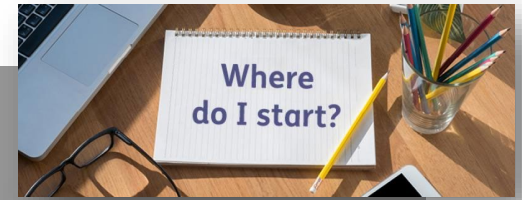


# Planning and writing dissertations for PG students


*Facilitated by:*

*Dr. Charalampos (Babis) Giousmpasoglou*

*Your starting point....*



After a year's  
study as PG  
students you are  
now qualified to  
start your  
dissertation!

  
**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
WORK  
UNDER PRESSURE**

KeepCalmAndPosters.com

# What is required?



What you have done so far (indicative):

- Secondary research
- Academic writing
- Critical & Analytical Thinking
- Referencing
- Formatting

What you have **not** done so far:

- Primary research (i.e. interviews, focus groups, survey questionnaires)

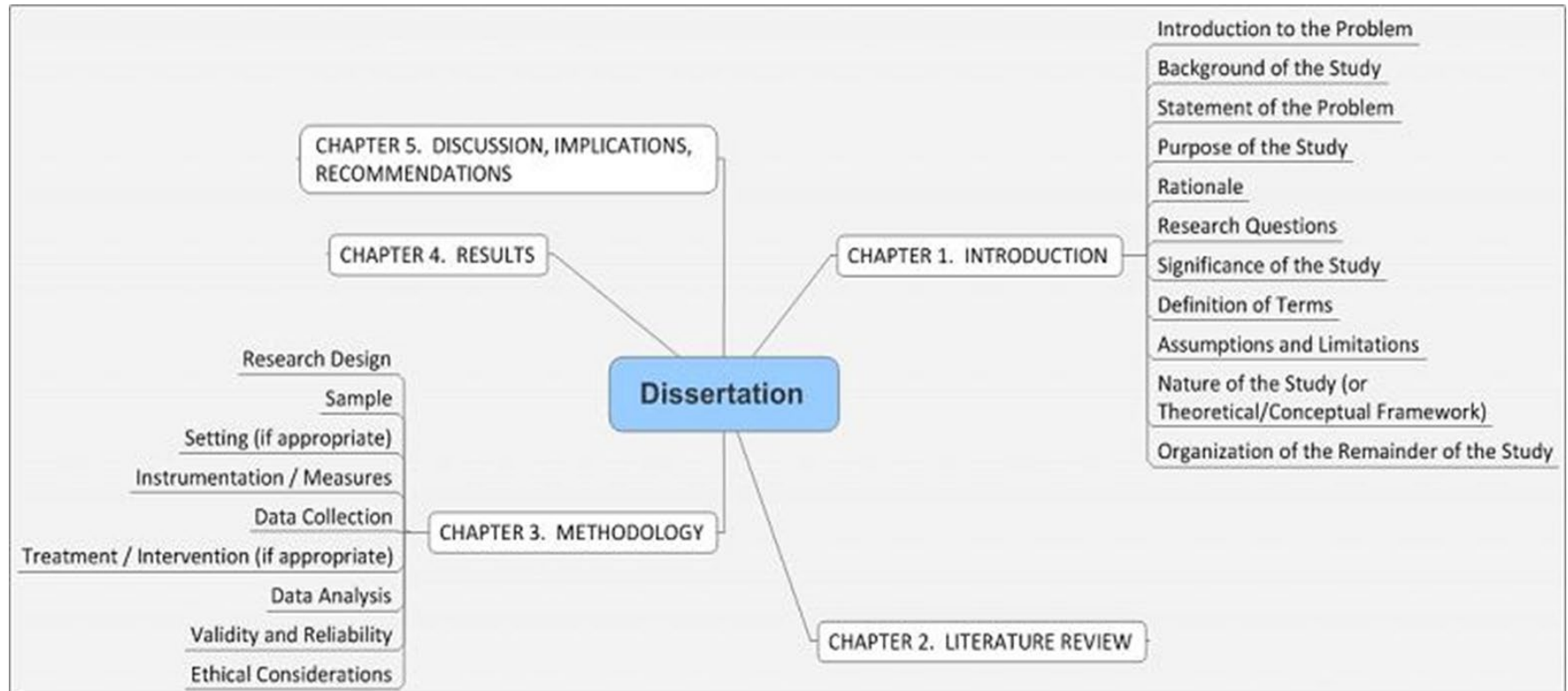
# Proposal: some key points

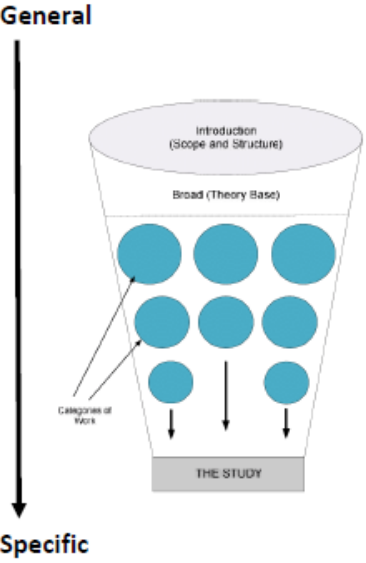


- Find a **topic that is interesting**
- Make sure that **there are enough sources on this topic** (books, academic journal articles, reports etc.)
- **Focus, focus, focus!**
- You need to study a **specific area of a discipline in a specific context** ie *“Employee retention in luxury hotels in Bournemouth”*

- Provide a robust **background** and **rationale** of your study
- Provide a **clear aim** that reflects your study
- Provide **objectives (4-5)** that **align with the structure of your dissertation**
- Give us a **realistic proposal of your primary research approach**
- Find a title that reflects what you want to do!

