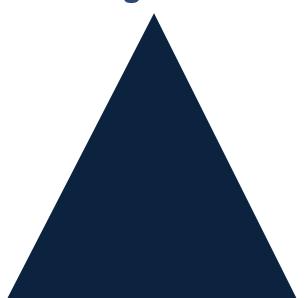


The Art and Science of Doing Research

Professor Ghassan Aouad
Chancellor of Abu Dhabi University
Past President, Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)

29 August 2023







20 YEARS OF SHAPING THE FUTURE

2 Twenty

Twenty Years of shaping the future



20 years of shaping the future and still pushing boundaries, Faculty and Staff from **42** Countries, Students from over **100** nationalities, Over **26,000** Alumni, **53** Academic Programs





ADU ranks 14th globally for highest proportion of international students and 2nd regionally (THE Rankings).

Over 7500 students from 100 nationalities. Diverse student clubs

Rankings

Ranked in the top 1% universities in the world (THE Rankings) & the top 2% universities in the world (QS Rankings)

301-350 in the THE World Rankings, **151-175**Business and Economics, **3**rd in the UAE
OS Rankings

5 Stars Rating, **251-300** Business and Management, **451-500** Engineering.

580th in the World (2024 QS World University Rankings)

Zero Complacency

Unwavering commitment to excellence in education, research and community impact



We invest in our community. One of our initiatives, the 'Investing in Our Community' platform has offered free development opportunities to over **25,000** users in the past two years.

Nurturing



Excellent Staff development opportunities, Nurturing innovators through the innovation lab and venture lab, Nurturing students through the student success center, Nurturing alumni through the Alumni Academy

Sustainability

Sustainable Venture Development Lab,

Student-led Sustainable Campus Initiative

(SCI), Incorporating sustainability topics

into the curriculum, ADU's Junior Executive

Programme in Sustainability (JEPS).

ADU has been ranked amongst the

301-400 in THE Impact Ranking for

sustainability

Accreditation

CAA, WASC, EQUIS, AACSB, ABET, RIBA, APHEA

Awards

Sheikh Khalifa Excellence Award, **2** Gold Stevie Awards, Best Supporting University for Entrepreneurship, Bizz Arab International Award for 'Inspirational Company of the Year Award'

Initiatives



Community Support
Digitization
Financial Aid

Impact through research



70% of research publications in the last 3 years have been published in Q1 and Q2 journals, 2,670 high-impact Scopus research papers, 2nd in UAE for research influence/citations and 264 globally, 90% of all faculty publications are co-authored with international research partners

Branches



Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Dubai

R Brilliance



22 Patents over the last 20 years, ADU's commitment to innovation, entrepreneurship, and community impact has produced outstanding graduates and groundbreaking research.

Vision



University of Choice in the region.
59th best university in all of Asia
(THE ASIA 2023). 2nd best university for
teaching in the region (THE Young
University Rankings). ADU's Business
and Economics Subjects Are Ranked
Joint 2nd in the Arab Region.

Teaching



1st in teaching in the UAE, according to Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023. ADU's Business and Economics Subjects Are Ranked 1st In the UAE

Uniqueness



AACSB and EOUIS Double Accreditation

International



International Universities Partners: Tokyo, Toronto, Monash, RICE, Arizona State. Reading, Trinity College Dublin

E Employability



Number one for graduate employability in the UAE (THE Rankings), Over **80%** employability rate

