

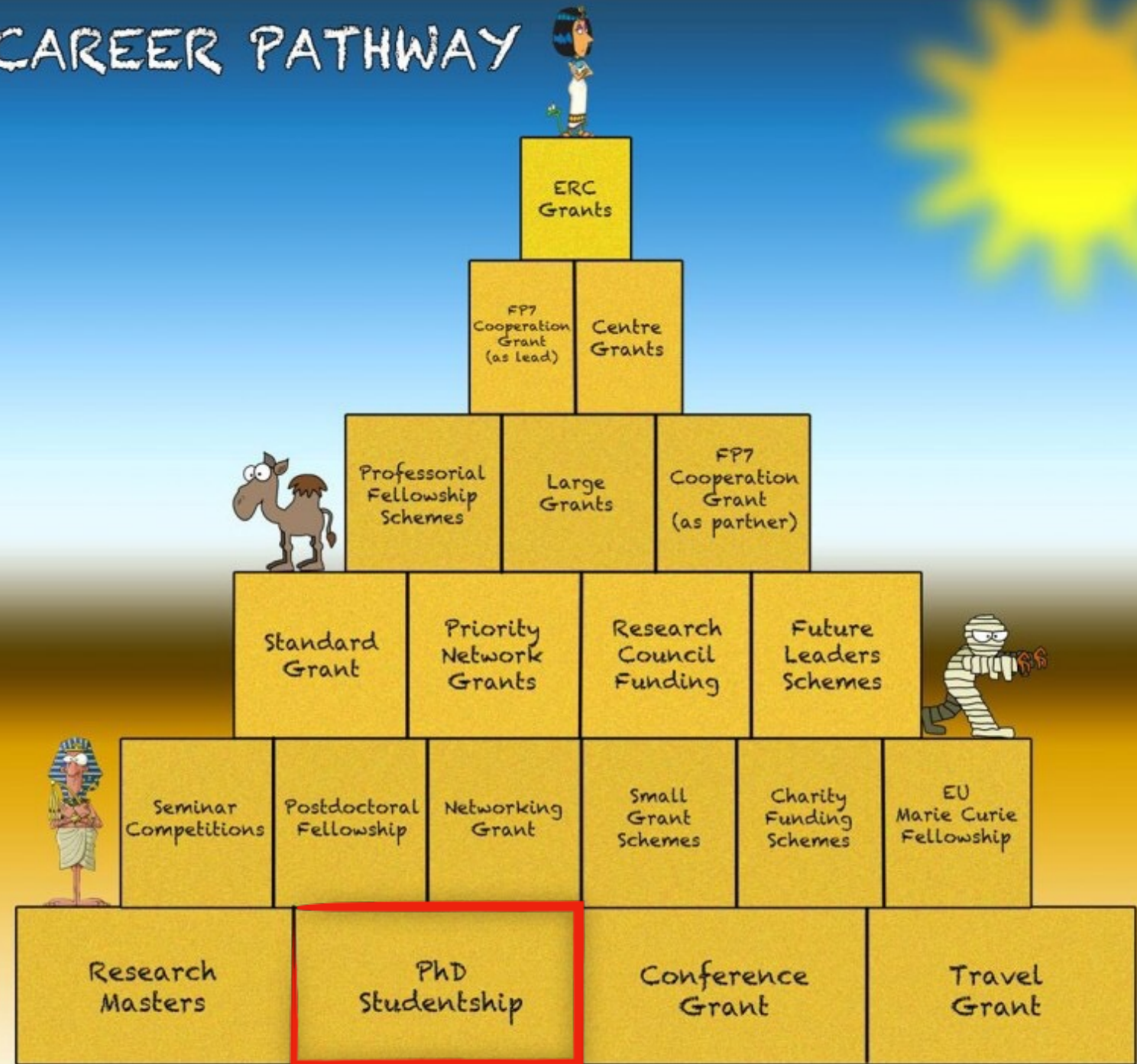


# Life in academia

## Part 1. Doing a PhD

Miora Andriantsaralaza

# ACADEMIC CAREER PATHWAY



# Where to apply for a PhD position ?

**AAS Job Register**  
Find and post astronomy related jobs!

[AAS Home](#) | [AAS Job Register Home](#) | [Member Directory](#)

**Jobs**

- Current Job Ads
- Query Job Ads
- Archived Job Ads
- Log In To Post Job Ad
- Create Job Poster Account

