Superfast 18- month PhD

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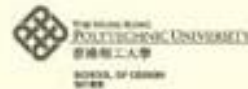
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Doctoral Education in Design Conference

Practice Knowledge Vision

22–25 May 2011 Hong Kong

Organisers

THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF DESIGN

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Four types of research

* **Problem-based research (usually best)**
* **Single question** research (not useful)
* **Blue-sky** research (not suitable for PhDs)
* **Hypothesis-testing** research (fields with tested body of theory)

Appropriate justification of PhD reasoning

* **Logical** (If A true and B is true then logically C)
* **Casuistic** (Because a famous and trusted research reported it on the basis of their research)
* **Deontic** (self evident, e.g a cup is a cup)
* **Rhetoric** (persuasion through emotion or fallacies)

Effective Search

* Set Google Preferences - 50 items
* Think up 'keywords'
* Search Google to find the *real* keywords
* Learn and repeat

Use same for catalogues, databases…..

Effective tools

* Everything is a complex socio-technical system
* 'Abstract' until it ceases to be useful
* Stay 'concrete' at the same time as long as possible
* Theory models are same in all disciplines
* Ignore disciplines

Timeline – 18 month PhD

Task	Time
Application	1 month
Candidacy and ethics approved	2 months
Literature review & data collection prep	2 months
Data collection	2 months
Analyses	3 months
Proofing and editing of thesis 70,000 words	5 months
Examination and award	3 months
Total	18 months