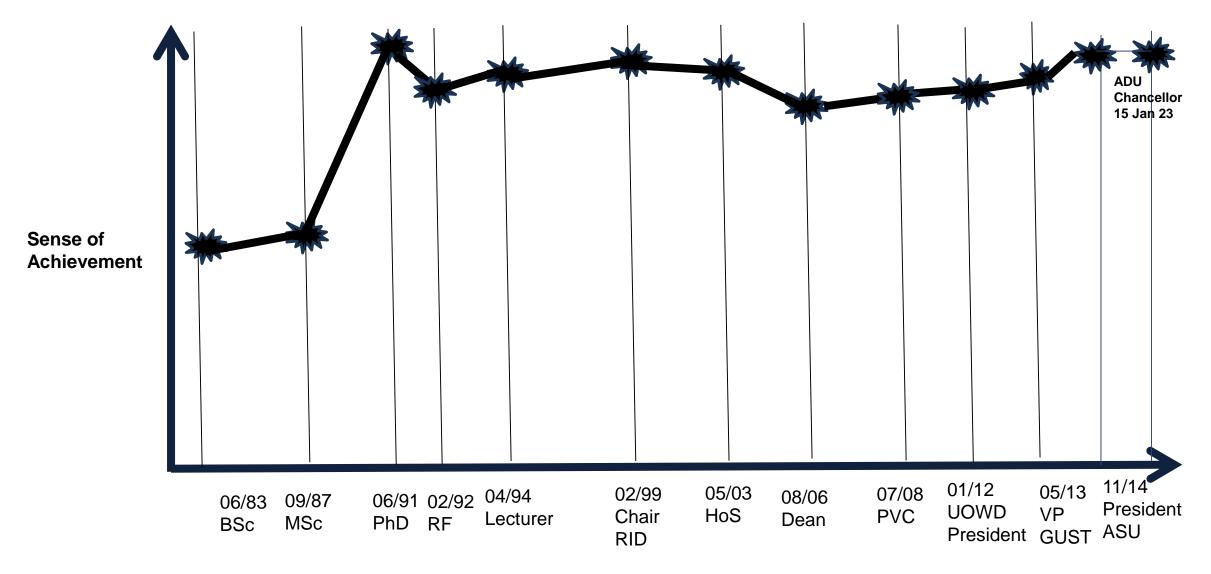
Youth



Established in 2003 among the world's top 150 universities under 50 years of age (QS Rankings),

58th best university in the world (THE Young University Rankings)





This is my life (TMP 14)



Main Themes Shaping Future

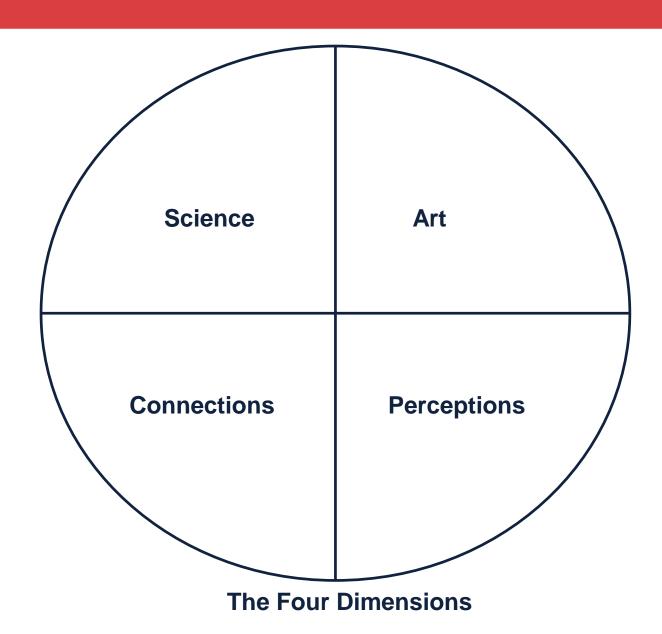
Global environmental change
Future financial framework
Seismic power shift (west to east)
Demographic change
Knowledge generation / Education
Economics / Oil Prices
Technological progress



21 Dimensions

Cultural and Social Curiosity Organizational Politics **Spiritual Intelligence Emotional Intelligence** Intelligence Intelligence Intelligence Leadership & Charisma **Connections** Intelligence **Vision Intelligence** Adversity Intelligence Intelligence **Intelligence Quotient Creativity Intelligence Practical Intelligence** Media **Digital Intelligence Health Intelligence Ethics Intelligence** Intelligence **Types of Intelligence Entrepreneurial Passion Intelligence** Environmental Technical Skills Intelligence **Experience Intelligence** Intelligence Intelligence







The Art and Science of Doing Research





Science

- Passion
- Creativity
- Writing Style
- Story Telling
- Presentation

- Evidence
- Solid Methodologies
- Originality
- Rigour
- Validation



KPIs

- Key Research Priorities Identification
- Key Funding Bodies for Research Income
- Knowledge Management and Storage
- Keynote and invited lectures

