



Kappe Writing: Demonstrating Doctorateness

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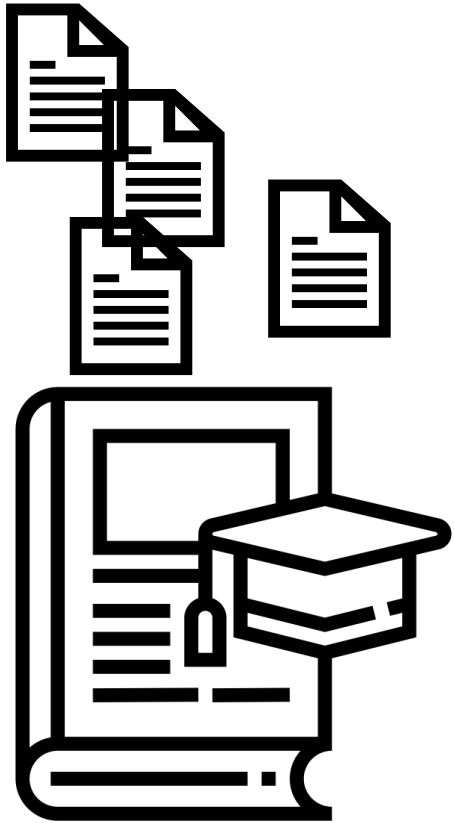
What is a PhD?



Producing a knowledge
product: your knowledge
contribution



Producing a person: your
abilities and qualities as a
researcher



Articles = mostly knowledge product



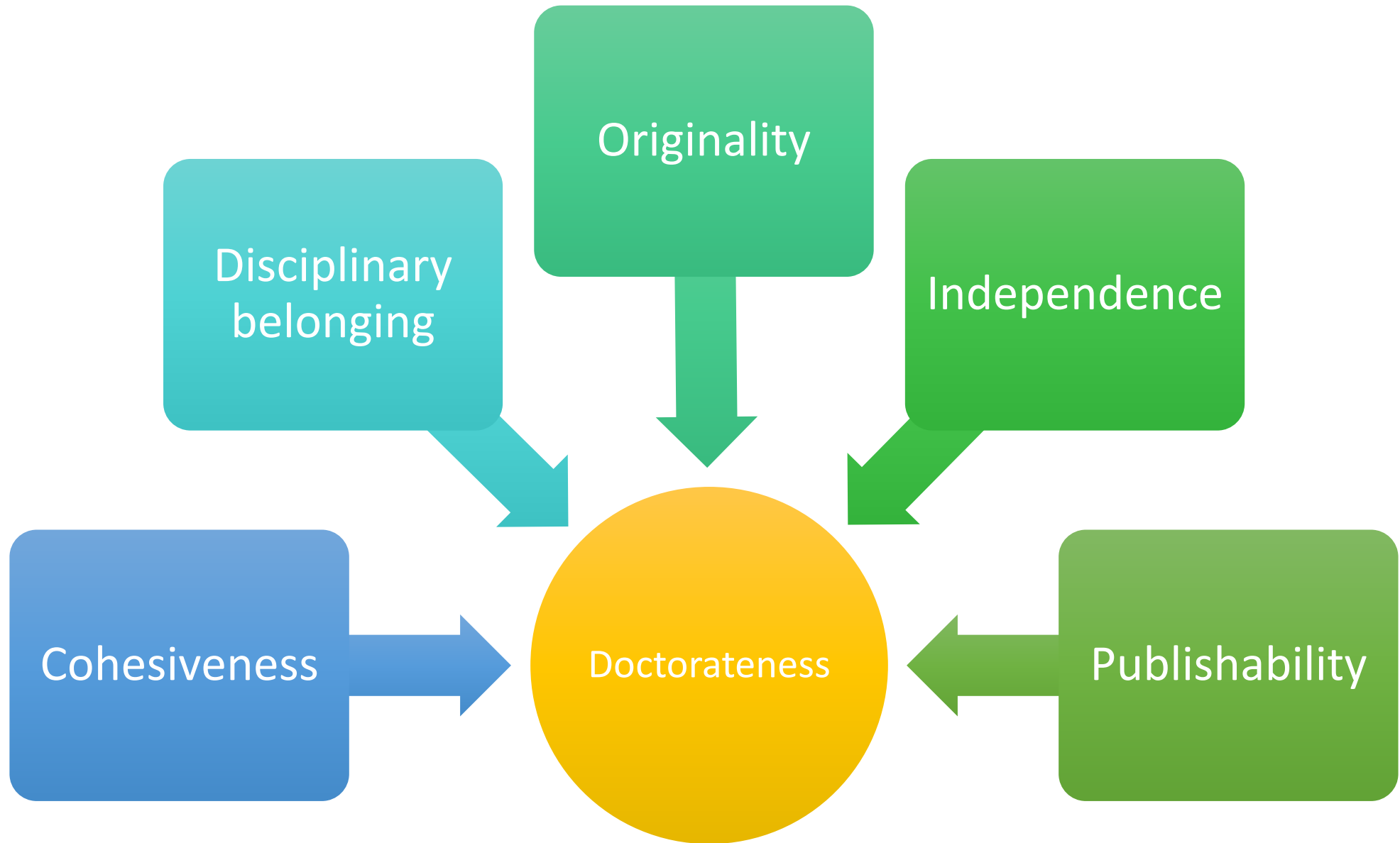
Kappe = also a knowledge product, but a lot of process

