one of the best-known methods-for-management researchers in the UK.*

*We include this as a relatively recent Scandinavian language 'How to' book.*  
Strannegard, L. Red. (2003), *Avhandlingen. Om att formas till forskare*, Lund: Studentlitteratur.

*This is about the whole-(US) career experience of the (psychology) academic, but (2nd edition!) many of the chapters present invaluable personal experiences of managing the road blocks to a permanent academic position, of colleagues and Deans and the political process and how not to give a faculty talk about your research...*

Darley, JM, Zanna, MP and Roediger III, HL (2001), *The Compleat Academic - A Career Guide*, 2nd edition, American Psychological Association, Washington DC.

*Another, how-to-write orientated book for the PhD*

Dunleavy, P. (2003), *Authoring a PhD: how to plan, draft, write and finish a doctoral thesis or dissertation*. New York: Macmillan

*Some introductory philosophy of science*

Goodman, N. (1984), *Of Mind and Other Matters*. Harvard University Press, preface and chapt. 2.

*Marketing specific*

Summers, John O. (2001), *Guidelines for Conducting Research and Publishing in Marketing: From Conceptualization Through the Review Process*. Academy of Marketing Science, Fall 2001; 29, 4.

*The literature review*

Webster, J.; Watson, R.T. (2002), Analyzing the past to prepare for the future: writing a literature review, *MIS Quarterly*, 26(2), xiii-xxiii.

*Role of theory*

Whetten, D. A. (1989), What constitutes a theoretical contribution? *Academy of Management Review*, vol.14, no.4, 490-495.

*How to prepare yourself to do research and become a good academic*

Butler, G. and Hope, T. (1995) *Manage your mind: the mental fitness guide*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.