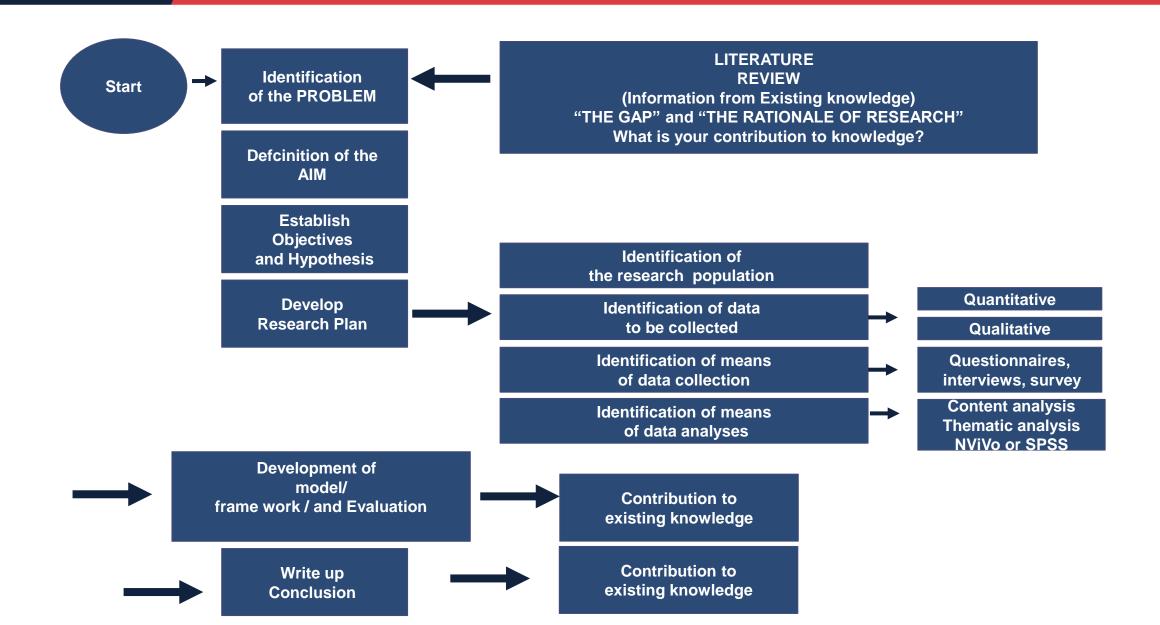
- Publications and Citations
- PhDs
- Profile, image and promotion
- Presence: at all levels: Regional, National, and International
- Policies and Procedures
- People: motivation and retention, support for young researchers, President Innovation awards, intellectual capital, addressing cultural issues.
- Participation and research agenda setting: series of innovation workshops, Innovation Leaders, Key Stakeholders, etc
- Passion
- Professionalism, integrity and coherence
- Persistence and Focus

- Infrastructure
- Intellectual Capital
- Innovation and market understanding, satellite, etc
- Innovation and Research strategy
 Industry Links
- Interdisciplinarity
- Impact
- Ideas
- Imagination and creative minds
- Intelligence
- Inclusivity: social inclusion,
- International Excellence
- Integration with Teaching
- Interaction with Government and Community
- Innovative leadership and vision
- Innovative techniques

