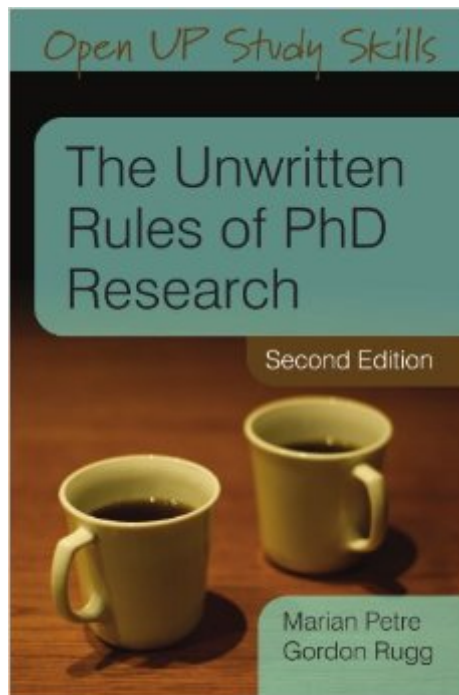


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The Unwritten Rules Of PhD Research (Open Up Study Skills)



Synopsis

"I feel grateful to have found this book only a year into my PhD. It has opened my eyes to the world of academia. There is more to a PhD than just research in the sense of working on a problem, getting some results and publishing your findings. This book has allowed me to open my eyes and see all the other things I should be doing to fully succeed at my endeavour of becoming a researcher myself." Dominic Hosler, University of Sheffield

This bestselling book on the process of PhD research provides readers with engaging discussion and comprehensive guidance on aspects that other books don't usually mention. Covering all the key topics of the previous edition, including what a PhD is really about, how to do one well, how to decipher what your supervisor actually means by terms like 'good referencing' and 'clean research question', and how to design, report and defend your research, the authors continue to offer an accessible, down-to-earth, and insightful account of the whole PhD process. Their advice addresses how to avoid some of the pitfalls en route to a successful submission. Updated throughout, the new edition includes new material on:

- Critical thinking
- Research skills
- The route to research independence
- Different models of study

The Unwritten Rules of PhD Research is essential reading for anyone considering a PhD or embarking on one. It will tell you the things many students wish someone had told them before they started.

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Customer Reviews

This is a very good book for the clueless grad students, as it teaches many intangible skills which may end up being as important as the research itself. Skills such as how to network and conduct yourself in a conference, how to plan the dissertation and even critique journals. There are even sections on presentation skills and CV writing. It also gives tips so that we are not caught in the situation where, we have graduated but realize too late we need teaching experience to get a junior teaching position. I would highly recommend this as it really helped me a lot in my beginning stages of graduate studies. However, I have to be honest that, this book might be redundant for phd/graduate students who have great guidance and a wonderful learning culture in their institutions. But for those who find themselves in less favorable circumstances, such as myself, this book is almost a life-saver.

In my opinion this book contains very useful information for students working on or considering a PhD programme. The informal storytelling style makes up an entertaining read, which felt sometimes a bit verbose and lengthy to me. I perceived the told stories experiences of the authors as very authentic and practice-oriented. Sometimes I got a little overwhelmed by the densely packed amount of information leaving me asking the question how to transfer the knowledge written in the book to my personal PhD activities. I suggest complementary reading to delve deeper into areas like research design and methods. All in all I highly recommend this book to every PhD student.

Thank you for this well-written and understandable book! As a PhD student who is constantly frustrated for not understanding the reasons and rules that his colleagues and supervisors follow, this book has helped tremendously, boosting my confidence and helping me to navigate the waters of academia. It was interesting, fun, and insightful to read. Thank you!

I haven't finished reading this book yet but I'm halfway through and wish I'd found it earlier. Very clearly written in an informal and engaging style, and absolutely jam-packed with useful advice - I'm finding myself highlighting something from virtually every paragraph I read! Having completed an MA this information rings very true, and I can now understand a lot of what my supervisor was telling me that didn't make a lot of sense at the time. Given what I've got from this book, I think I would have been able to produce a more streamlined and clearly academic dissertation if I had the chance to do it again. Now I'm planning to start a PhD, and this is a very helpful substitute for the cup of coffee with an experienced researcher that the authors recommend so frequently. Well worth the purchase

for anyone contemplating doing higher-level research - this would be just as useful for a student starting a postgraduate diploma or master's dissertation. Two thumbs up, no hesitation.

I've had the pleasure of meeting the author in person. Unfortunately I was 2/3 through before I came across her and this book. Would have been better if I had been introduced to it in the first year. A very useful supplement to the supervisor's guidance.

A great insight into the undercurrent of doing a PhD, Explores the things that can pull you under (to continue the metaphor) if you are not aware of them. An easy read, too!

I wanted to finish this book since the first page thanks to its language and 'truth'. The content is applicable to Ph.D. in both sides of the Pacific as well as other standard Ph.D. on earth, where the programs are structured differently. But the process along the way and the struggling experiences are common. Future Ph.D. student must read in order to ensure it is right for you and to keep the opportunity cost in pursuing other things in life. Present Ph.D. students must read so that all right things be done with a realistic view. The book is particularly helpful to ABD type to make it certain that you would complete a Ph.D. less than 7 suffering years!

An absolutely essential read for anyone who wants to have success while pursuing a PhD. My advice is to read it earlier on in the program rather than after you've finished.

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