**Current Job Ads**

- **Faculty Positions (visiting & non-tenure)** — Time limited position at a university or college. Includes teaching responsibility.
- **Faculty Positions (tenure & tenure-track)** — Permanent (or leading to a permanent) position at a university or college. Includes teaching responsibility.
- **Pre-doctoral/Graduate Positions** — Typically associated with a Fellowship or other source of funding to support those seeking a degree from an institution of higher education. May also include funding opportunities for exchange programs or other professional development.
- **Post-doctoral Positions & Fellowships** — Typically located at a university, college or government lab. Allows recipient to pursue independent research or research support for a specific science program defined by the employer. Is limited to a pre-determined period of time. Usually does not include teaching

**Pre-doctoral/Graduate Positions**

Title ↑	Institution/Organization ↑	Location ↑	Posted ↑	Deadline ↑	Position Status ↑
<b>New!</b> 14 PhD fellowships for the "Astronomy, Astrophysics and Space Science" graduate program in Rome	University of Rome "Tor Vergata" - University of Rome "Sapienza" - National Institute	Rome, Rome	2021/04/22	2021/05/20	Accepting Applicants
			2021/04/16	2021/05/15	Accepting Applicants
			2021/04/08	2021/05/12	Accepting Applicants
			2021/03/26	2021/04/23	Accepting Applicants

**FindAPhD**

PHDS EVENTS FUNDING ADVICE SIGN UP

**PhD RESEARCH**  
FUNDING AVAILABLE

**EXPLORE NOW**

**UNIVERSITY of STIRLING**

**Be Stirling  
BE THE DIFFERENCE**

**astronomy PhD Projects, Programs & Scholarships**

<https://jobregister.aas.org>

<https://www.findaphd.com>

# You need to consider

Advertised project (subject)

University

Supervisor

Deadline

Funding

## PhD studentship in Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics at the School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Edinburgh, UK



[University of Edinburgh](#) > [School of Physics and Astronomy](#)

Applications are invited for a 3.5-year PhD studentship within the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Edinburgh under the supervision of Dr Elton Santos. [Read more >](#)

**Supervisor:** Dr E Santos

14 May 2021

PhD Research Project

Funded PhD Project (Students Worldwide)

[More Details >](#)

## High performance computing for pulsar and fast radio burst astronomy.

[University of Auckland](#) > [Faculty of Engineering](#)

The telescopes used for Radio Astronomy generate enormous amounts of data. Processing this data is a very challenging computational problem. [Read more >](#)

**Supervisor:** Assoc Prof O Sinnen

Year round applications

PhD Research Project

Competition Funded PhD Project (Students Worldwide)

[More Details >](#)

# Funding

Project funded

Funding guaranteed

Competition funded

Funding not guaranteed, internal competition

External funding

(Not advertised project, contact supervisor)



## External funding

University scholarships  
Country-specific scholarships  
Government scholarships  
Subject-specific scholarships



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service

<https://www.daad.de/>



<https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/scholarships/commonwealth-phd-scholarships-for-least-developed-countries-and-fragile-states/>

Diversity and inclusion

## Bell Burnell Graduate Scholarship Fund

A scholarship fund to support full- or part-time graduates who wish to study towards a doctorate in physics and are from groups that are currently under-represented in physics.



[Home](#) | [Training](#) | [Network Meetings](#) | [Partners](#) | [News](#) | [e-Seminars](#) | [Opportunities](#) | [Resources](#)

<https://www.dara-project.org/opportunities>



[Contact Us](#)



<https://blog.mpifr-bonn.mpg.de/imprs/for-applicants/>

# Tips when you apply

- Get an idea of what you want (project topic, university, country) ...
- ... be flexible
- Contact prospective supervisor to show interest and ask more information
- Customise your CV and cover letter for each position
- Highlight your skills that are relevant to the position  
(programming, astronomy-related software, particular methods, soft skills)
- Highlight any research experience
- Use your DARA network to ask for reference letters
- Know that PhDs are different in different countries

Duration: 3-4 years (UK), 3-5 years (Europe), 4-6 years (US)

Format: research-only, research + coursework, research + coursework + teaching duties

Graduation requirement: dissertation thesis, number of papers

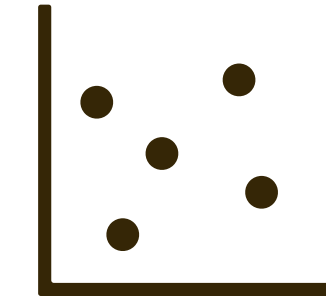
Defence format: viva, public defence, peer defence