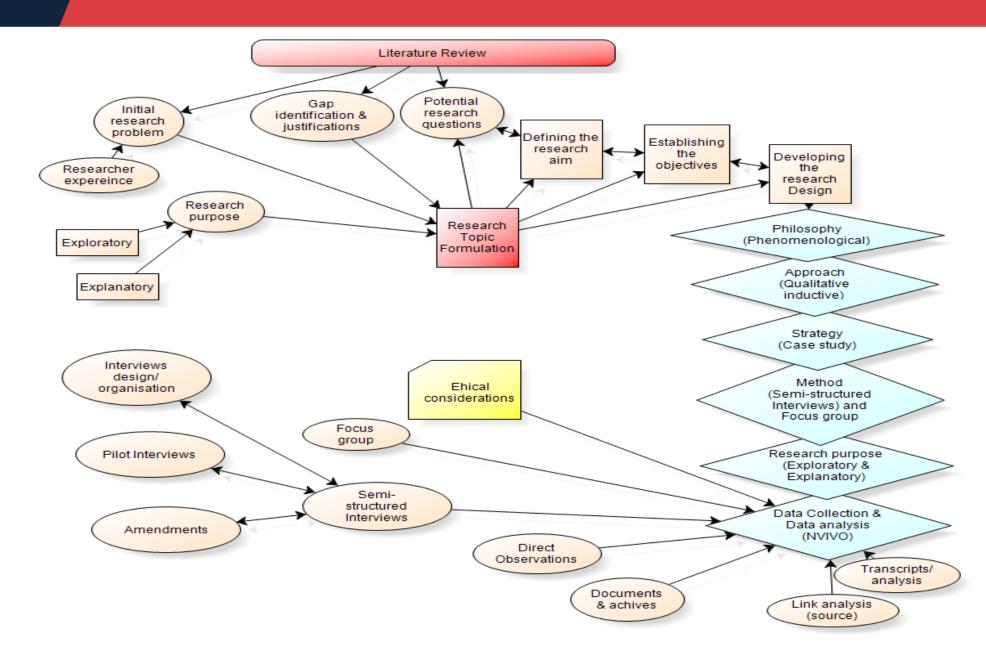
Key Performance Indicators



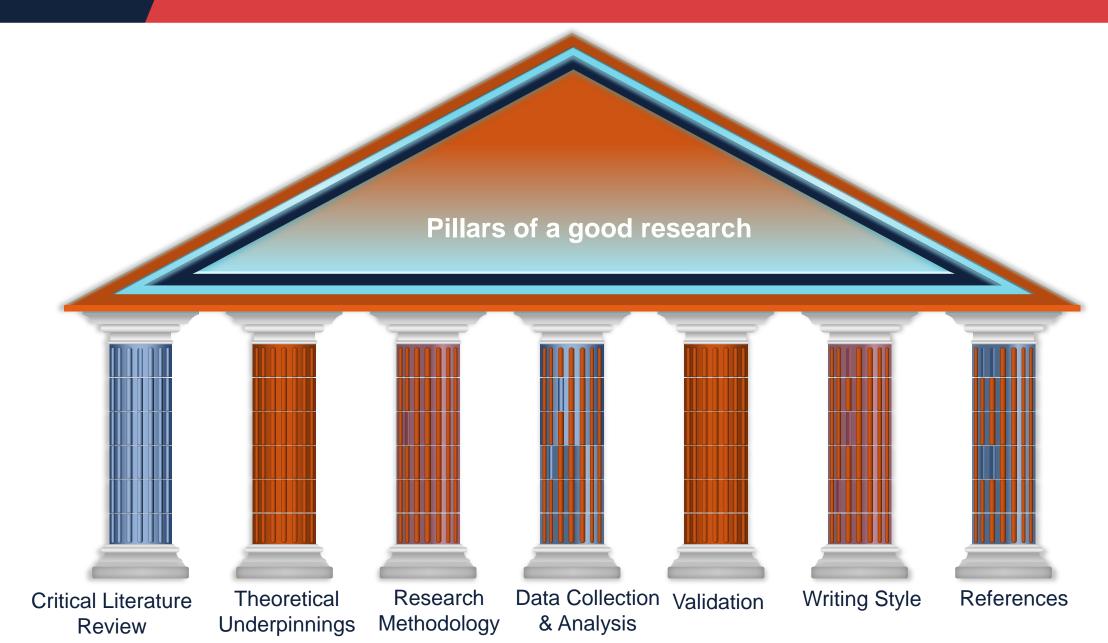
Research Process and Milestones



An example of a research process (Faiza Zitouni)









Good Methodology

We all bring (often implicit?!) assumptions and path dependencies to our research!