- Your ability to reflect and analyze how you arrived at your “product”
- Ability to assess the strengths and weaknesses of your work
- Your ability to critically assess your field and your place in it
- Who are you as a researcher?



Doctorateness

Poole, 2015; Yazdani &
Shokooh, 2018; Wellington,
2013



Publishability

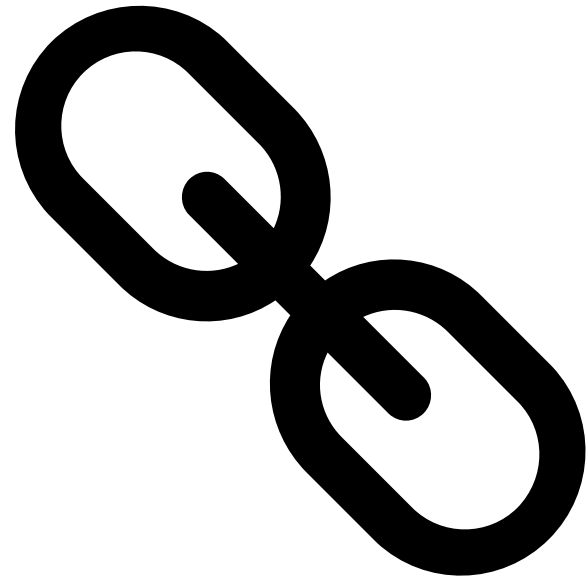


