

List of possible topics for External HDR Students Support Network 2020

Writing style

- How to write more cohesive reports: Send your supervisors only the topic sentences
- How to optimize your paragraphs: Seven kinds of paragraphs you should distinguish
- How to write more precisely and concisely: How to avoid problems with pronouns, such as *it* and *this*
- How to write more precisely: Avoid polysemous words, such as *take*, *make*, *get*, and *have*
- How to write more precisely: Avoid ambiguous quantities, such as *a number of*
- How to write more concisely and identify unnecessary sentences
- How to write more concisely and avoid redundant, tautological, and verbose phrases
- How to write professionally and respectfully, such as respectful labels
- How to avoid subtle writing errors, such as the true meaning of *which*, *that*, *who*, *include*, *comprise*, *affect*, and *effect*
- How can you learn to write more fluently: The CDU writing journey

Writing content

- How to check whether you have included the necessary information: CONSORT, TREND, STROBE, and qualitative writing guidelines
- How does the structure of chapters vary across theses?
- How to decide which arguments to include in a discussion

Literature reviews

- How to decide whether you should conduct a systematic review
- Syntheses of qualitative literature: meta-ethnography
- How to derive practical suggestions from past literature: Systematic intervention constructions
- How to utilize the grey literature—such as reports, newsletters, and theses—effectively

Research design

- How to choose a theoretical perspective
- Alternatives to RCT designs: regression discontinuity, realist evaluation, cluster RCT, and step-wedge

Qualitative methods

- Varieties of interviews: episodic, narrative, critical incident interviews; dyadic interviews, walking interviews, email interviews
- Varieties of group discussions: focus groups, unfocussed groups, nominal group designs; duo-ethnography
- Remote methods: systematic self-observation; latent semantic analysis; Delphi method; story completion method.
- Classical qualitative analysis: grounded theory, thematic analysis, phenomenological analysis narrative inquiry, ethnography, and case studies

- Alternatives to classical analyses: framework analysis and tensional analysis
- Coding: How to differ sort your codes

Indigenous research

- Common theoretical perspectives: critical race theory, decolonizing theory, standpoint theory, and shared epistemology models
- Unsuitable motivations to conduct Indigenous research—such as to evaluate solutions or to experience in interesting culture

Quantitative data analysis

- What are the main categories of quantitative data analysis: frequentist, Bayesian, machine learning, data mining
- How to compare groups: between, within, covariates, and multivariate
- How to examine relationships between variables with regression: linear, generalized, generalizing, GAM, path analysis, and SEM
- How to optimize classical regression: from relative weight analysis to Lasso
- Other clusters of statistics: ranked, survival analyses, ARIMA, and social network analysis

Cognitive skills

- How to improve memory: forgetting curves, testing effects, massed learning, guesses, drawing and shading, self-generation, visual techniques, and memory palaces
- How to improve creativity
- How to think more critically and logically: Logical fallacies and mindsets

Emotional skills

- Morning rituals that improve wellbeing: three challenging tasks
- Techniques to overcome anxiety
- Techniques to promote motivation and achievement

Social skills

- How to refuse requests: delay, alternative, justify, empathy
- How to persuade other people: patterns, specificity, choice, and ease of retrieval
- How to develop a skill that other people value
- How to respond to misguided feedback: blame your writing; propose future research; indicate your position was initially similar

Supervision

- How to manage your supervisor: complex emotions, demonstrable effort, and acknowledgements of inconvenience
- How to discontinue supervision—such as seek alternatives, sometimes with payment

Procedures and policies

- How to decide whether the scope of your research is suitable

- Complications with thesis by publication
- What are the attributes of an exemplary COC?
- How to learn about human ethics as efficiently as possible
- Who should examine your thesis?

Careers

- How to write more convincing CVs
- How to fulfill key selection criteria when you do not really fulfill key selection criteria
- How to prepare before interviews—such as suitable imagery and memorisation
- Possible jobs in the future
- How to prepare before submitting a grant application—such as joint pilot studies and MOUs