

PhD Vlog Week 1: Jack Donaghy Transcript

| TIME | SPEAKER | AUDIO |
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| 00:00:03 | Jack Donaghy | What is up folks? It's Jack here and I'm coming at you on the morning of the day that I have my Induction Meeting for my PHD. So it's currently 02:00am and I have my Induction Meeting with Urban Studies at 15:00pm today and then I've also got a kind of, you know, Meet and Greet thing with Social and Political Science at 17:15. So that's all really exciting, I can't wait for it. I'm particularly looking forward to the Urban Studies |
| 00:00:33 | | Meeting because it's going to be the first time that I actually meet all the other people who are starting their PHD this year. So that is going to be really great, it's going to be great to meet them, you know, we're going to be spending the next three years together so it's going to be great to make some new friends, find out what their interests are, find out what everyone else is researching... I think it's going to be a good day. What else is going on? Yes, so I finished my Master's Degree, got my Dissertation handed in which was a big relief, really happy with it, I think it went really well. |
| 00:01:03 | | And when I was in handing my Dissertation in, I thought I'd hit the Library and even though I'm taking a little bit of a break, you know, I'm kind of taking this opportunity that I've got, you know, I've got this little bit of time between finishing off my Master's Degree and starting my PHD, just kind of meeting up with friends that I've not been, you know, I've been kind of ignoring because I've been doing my Dissertation, catching up on some TV shows that I missed but once I handed my Dissertation in, I also went to the Library and took out a |
| 00:01:33 | | pile of books because I thought it would also would be good to take this opportunity, you know, before we really get in to the PHD to just, you know, make sure I'm up to speed on some stuff like, you know, Social Theory, |

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| | | <p>Research Methods, things like that, because I think those are the kind of areas which are really going to differentiate the Master's level from the PHD level although I could be wrong because I've not actually started the PHD yet properly. So yeah</p> |
| 00:02:03 | | <p>we'll find out but I think reading's gone really well. I think it's going to be I'm going to be glad that I did this, took this opportunity to read some of these books. Yeah, so what else is going on? I have a Supervisor Meeting this week. We don't have a date set for that but I'm going to be meeting with my Supervisors this week and I'm also having lunch on Friday with one of my Supervisors and we're also we're collaborating with an outside organisation on the PHD so we're meeting with the kind of head guy over there, we're all going to go out for lunch</p> |
| 00:02:33 | | <p>talk about, you know, what's... how we're going to work together, how we're going to get access to their kind of clients and stuff, what's the process going to be, what do we need to do for them, what do they need to do for us – just stuff like that. So that's going to be really good. It's going to be really just great to get the ball rolling on this, I've been thinking about this project for the last six months and we're finally getting started on it. So it's going to be hopefully the start of a really great period tomorrow – today actually!</p> |
| 00:03:03 | | <p>Yeah, so I'll bring you all along with me, we'll see how today goes and yeah, so I'll see you soon. Catch you later! Hello folks, it's Jack here and today's the day that I have my Induction for my PHD. So I'm just walking to the Train Station. Not feeling too nervous, you know, I mean it's the first day and all but, you know, I've kind of been here at this University for a while so I know my way around – hopefully I won't get lost – although I might get lost, who knows? Yeah, I got my Travel Pass</p> |
| 00:03:33 | | <p>sorted so I'm just heading for the train, you</p> |

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| | | <p>know, got my Post Grad Bank Account renewed, kind of taken care of a lot of the stuff that I've got to do but, you know, the kind of side line stuff. But yeah, so I'm going to go and jump on the train and talk to you soon. Hey folks, it's now the day after. I had my Induction yesterday and it went really well! I met a lot of really cool people, the people I'm doing my PHD with – huge range of topics, a lot of different experience</p> |
| 00:04:03 | | <p>among the people who are just starting out. So, you know, really impressive crowd of people so I'm really looking forward to getting to know them, kind of all exchanged details, all added each other on Facebook, did that whole thing which was good, definitely going to be good to keep in touch with them because I suppose it's going to be different from like, you know, the usual classroom experience where I see them every week, you know, every Tuesday at 10:00 we'd get together for a class. I suppose it's not really going to be like that. So it's going to be good, I've got them all on Facebook, we'll keep in touch</p> |
| 00:04:33 | | <p>which is good and then what else is going on? I found out that I'm sharing my office with this person Joanna who I did my Master's with her so that's really good that we're going to be sharing an office. Yeah, I hope we don't get on each other's nerves. I'm going to try and keep my annoying habits to a minimum. I'll, you know, keep the music on my headphones low and stuff! And yeah, so I've just been to the Fresher's Fair. I don't think I went to the Fresher's Fair last week but I just went along</p> |
| 00:05:03 | | <p>it was good, good to see all the old Clubs. I think I might join a few Clubs this year. It's on again tomorrow so I think I'll check out... Maybe check out the Photo Club, some Political Societies I checked out, met up with some old friends from some old Clubs I used to be involved in. So yeah, it was great to, you know, good to meet up with people that I'm already friends with and, you know, hopefully</p> |