Cohesiveness

Philosophical
cohesiveness

Thematic
cohesiveness

Textual
cohesiveness

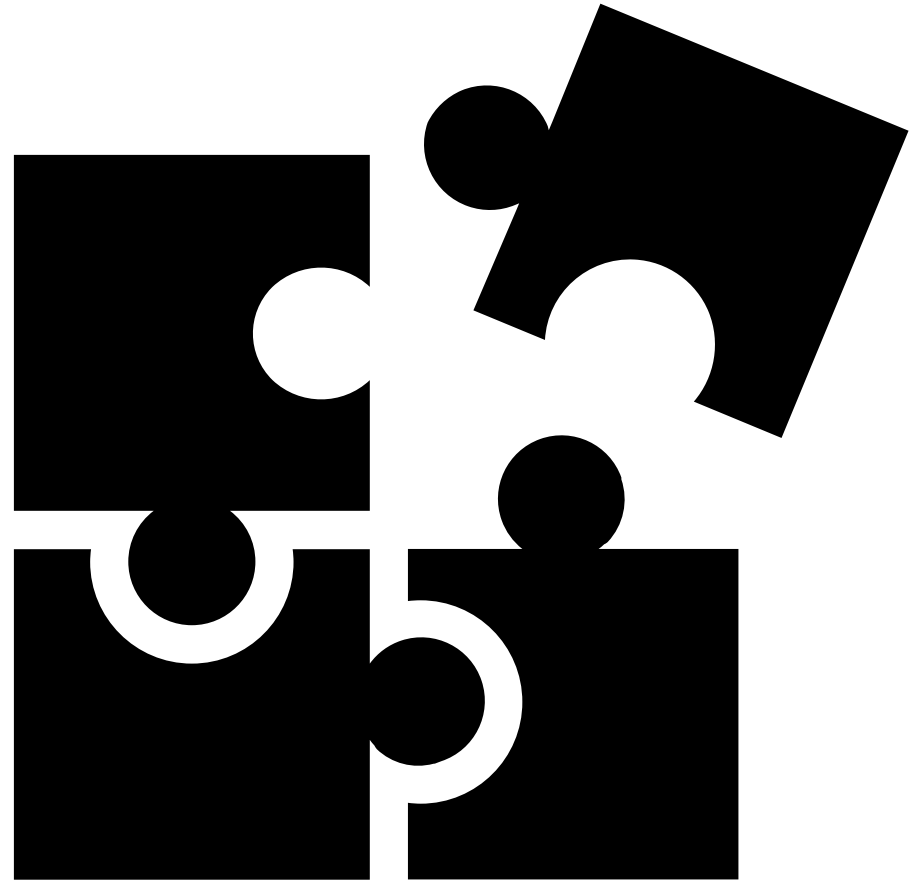


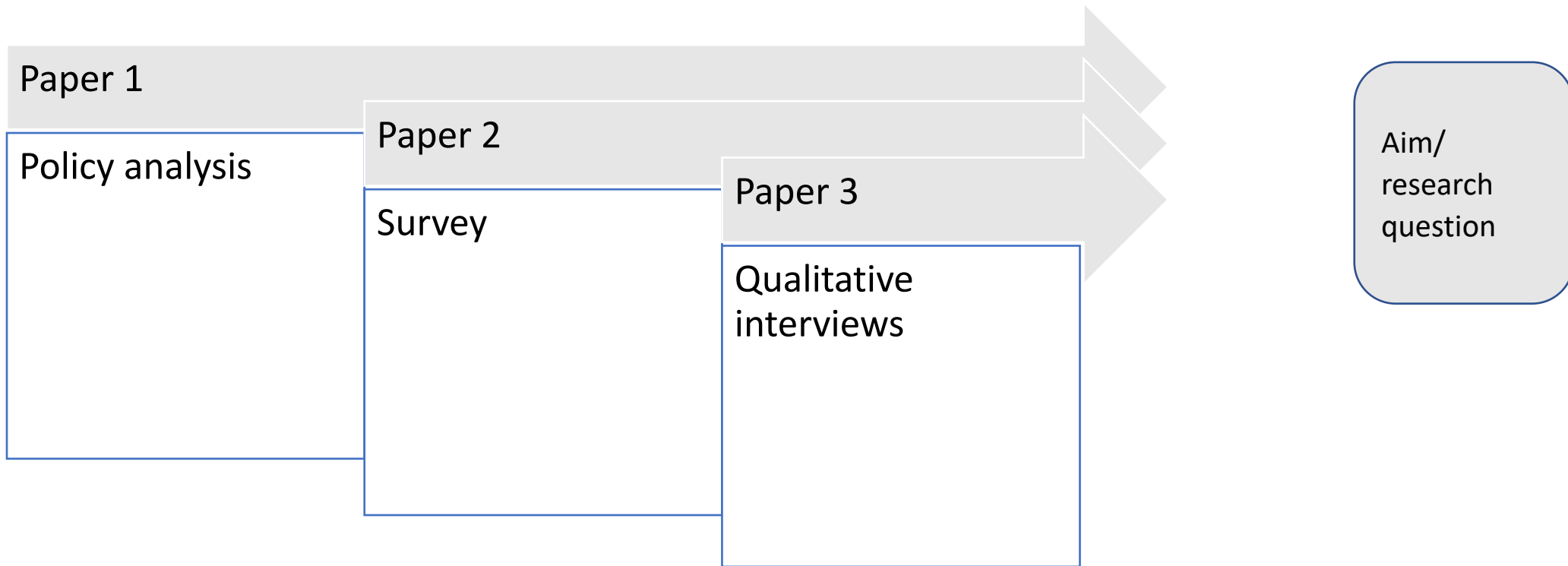
Philosophical cohesiveness

Ontology – Epistemology – Methodology

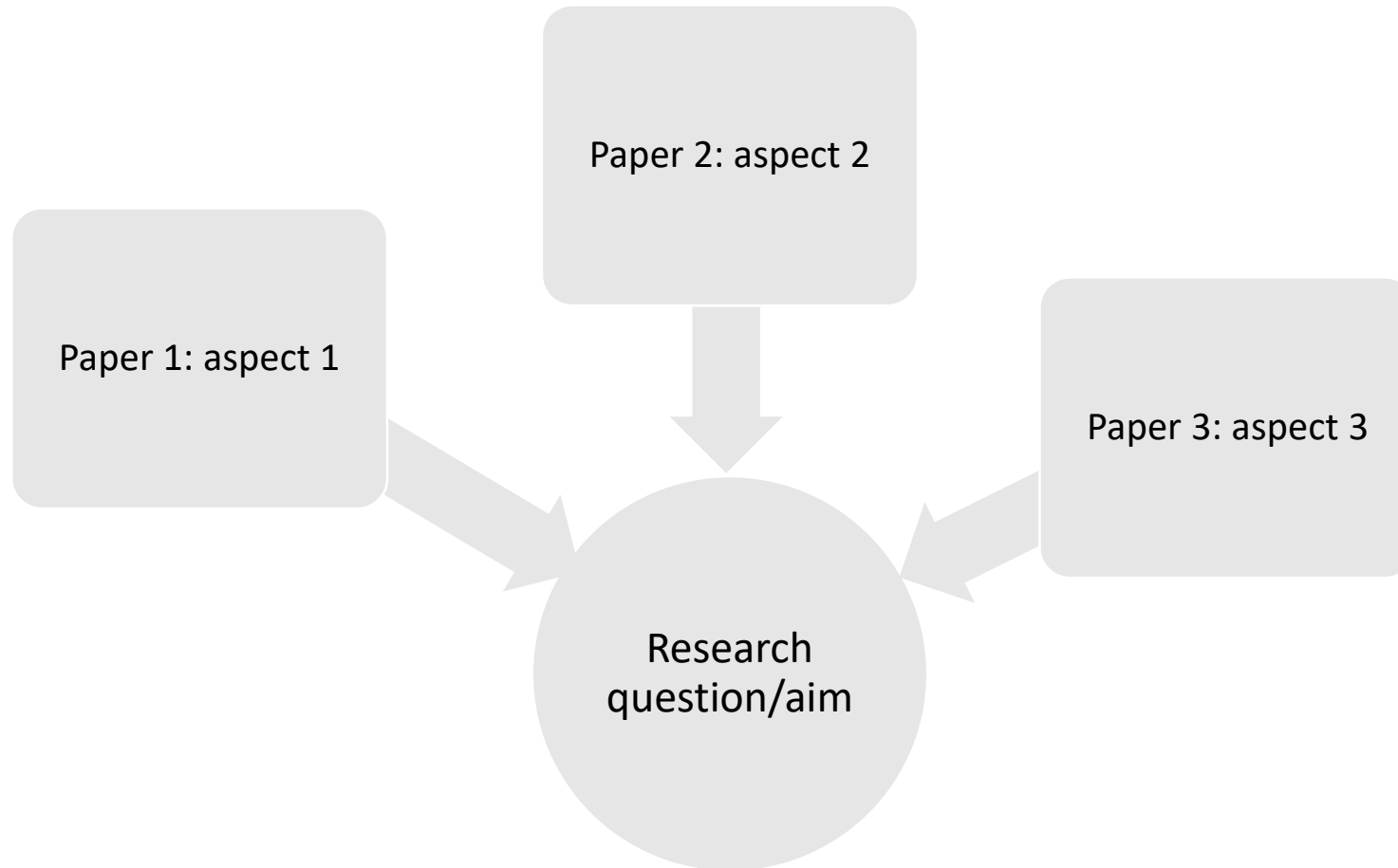
How much are you expected to discuss such matters explicitly?

