

THINKING ABOUT PURSUING A PHD:

EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT
APPLYING TO AND GRADUATING FROM A
PHD PROGRAM

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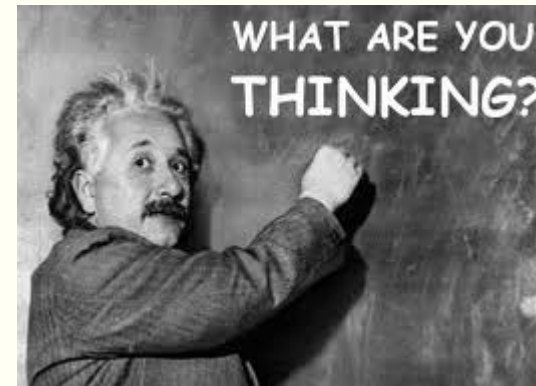
Agenda

- Introduction of Presenters
- Opening Discussion: Participants
- Goals of Workshop
- Application Process
- Course Work
- The Proposal
- Writing the Dissertation
- Question and Answer Period



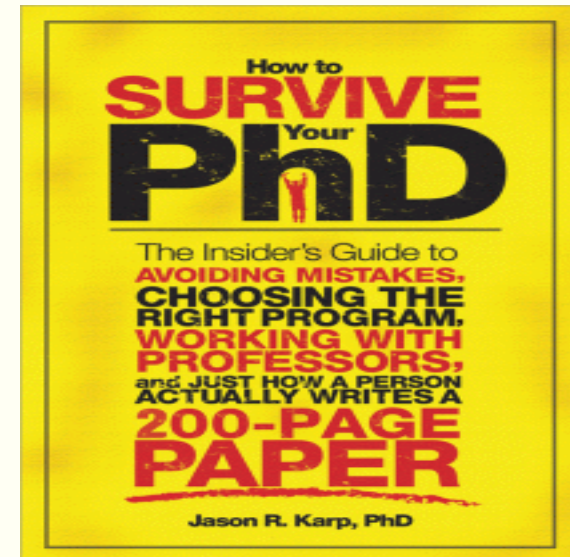
Opening Discussion: Participants

- Are you thinking about applying to a Ph.D. program? Or, Are you currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program?
- Have you developed career/professional development goals surrounding your choice to obtain a Ph.D.?
- Why did you decide to attend this workshop?
- What do you hope to gain from this presentation?



Goals of the Workshop

- Discuss the application process
- Completing coursework while working and raising families
- Choosing a topic to research
- Selecting a committee
- Writing the proposal
- Defending the dissertation



Application Process

- First decide which program you would like to pursue and why
- Think about the type of experience you hope to gain while in school
- Have an ideal of what your end goals are after graduation so you can gain experiences to help you meet those goals
- Know the requirements for applying/deadlines
- GRE vs. MAT
- Personal Statement
- Letters of Recommendation
- Writing Sample

**PhD Application
Deadline is
December 1st**

December 1st

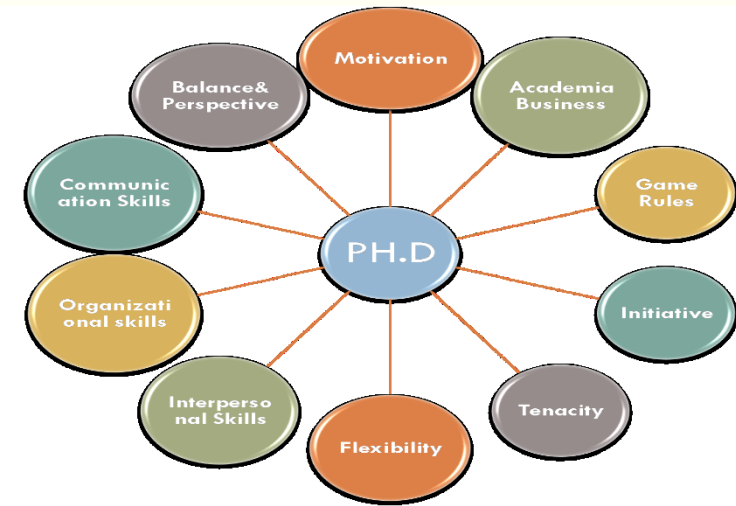
Coursework

- Determine if you have any graduate level courses that may transfer
- Balancing work, classes and family/time management skills
- Minimum grade accepted B
- Know the departmental policies, such as Leave of Absence
- Residency requirements
- Take enough classes to prepare you for the type of research study you will pursue
- Write summaries for articles you read on topics of interest
- Comprehensive Examination – advancement to candidacy



The Proposal

- Work in consultation with your advisor/chair
- Develop a timeline for completion
- Review proposals of previous students who have worked with your chair/advisor
- Use research and coursework that may relate to your topic
- Chapters 1 (introduction), 2 (literature Review) and 3 (methodology) of your proposal will make up the first 3 chapters of your dissertation
- **Note:** The way in which your proposal is organized depends on the department guidelines.



Writing the Dissertation

- This is the lonely phase of the project as you have no pre-determined deadlines like there were while taking classes
- Develop your own deadlines and stick to them – writing schedule
- Plan a time timeline with your advisor/chair
- Decide on whether or not to use an editor
- Develop a support group of peers and or family
- Be willing to write and rewrite chapters...it's all about the process
- Don't expect perfection



Questions

Feel free to ask any additional questions/ share thoughts