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| | | make some more friends and kind of be active in student life. So yeah, what else is going on? I think that's pretty much it. |
| 00:05:33 | | So I've got a Meeting with my Supervisor tomorrow and then a Meeting with my other Supervisor on Friday and we're doing that Collaboration Meeting so that's going to be good. So I'm going to go and get the train, grab some dinner and I'll make check in again tomorrow, let you know how my first Supervisor Meeting went, hopefully kind of figure out what I'm going to be doing for the next few weeks, you know, just at the beginning here, what am I supposed to read, what am I supposed to do? Yeah, so I'll see you soon. So I've just had my first Supervisor Meeting and it went really well. We just kind of talked about, you know, what should I be doing over the |
| 00:06:03 | | next few weeks, what kind of areas should I be focusing on in my reading because I guess the kind of general outline of a PHD mostly is you spend your first year doing a kind of literature review, doing a lot of reading, reading pretty much anything you can, then in your second year you start to think about methods and stuff and then, you know, you actually go out and do the research, go and talk to people and then your third year you kind of write it up. So kind of I bought a notepad and wrote it all down! New school supplies, who doesn't love that? |
| 00:06:33 | | So we're going to be looking at... I don't know how much you want to know about the technical stuff of what I'm reading but we're going to look at kind of street level bureaucracy stuff, kind of governance theories, policy process, you know, how does, you know, the government sets a policy but then how is that actually implemented on the street, how does it feed down and how does it change? I'm also going to be thinking about landlords because I spent, you know, a lot of my research has been on, you know, it's involved thinking about who are tenants, you know, but actually we should probably start |

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| | | to think about well who are landlords as well? You know, |
| 00:07:03 | | why do people become private landlords, you know, what's their motivation, you know, are the landlords because they want to invest or did they inherit a property and they would rather not be landlords but they kind of have to stick with it? So stuff like that which is going to be good. It kind of talks about what kind of timescale you want to do these things on. We agreed that we should set some milestones but we didn't actually agree on what those milestones were yet because I'm waiting until we can get together with my other Supervisor and really |
| 00:07:33 | | get a proper kind of timetable in place. But we want to make sure that by Christmas we've got a lot of stuff, kind of basically a chapter written on the theoretical stuff and we've also figured that I should maybe... We kind of discussed, you know, maybe, you know, I already done my Master's Degree but am I maybe missing any kind of, you know, education... any elements of my knowledge kind of missing, substantial bits. So we said because it's a qualitative study, I'm going to try and boost my qualitative research |
| 00:08:03 | | skills. So there's a few things that the University offers but I think I'm going to check out the Scottish School... What is it called? The Scottish Graduate School of Social Science in Edinburgh. Apparently they offer some really good training courses on qualitative methods so I'm definitely going to check that out. Also thought although my PHD is in Urban Studies, there's going to be a huge legal element to it, you know, so I'm going to need to really understand what the legislation is and, you know, from reading kind of legal textbooks on this, you know, a lot of people talk in a completely different language! |
| 00:08:33 | | So I'm going to try and sit in on some legal courses, maybe some kind of Entry Level Law courses that the University offers, if possible, I haven't really looked into that yet but yeah, |

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| | | <p>just to kind of get to grips with that because I think that's going to be important. What else is going on? I think that's pretty much it for today. I'm going to go to... Urban Studies at Glasgow does kind of movie nights, you know, we're not watching like The Terminator I don't think or, you know, anything</p> |
| 00:09:03 | | <p>like that, we're going to be watching... It's kind of like movies related to the Urban issues, not documentaries necessarily but, you know, stuff like that. So I'm going to check that out tonight at 17:30, meet some new people, get a discussion going on whatever it is we watch, I'm not sure exactly what it is that we're watching, and then tomorrow we have what sounds like a really interesting thing, we're going to do a kind of tour of some areas of Glasgow, probably not the kind of necessarily the kind of tour that</p> |
| 00:09:33 | | <p>you would get, you know, in like a, you know, tourism literature. It's going to be some of the academic staff is going to take us around some of the areas of the city they're interested in, you know, the place we're going, you know, I know the place we're going kind of reasonably well but I think we're going to get a new perspective on it which is going to be really good, really interesting, so I'm looking forward to that and yeah, I'll check back in later.</p> |

END OF TRANSCRIPT