- What knowledge is ontology
- How we know it epistemology
- What values go into it axiology
- How we write about it rhetoric
- The process of studying it methodology

• (Sexton 2002)

Dimensions of research philosophy: Bringing it all together! (Sexton, 2002)

Realism

A commonly experienced external reality with predetermined nature and structure

Idealism

An unknowable reality perceived in different ways by individuals

Positivism

A search for general laws and cause-effect relationships by rational means

Interpretivism

A search for explanations of human action by understanding the way in which the world is understood by individuals

Epistemology

Value neutral Research is value free and objective Axiology ethics, justice) Value-biased Research is value-laden and subjective

Ontology



Locating some common methods

Realism

A commonly experienced external reality with predetermined nature and structure

Idealism

An unknowable reality perceived in different ways by individuals

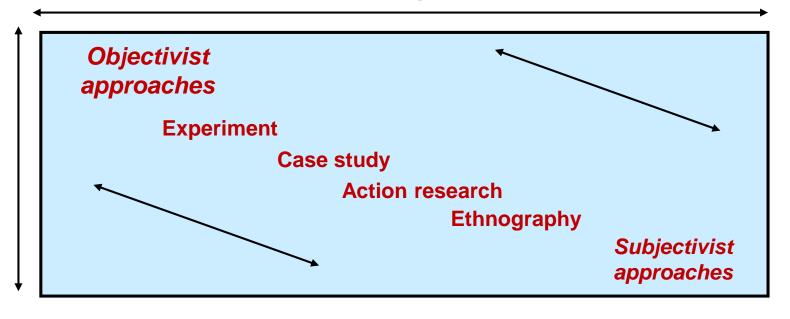
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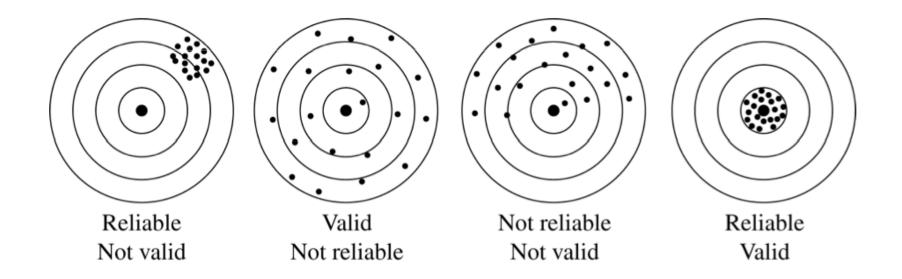
Epistemology