- Perseverance is key
- Consider all options, use your network

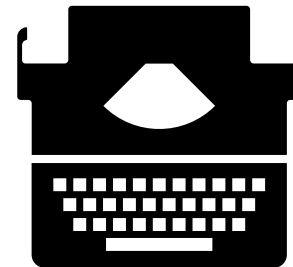
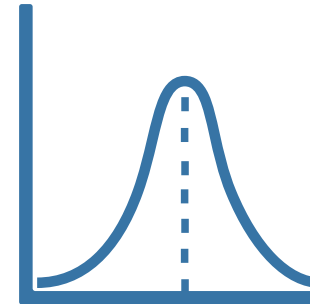
# Starting your PhD , what to expect\*



Data collection



Data analysis

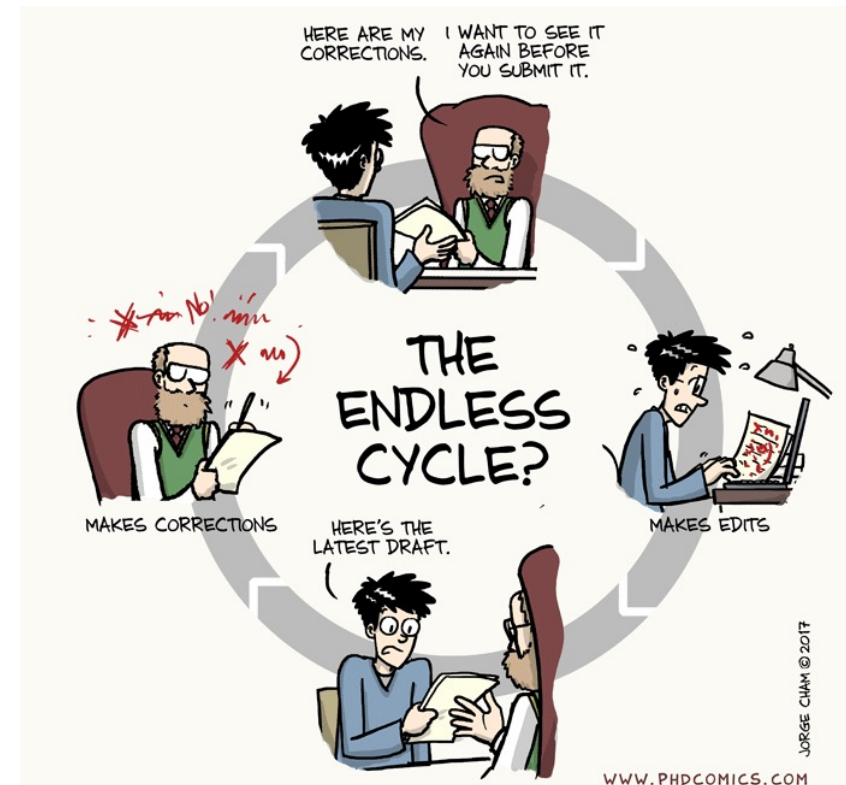
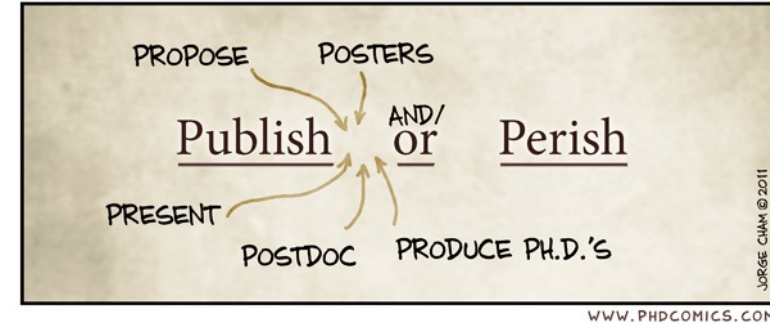
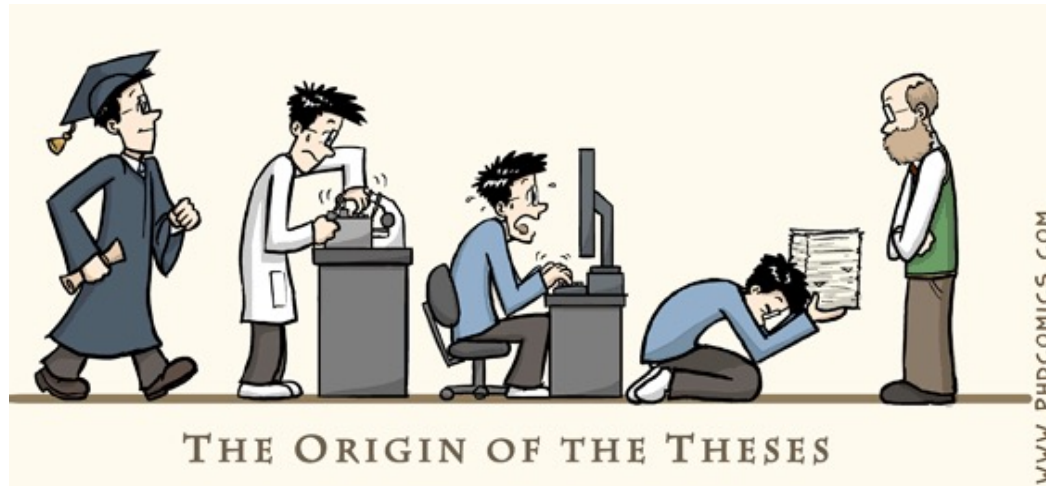


