

Know how your supervisor hangs?

- Get to know your supervisor
- Make sure you are on the same page **AT ALL TIMES**

Know your style: Are you a

- planner ?
- drafter?
- How does your supervisor write?
- Talk about your own writing style, learn about your supervisors approach
- Develop a shared language about expectations

Write as you go

- Downloading papers, printing them, then leaving them on your desk doesn't count as reviewing the literature.
- When you just can't get going, turn everything off, and think about what needs to be done.

You can't hand your head in: Don't play hide and seek with your thesis

Show your work as you go

- Forces you to stay on track and refine your thinking

- Treat the supervision spaces like an airport landing zone
- Identify times when you will submit work
- AND
- Submit it
- Be reasonable about workload expectations- your own and your supervisor

Time management

Be consistent- map each day/week/month out

- Decide what you are going to do before you start your computer
- Set targets
- Tell your friends you are doing your PhD

Keep several things on the 'boil' at once

Identify high focus and low focus work

Take ownership

- Commit to the process
- Gather all the ingredients
- Make sure everything balances correctly
- You have to submit it to the oven

- Finally you get to eat it

Stand away from the desk!

- Normal to hate your thesis
- Give you brain time to sort through issues- do something else while it does that
- The internet doesn't count as a break. Get away from the desk
- Make time for something else on a regular basis

Nothing is ever perfect; finished is better than not finished

A completely finished thesis is better than an imaginary one

Get help!

You are not an owner operator

- Ask for help from supervisors, friends, graduate studies officers
- Read blogs such as the Thesis Whisperer <http://thesiswhisperer.com/>