Thematic cohesiveness

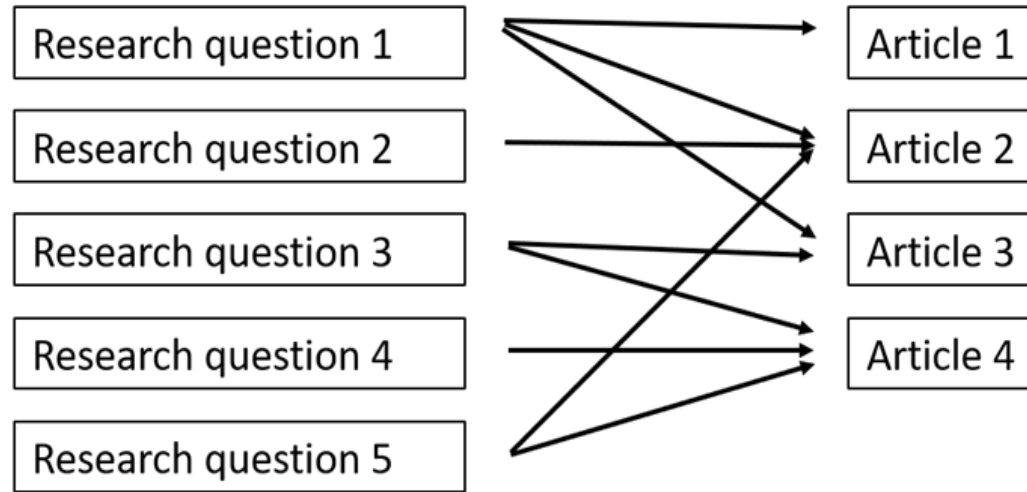




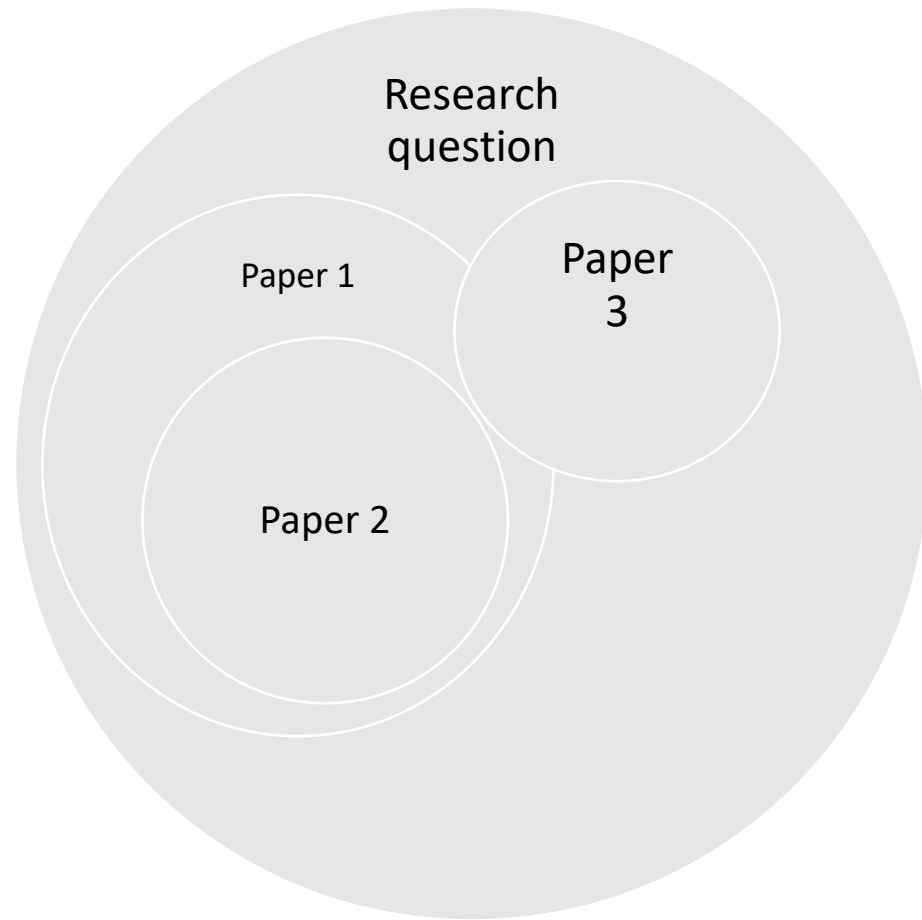
Example of visual representation of relationship between the papers where each of the papers seek to answer the same question and there is a sequential relationship between the papers.



Example of visual representation of relationship between the papers when all of the papers seek to answer the same question, but there is not sequential relationship between the papers.

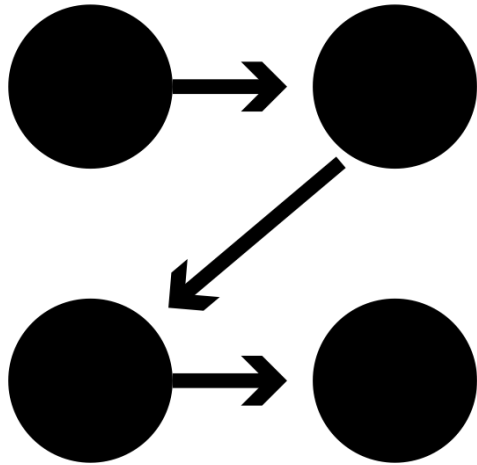