Writing

\*e.g. in observational astronomy

# What to expect

## Reading and writing

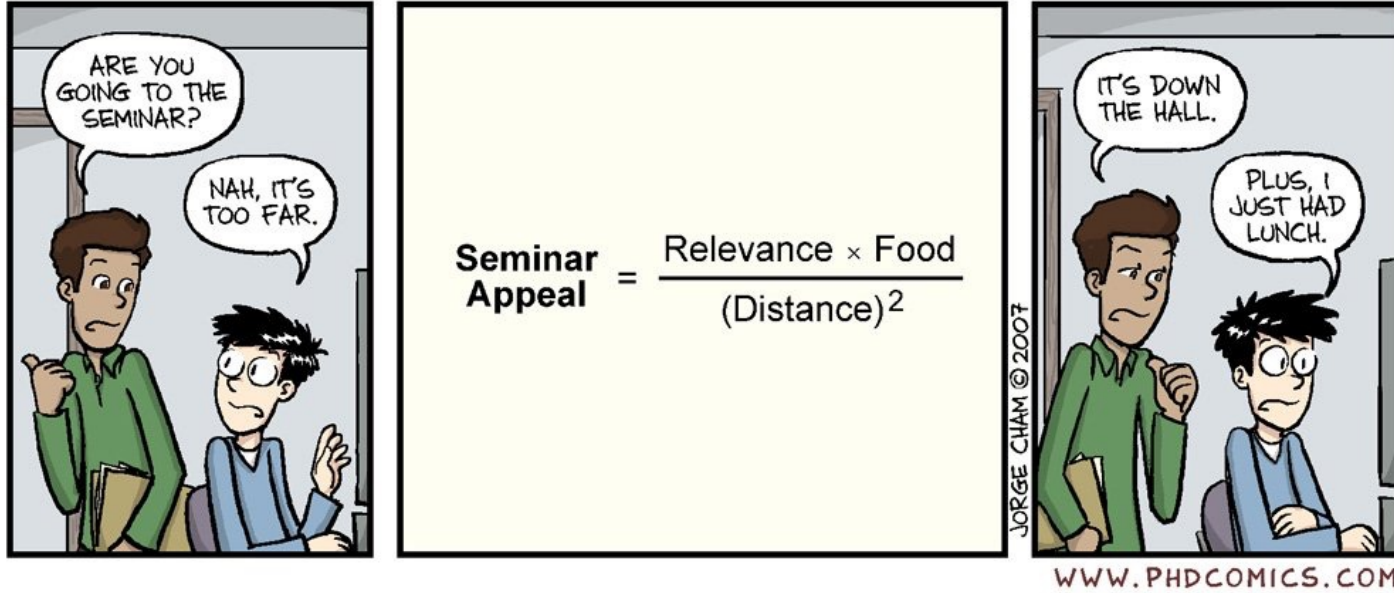




# What to expect

**Presenting** your research : talk, posters

Attending seminars, conferences



## Independent work

Google is your best friend



🔍 how to write references in latex overleaf



# What to expect



The cool

The challenging

Flexible hours  
Learning process, small steps  
Marathon  
Work with experts  
Independent work  
Work on topic you like  
travels, new friends,...