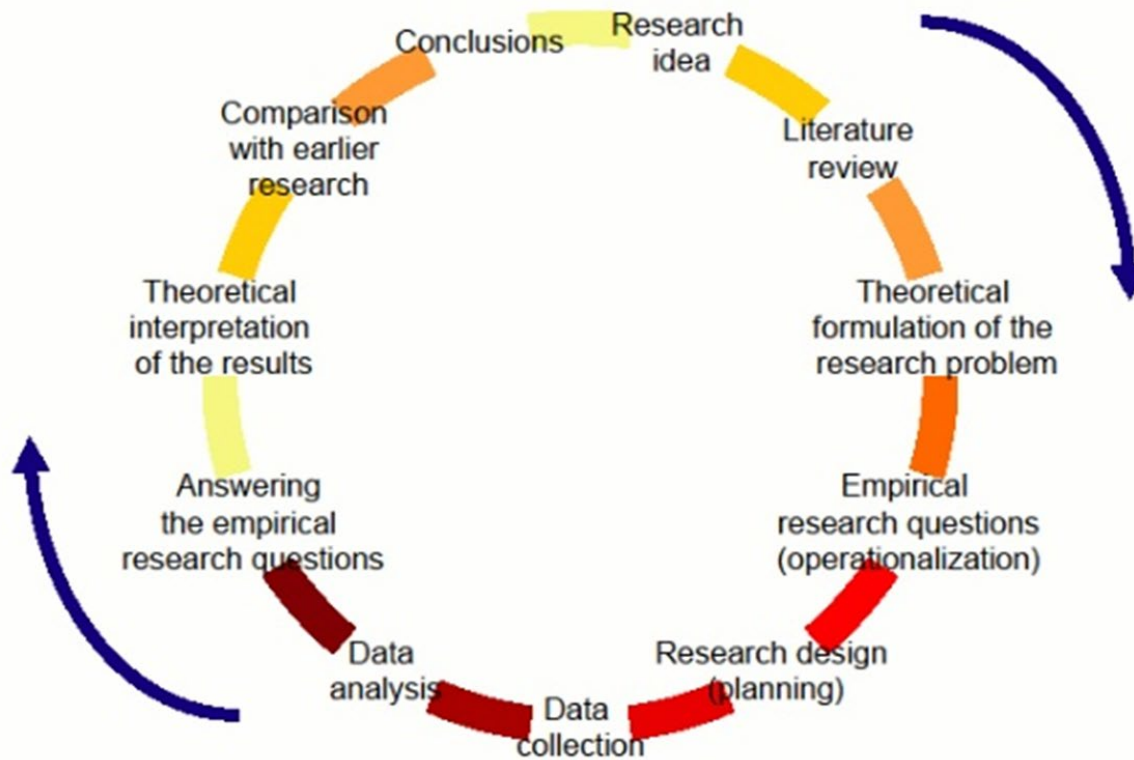
# Dissertation Structure



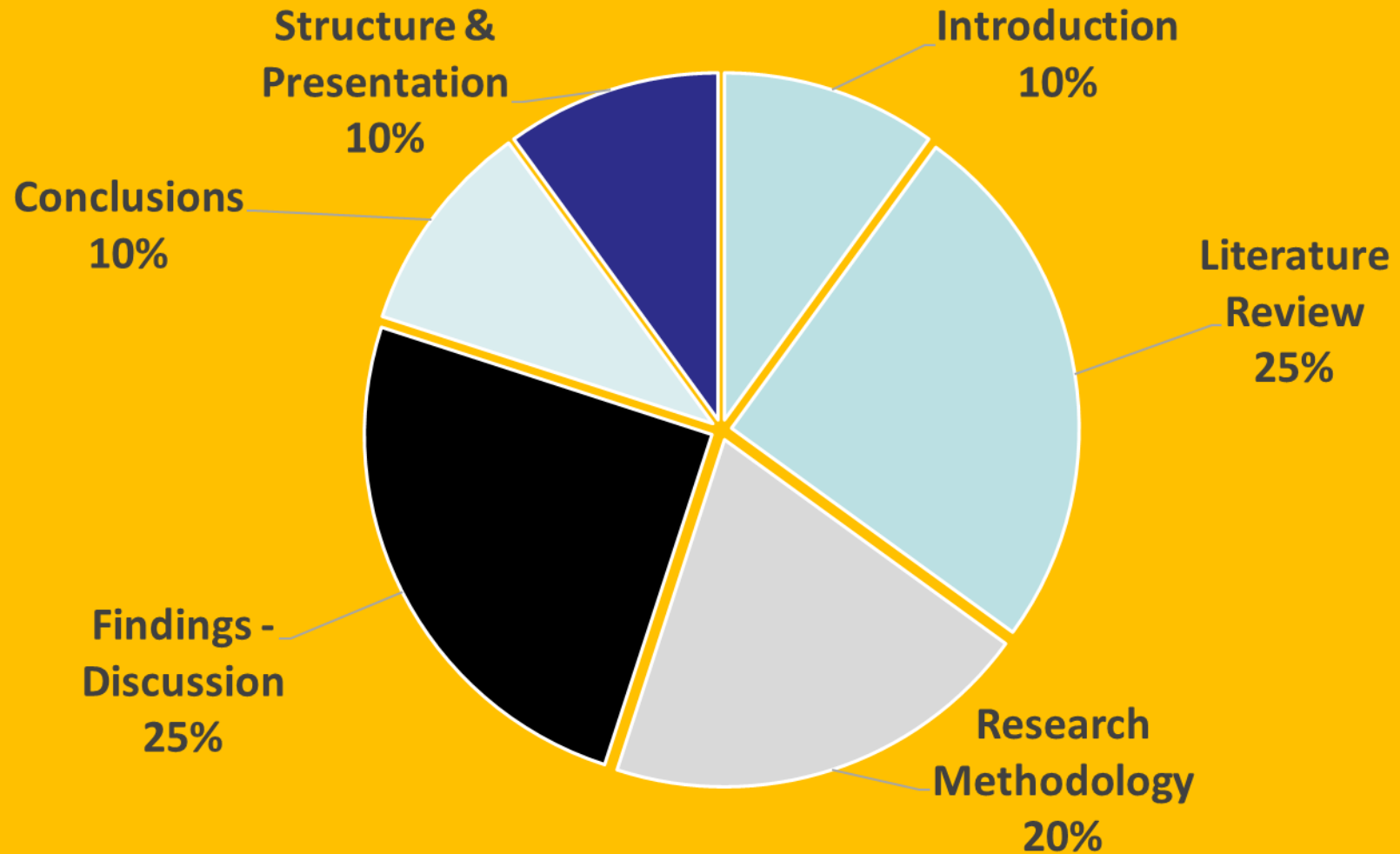
Dissertation Structure				
Chapter 1 Introduction	Chapter 2 Literature Review	Chapter 3 Methodology	Chapter 4 Findings	Chapter 5 Conclusions - Recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Background of the topic under investigation</li> <li>Aim and objectives</li> <li>Rationale (Personal, Theoretical, Practical)</li> <li>Dissertation Structure</li> </ul> <p>Identify the problem, aims and objectives of the dissertation</p>	<p><b>Funnel Approach</b></p>  <p>Identify issues and solutions related to the key topic areas</p>	<p>70% your story - 30% Literature to support your methodology approach</p> <p>Discuss methodology used to achieve the aim and objectives</p>	<p>Depends on the Methodology Approach (qualitative – quantitative – mixed)</p> <p>Summary of the data collected during the field work and critical discussion of the findings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compare the study's findings with LR</li> <li>Provide recommendations</li> <li>Discuss implications for theory and practice</li> <li>Research Limitations &amp; Future research recommendations</li> </ul> <p>Compare findings with LR, Provide Recommendations and implications</p>