Example of visual representation of relationship between the papers where there is not a one-to-one relationship between the overarching research questions and the individual papers.



Example of visual representation of relationship between the papers where all the papers seek to answer the same question and there is some overlapping relationships between some of the papers.

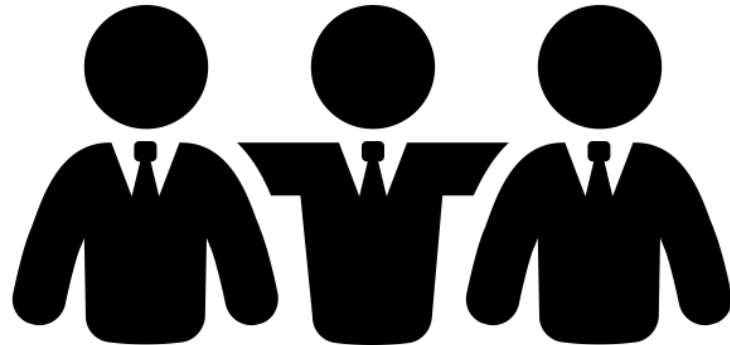
Textual/logical cohesiveness



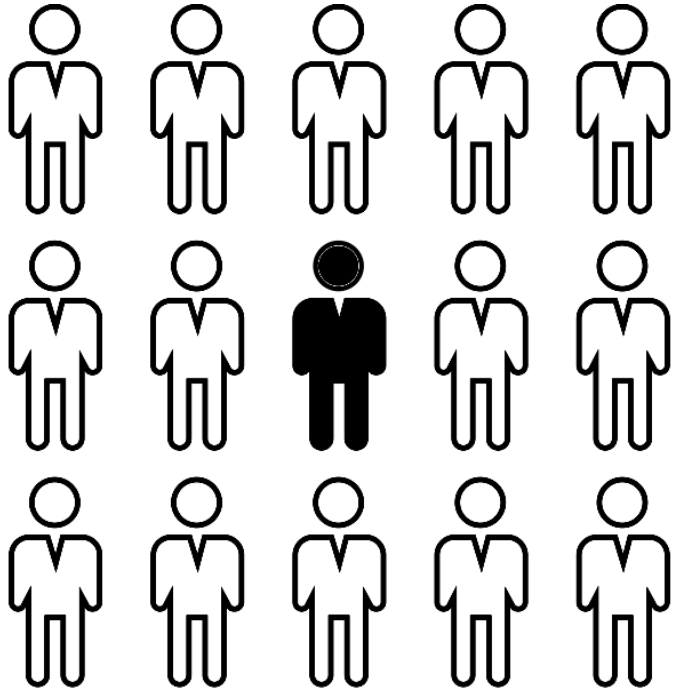
- Your ability to guide the reader through the text
- “Contribution” as the organizer
- Metatext, signposting, headings, sub-headings, tables and figures