Crazy hours  
Long-term goal,  
long before you get results  
Procrastination  
Imposter syndrome  
Sometimes isolating  
Only talks about your PhD

# More on the late stages of the PhD

What next after your PhD?



Check videos by Naomi and Willice

# ACADEMIC LIFE

Naomi Asabre Frimpong

## YOUR PLAN

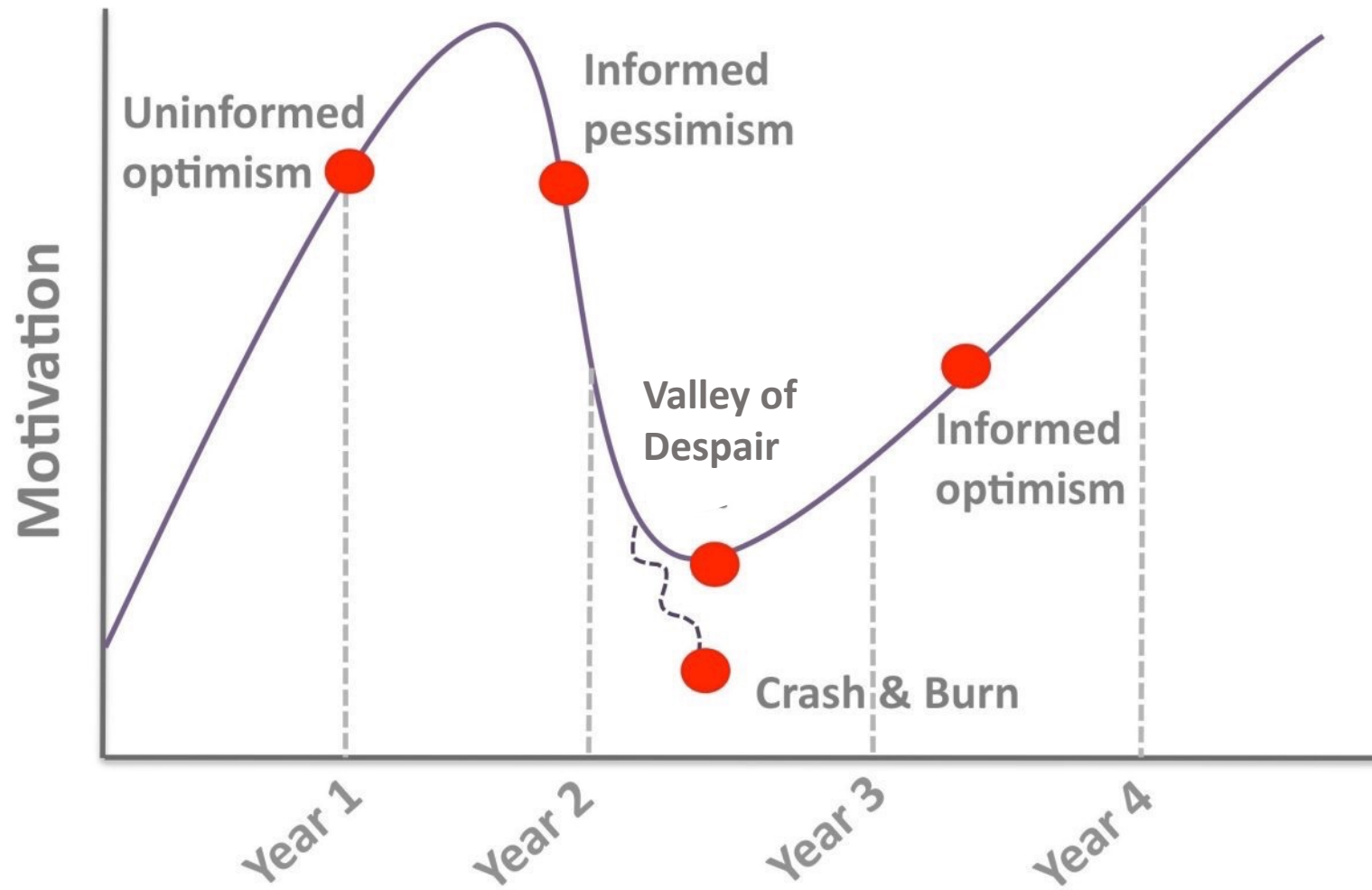


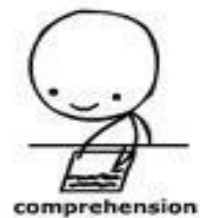
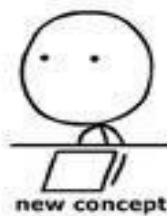
## REALITY