# The Research Cycle

## The research process



# Marking Scheme





# Tips to improve your mark



“Minor” issues  
some times cause  
big troubles. Make  
sure that you do  
pay attention to  
the following:

- ✓ **Formatting & Presentation**  
(use unit handbook and other dissertations as examples).
- ✓ **Proof reading** (language and structure).
- ✓ **Clear & robust abstract** (a full page) and **full Introduction**.
- ✓ **Relevant** conclusions and recommendations.
- ✓ **Correct referencing** both in text and the reference list (BU HRS).
- ✓ **Missing references**.

# Tips to improve your mark

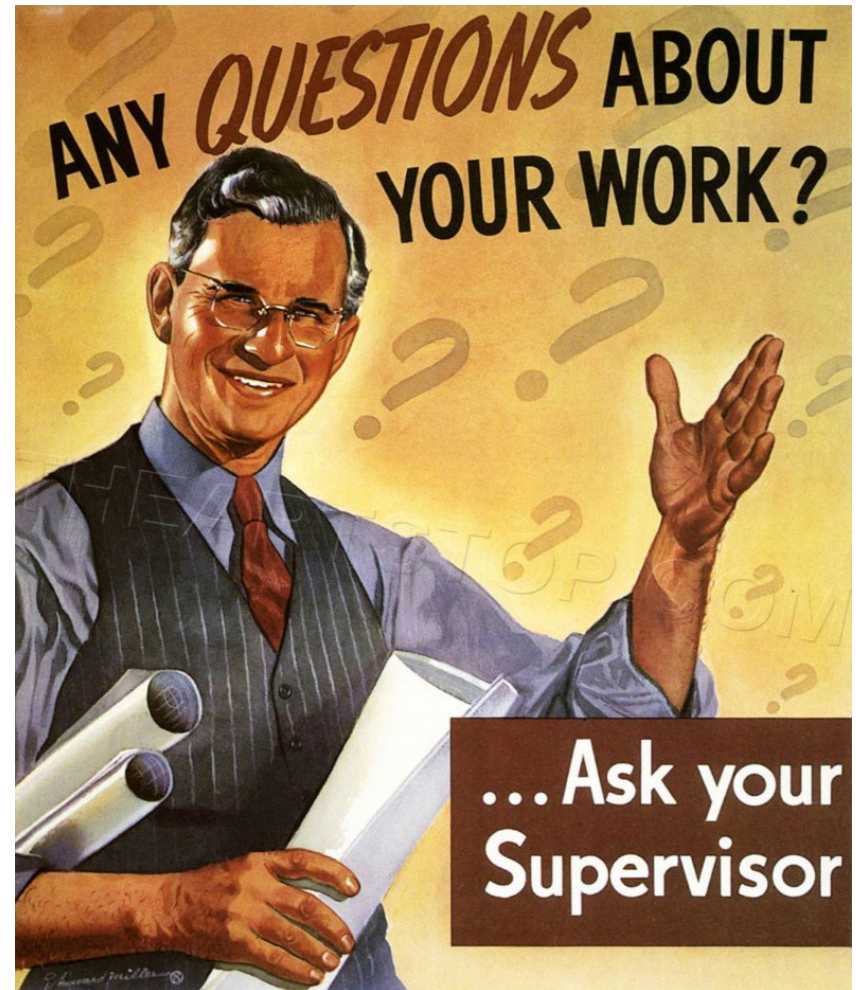


- **Very often students lose marks on the data analysis and the discussion of findings (Ch.4).**
- Choose your research approach and methodology carefully!
- Make sure that **you understand what is required for the data analysis** (ie, for quantitative research the use of SPSS or similar software is compulsory).



## Your supervisor....

The communication with your supervisor is **very important** for the success of your dissertation! Make sure that **YOU** arrange regular meetings and receive feedback for your work.



Thank you for your attention!  
Any questions?

