

PhD Vlog Week 3: Jack Donaghy Transcript

TIME	SPEAKER	AUDIO
00:00:00		[Screen shot - introduction]
00:00:04		[Train and train station]
00:00:08		[Scenes of street]
00:00:20		[Scenes inside building]
00:00:22	Jack Donaghy	<p>Hey, folks. Okay, so that was the proper time lapse taking you from the subway to my office. I hope you enjoyed it. Yeah, so this is my office. Let's give you a little tour.</p> <p>So this is a filing cabinet, this is my desk, ooh! My computer, I've got my to do list here, which keeps me on the right track and what's that other thing? That's all my fails and stuff. Phone. That's Joanna's desk there</p>
00:00:52		<p>and her new computer, which is still in boxes. We've got a whiteboard that says "Welcome to Room 133". This is Lee's desk right here. There's the front door. So yeah, standard office. I really like it. It's a little bit cold right now. I might need to start bringing a jumper in, but hey, whatever.</p> <p>Yeah, so what I've been up to today. I went to the Urban Studies workshop, which is on mobile health. Even though</p>
00:01:22		<p>I, you know, went in there thinking it was just kind of general interest and not necessarily something was going to be, you know, really useful for my own work, actually there were a couple of really interesting points that were brought up, kind of methodological, some kind of research methods that kind of talk of a kind of in depth case study idea, which is actually very exciting, very cool. I'm going to follow that up. I'm going to check it out because I think it will actually turn out to be quite useful.</p>
00:01:52		<p>What else have I been doing? I've been checking stuff off y to do list and I've been adding stuff to it, just as it pops into my head.</p>

		<p>One of the main things I've been doing today is going through...one of the things, the PhD convener asked us all to up together a one paragraph summary of our PhD, just to introduce all the new people to the people who are already here. That's actually turned out to be a very useful little exercise because</p>
00:02:22		<p>my research proposal was quite long. It was several pages and whenever you read through it, sometimes you can pick stuff out that's escaped your mind. Because you're maybe focused on the big things and there're other things going on in there.</p> <p>So what I'm actually going to do is take this up and send it off and I'm actually going to print it off and stick it up on my notice board right here, right above my computer, just because I think it'd be good to have it there to keep me focused so I</p>
00:02:52		<p>don't start going off onto other routes or forgetting about any aspects, you know, with a lot of thought.</p> <p>So that's pretty much what I've been doing today. I've also been kind of beginning to gather together lots of PDFs and stuff to read. I'm kind of thinking about the main strands of my research and thinking about what I need to do for each bit.</p> <p>Because there are kind of several big tasks or projects all in this one project, so I'm kind of trying</p>
00:03:22		<p>to sort them out, get ready for them.</p> <p>Yeah, so that is Monday, or that was Monday and tomorrow I have finally got my meeting with Nigel. My other supervisor is sorted, so I'm going to meet him. It's been a few weeks since I saw him, so that will be good to catch up.</p> <p>Yeah, so I'm going to head home. One thing I'm going to do this week is get a haircut. Yeah, so that has been Monday and I will see you tomorrow.</p>
00:03:45		[Outdoor scene]

00:03:45	Jack Donaghy	<p>Okay, so the first thing you're going to notice in this video is that I went out and got that haircut. Looking nice and trim and manageable on top, I think. Looking good.</p> <p>Yeah, so I had my meeting with Nigel, my other supervisor. It was really good. My other supervisor brought him up to speed on what we talked about at our previous meeting and that we're all on the same page. We're ready to get going, which is really exciting.</p> <p>He had a couple of extra ideas that he wanted to talk about, particularly related to the role of street level bureaucrats</p>
00:04:15		<p>in cases of illegal eviction. So that was interesting. I got a lot of material out of the library on the role of police and the way they implement policy. I think that's going to be relevant here.</p> <p>We also had a good discussion about the ethical issues that are going to come up in this research. I don't know if I've already talked about this, but I'm going to be interviewing people who I get access to through an advice agency in Glasgow, people who have either just been illegally evicted or who are about to be illegally evicted.</p>
00:04:45		<p>So there's going to be major ethical issues there because this is going to be probably one of the most traumatic and emotionally challenging points in the participants' lives. Getting evicted is tough, but getting evicted improperly could be even tougher.</p> <p>So I want to make sure that whenever I'm interviewing these participants, that I don't make things worse for them. I want to make sure that I don't upset people. If people do get upset during interviews, that I handle it properly and in a</p>
00:05:15		<p>sensitive way.</p> <p>I also need to make sure that these people, the people who are going to be working with an advice agency, they're going to have a case worker who will be able to advise them as to what they should do in this case. I want to</p>

		<p>make sure that I don't interfere with that.</p> <p>So if it's been recommended to them that maybe they shouldn't consider a prosecution, one of the things I'm interested in is people who do pursue prosecutions. So I want to make sure I don't encourage people to take actions which maybe aren't in their best interests.</p>
00:05:45		<p>I don't want to sow seeds of doubt in the advice they've been given by the agency and so I need to be aware of that.</p> <p>I also need to make sure that people that don't want to take part in this research don't feel pressured to take part in it. I want to make sure that people who accessing this advice agency, whenever they're asked "do you want to take part in this research", they know that if they decide not to take part in this research, it's not going to affect the relationship they have with the advice agency.</p> <p>Because you know what, a lot of these people are going to have a lot of things to do</p>
00:06:15		<p>because they've just been evicted. It's going to be...it's totally understandable if they don't want to take time to take part in research.</p> <p>So all things to think about, but it's good we've identified them and we can really think about this stuff now as opposed to whenever I actually am interviewing people.</p> <p>What else is going on? I also have been doing...I found a really good thesis actually on line on a topic quite</p>
00:06:45		<p>similar to mine. Someone at Glasgow University in 2001 did a study, their PhD on implementation of tenants' rights and social housing. That's quite a similar topic, except mine is in specific cases and the private rental sector.</p> <p>So it's been good to read this thesis to find out what a finished PhD in a socio-legal field looks like, and it's also just been a really interesting thesis. I've really enjoyed it. So that's been</p>
00:07:15		<p>definitely good to read that.</p>

		<p>What else have I been up to this week? Sociology PhD students, they all had a little get together in the pub and they invited the urban studies crowd, so me and Joanna went on to that and checked it out. It was really good to meet some people, just talk about what it's like to do a PhD, what kind of tips did they have for us.</p> <p>And yet it was kind of weird because, you know, I've already been at Glasgow for quite a while. Some of these folks who were there, you know, I'm just starting my PhD,</p>
00:07:45		<p>they're just finishing, and some of them had been my tutors in workshops or like taken lectures that I had gone to. So it was weird because suddenly we're all in the same level. So it was weird, but also kind of cool, you know.</p> <p>So what else has been happening? I think that's about it. I'm going to go get some coffee and I'll catch you guys soon.</p>
00:08:10		[Fade out]
00:08:11		[End title screen]

END OF TRANSCRIPT