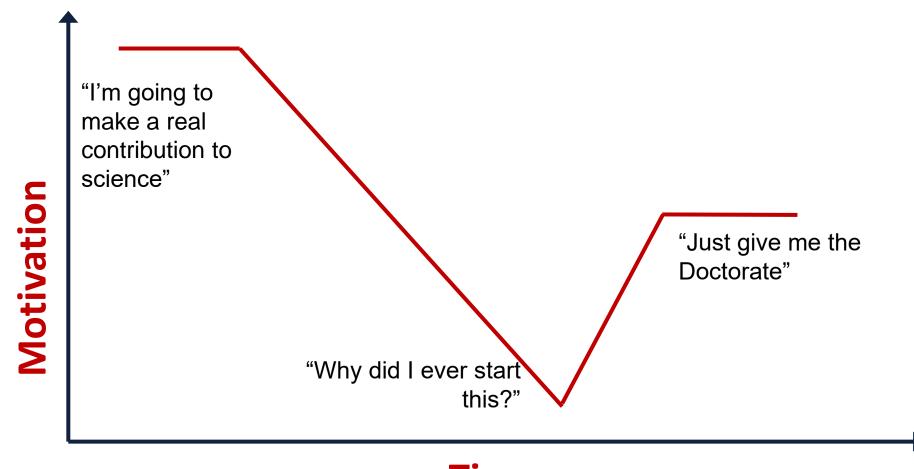


Ontology



Reliability and Validity on Target





Time

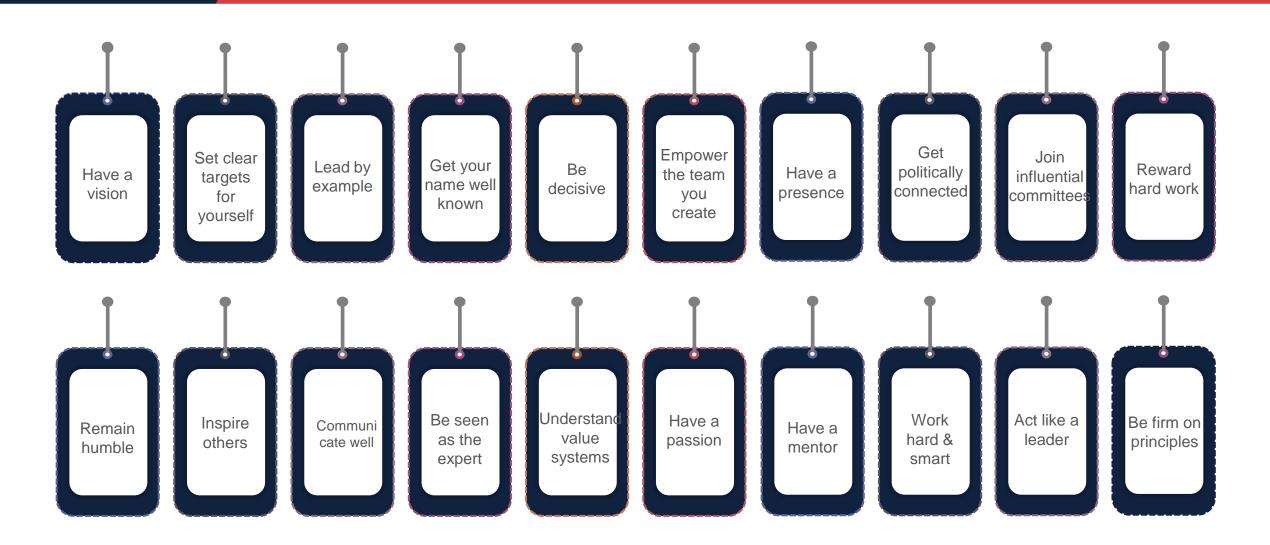


Drafting your paper

- Abstract: Concise, to the point, research methodology, main contribution
- Introduction: subject matter, introducing the paper
- Literature review: comprehensive & critical, refereed papers
- Research methodology: very clear, rigorous
- Main findings: statistics, etc
- Testing and validation:
- Conclusions and further work
- References: Harvard, etc
- Follow guidelines strictly
- Respond to corrections (include a covering letter that identify the corrections)
- Never give up
- If rejected, improve and send it somewhere else
- Good Luck