VANDEN BOSCH  
RAYMOND JAMES







**academic life**



# Supervisors



# Thesis Writing

## 6 Steps to Completing Your Dissertation



DRUDGERY



PROCRASTINATION



PANIC



DESPAIR



DRUDGERY



PRINTING

# Publications

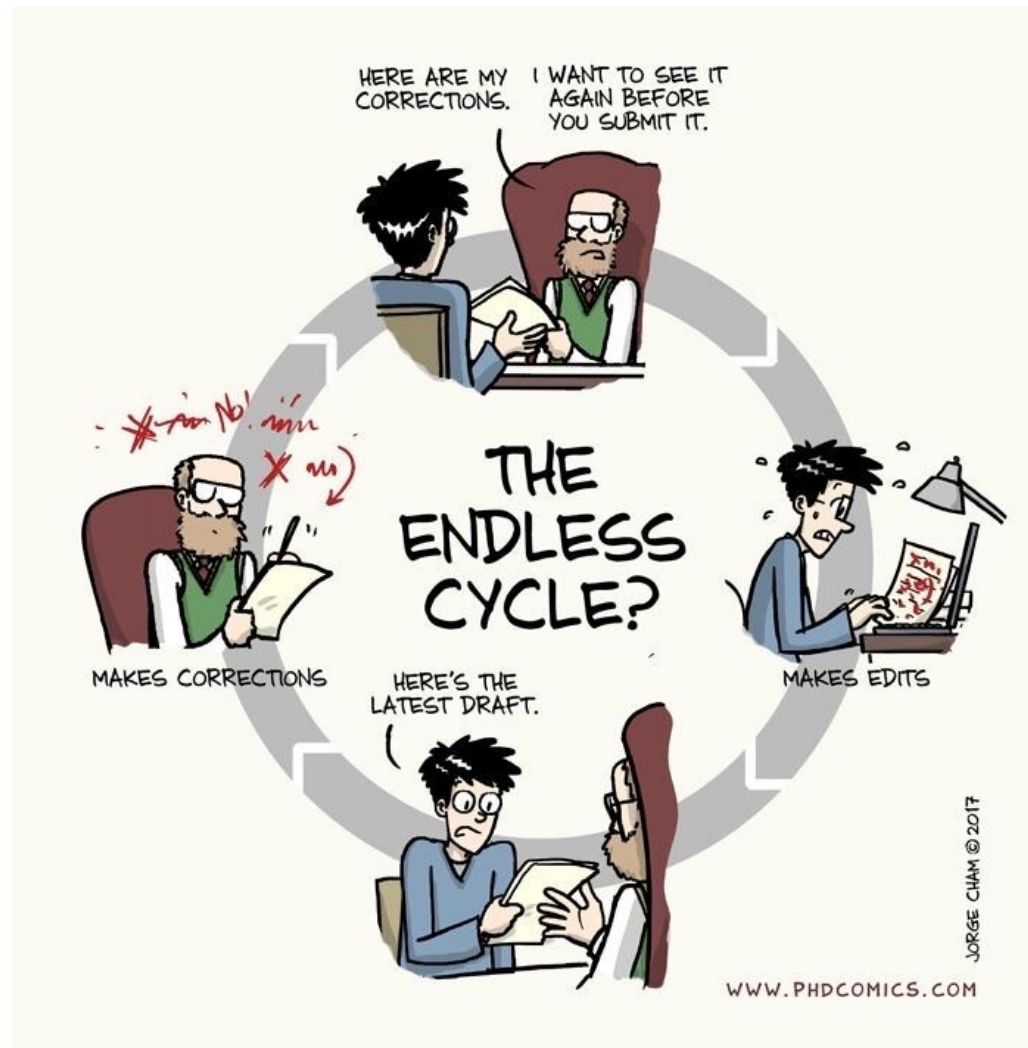






Photo Courtesy of Shutterstock

Career  
planning and  
Dev't

Work/Life  
Balance

Writing and  
Presentations

Psychological  
support

Networking

# LIFE AFTER PHD

WILLICE OBONYO

# Life after a research degree – Msc/Phd