“steward of the discipline”
(Golde, 2006)

- Which discipline(s)?
- Which PhD program?
- Literatures – what is important?
- Theories?
- Methods?
- Terminology/concepts?
- Contentions

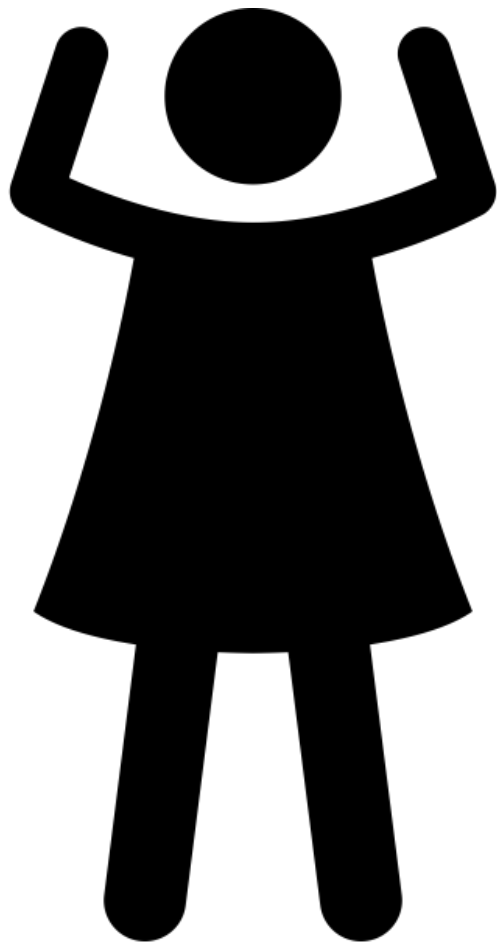


Disciplinary
belonging



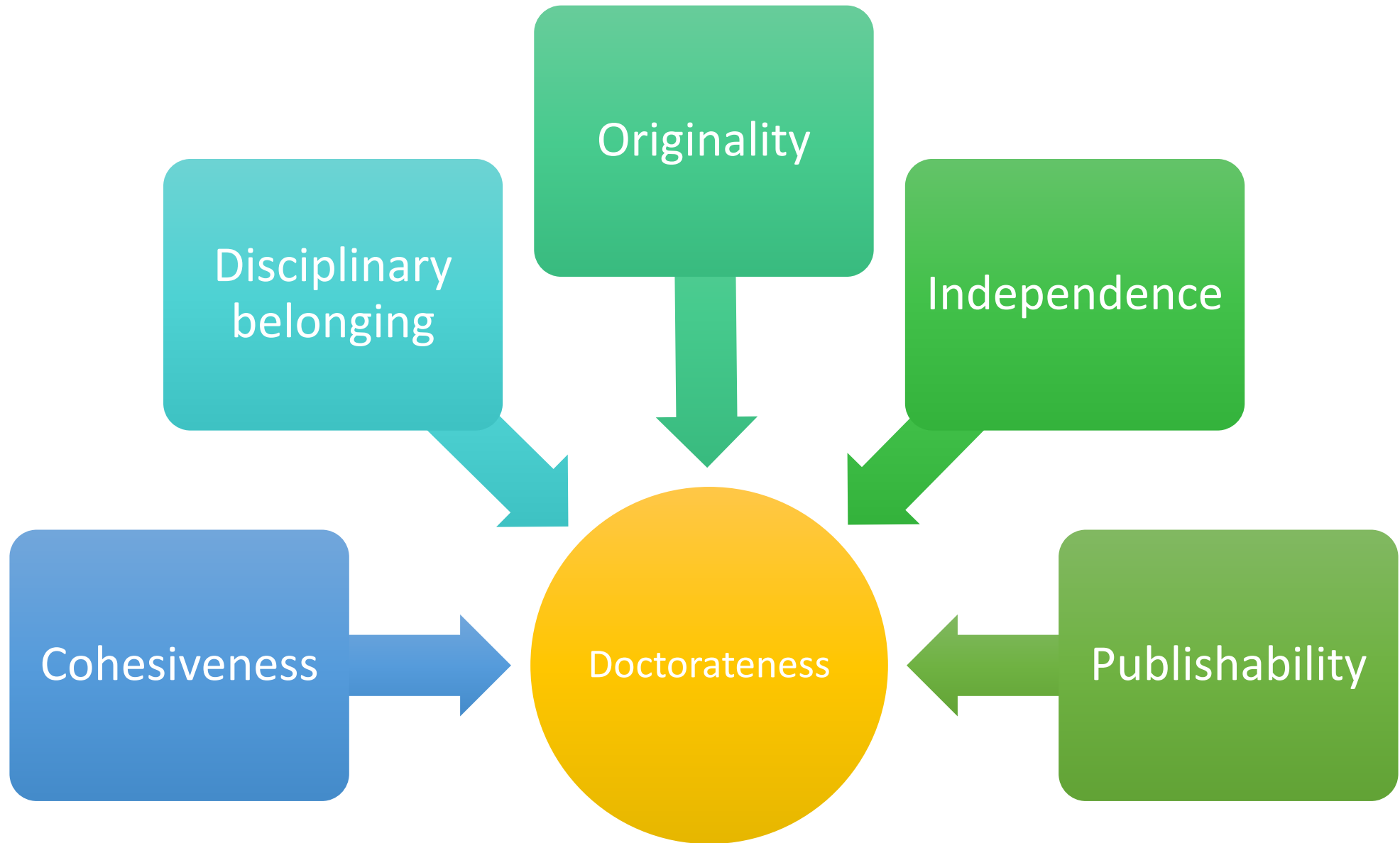
Originality

- Being able to state your contribution to the field
- Need to understand your field and your work's place within this field



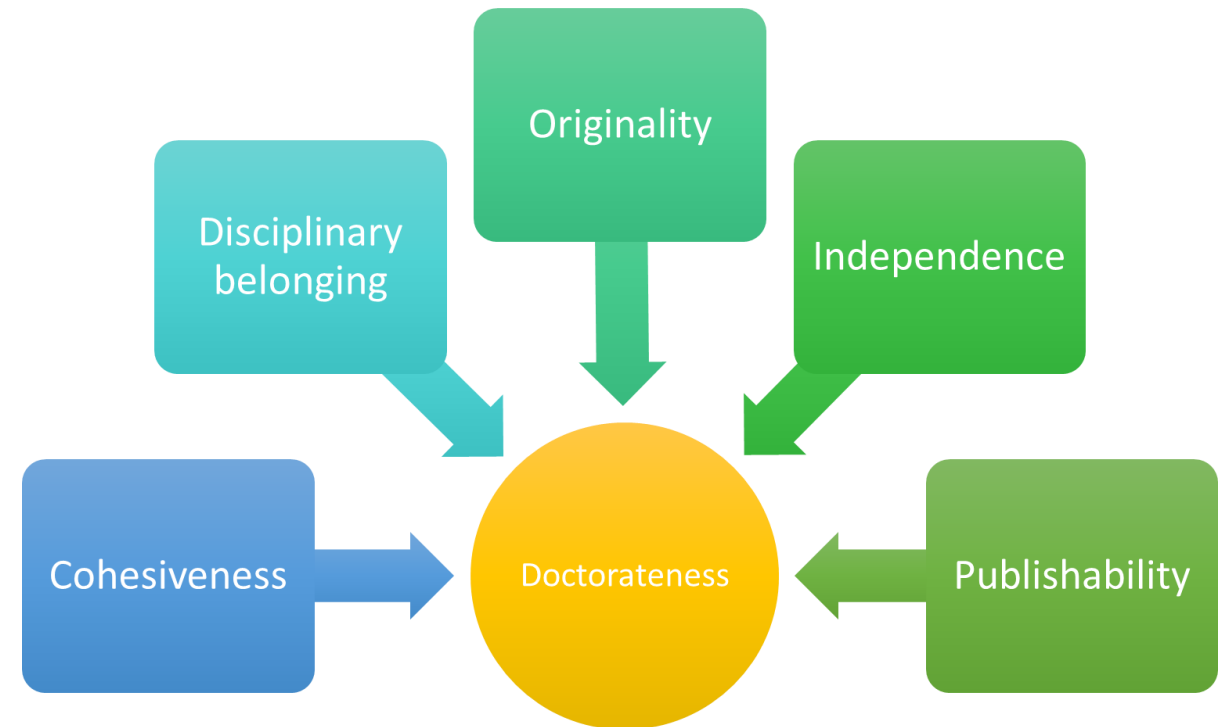
Independence

- The kappe might be the only text that you write on your own (if you are in a writing tradition where co-authoring is the norm)
- Typically little room for reflection in the articles.
- Ethics, methods, literature, theories, limitations – explain the choices you have made



In pairs (but remember to keep 1 meter apart!), discuss the following:

- Which aspect(s) of doctorateness do you think will be the most challenging for you to show in your kappe?
- Are there any aspects of writing your kappe that the model does not account for that you think will be important for you?
- What is a question that you have about the kappe or kappe writing?



MENTI

Go to [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and use the code **8762 0099**

- Which aspect(s) of doctorateness do you think will be the most challenging for you to show in your kappe?
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Four things
you can do



1. Find out as much as you can about what's expected

What are the requirements for a thesis by publication in my PhD program? A checklist.