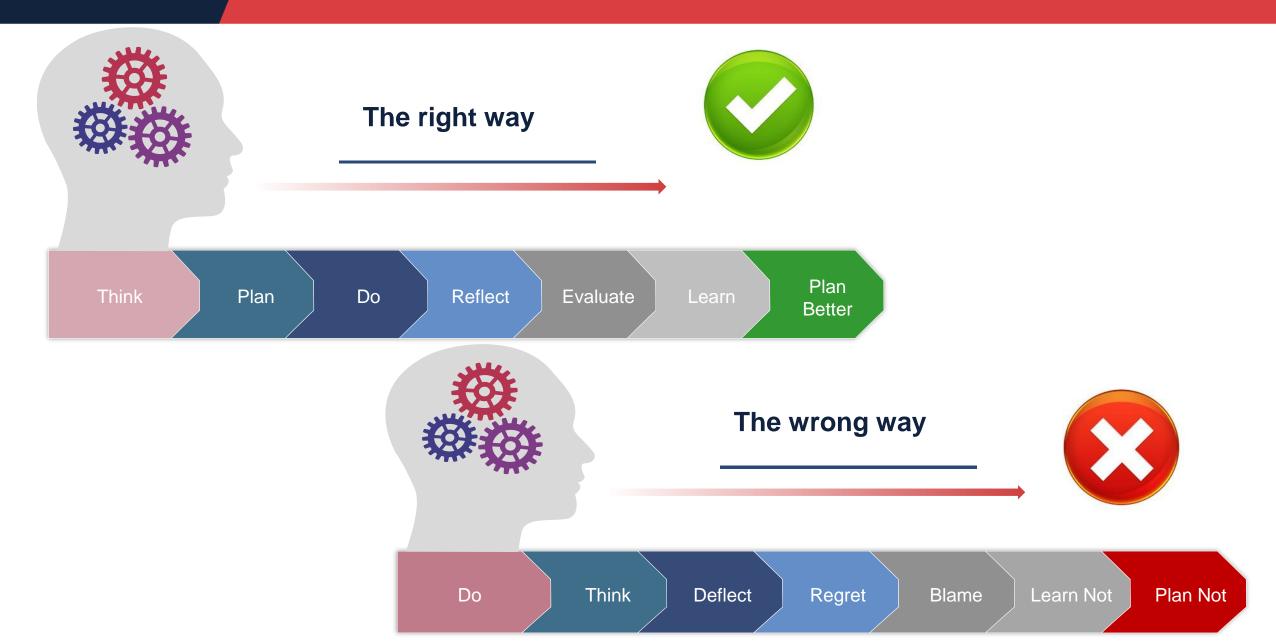


How to become a Leader?





Failing to plan is planning to fail





من أجمل أقوال نجيب محفوظ : لا تخبروني عمن يكرهني أو يتكلم عني ، أتركوني أحب الجميع ، وأظن أن الجميع يحبني. فرسول الامه يقول لا تنقلوا لي شي عن اصحابي فانني احب ان اخرج اليهم وانا سليم الصدر.

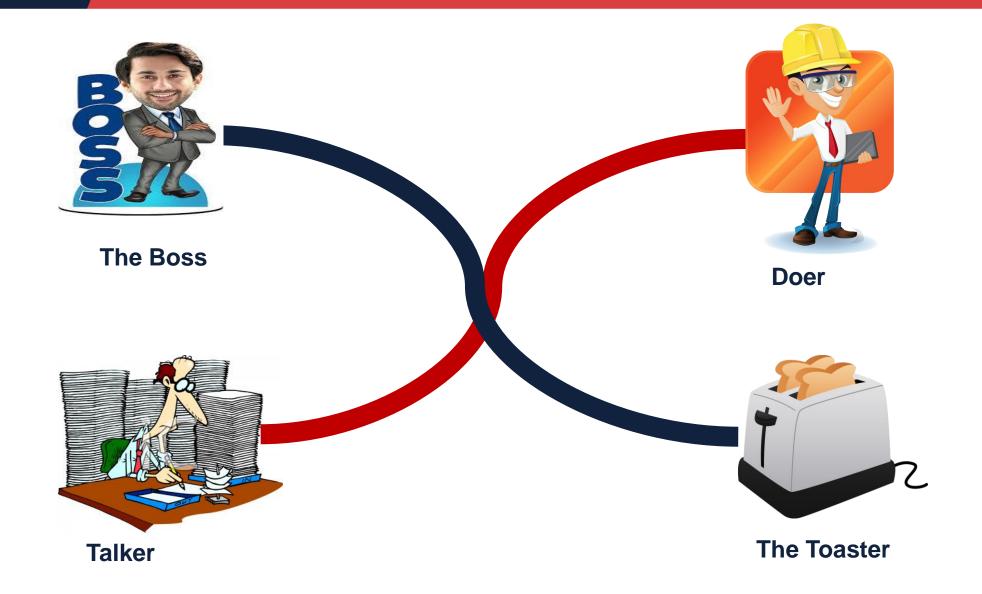
> الابتسامة أمرها عجيب للغاية .. إن وضعتها لحبيب شعر بالراحة وإن وضعتها لعدو شعر و وإن وضعتها لمن لاتعرف أصبحت صدقه لك وإن وضعتها لنفسك ازددت قوة وسعادة إبتسم فالحياة لا تستحق لحظة زعل



Happiness is a state of mind.









To be a top performer you have to be passionately committed to what you're doing and insanely confident about your ability to pull it off"

(John Eliot)



Treat people as if they were what they ought to be, and you help them become what they are capable of being.



Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



Final Thoughts

- Doing a research is in part art and in part science
- Solid understanding of methodological issues
- Learning on the job
- Be motivated to publish



Thank you for your attention Professor Ghassan Aouad ghassan.aouad@adu.ac.ae