Criteria	What the guidelines say	Your comments
Number of papers required		
Permissible genres		
Status of publication		
Co-authorship		
Language		
Format of narrative		
Length of narrative		
Total length of thesis		
Reference style		
Abstract		
Table of contents		
Pagination		
Required order of items in front matter		
Special requirements (e.g., additional elements for front matter or appendices)		
Other		

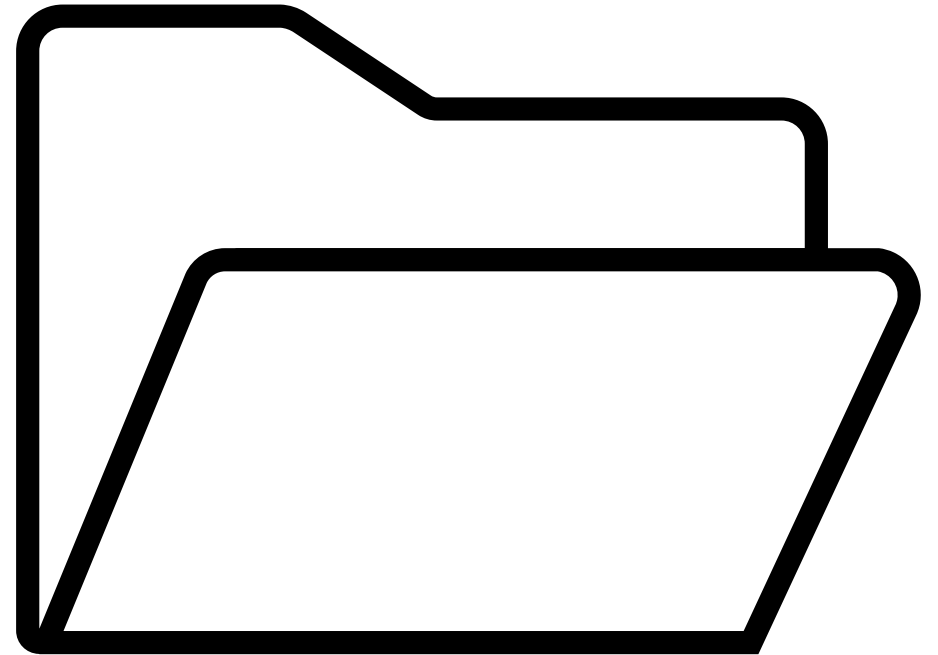
Examine previous kappes in your program:

Examine at least five different recently completed kappes in your program. If possible, pick theses that are similar to your project in one way or another – i.e. in terms of methods, theoretical frameworks, types of data, and the like. Examples of questions you might want to ask (there are more!):

- Look at the tables of contents to see how the thesis is structured
 - Is there a separate literature review chapter? Or is the literature review part of the introduction? Or do most kappes have a “background” or a “previous research” chapter?
 - Is there a separate theory chapter? Does the theory chapter introduce hypotheses that are meant to be tested by the doctoral project as a whole?
 - Is the discussion included in the presentation of results? Or is it merged with the conclusion? Or is it a separate chapter?
 - Is there much variety across the dissertations or do they mostly include the same chapters?
- What kind of graphic visualizations (tables and figures) are used? Are any of them used to depict how different pieces of the thesis fit together as a whole?
- Does anything in the narrative seem to deviate from what you know about writing conventions in your field? (Room for and role of reflection, author presence/voice, etc.)

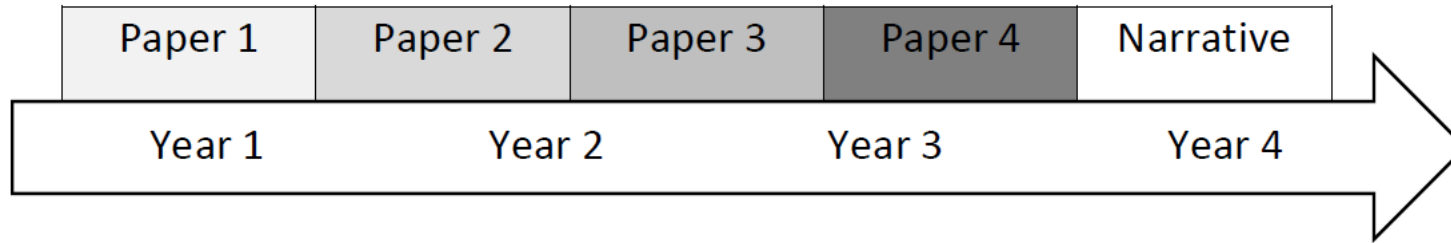
2. Start a kappe folder where you can gather notes, leftovers, bits and pieces that could potentially belong in the kappe

- Gives you a place to start (even if it is mostly random notes and leftovers).
- Helps you keep track of decisions that you made that are easy to forget later on (documents your thinking and why it might have changed).

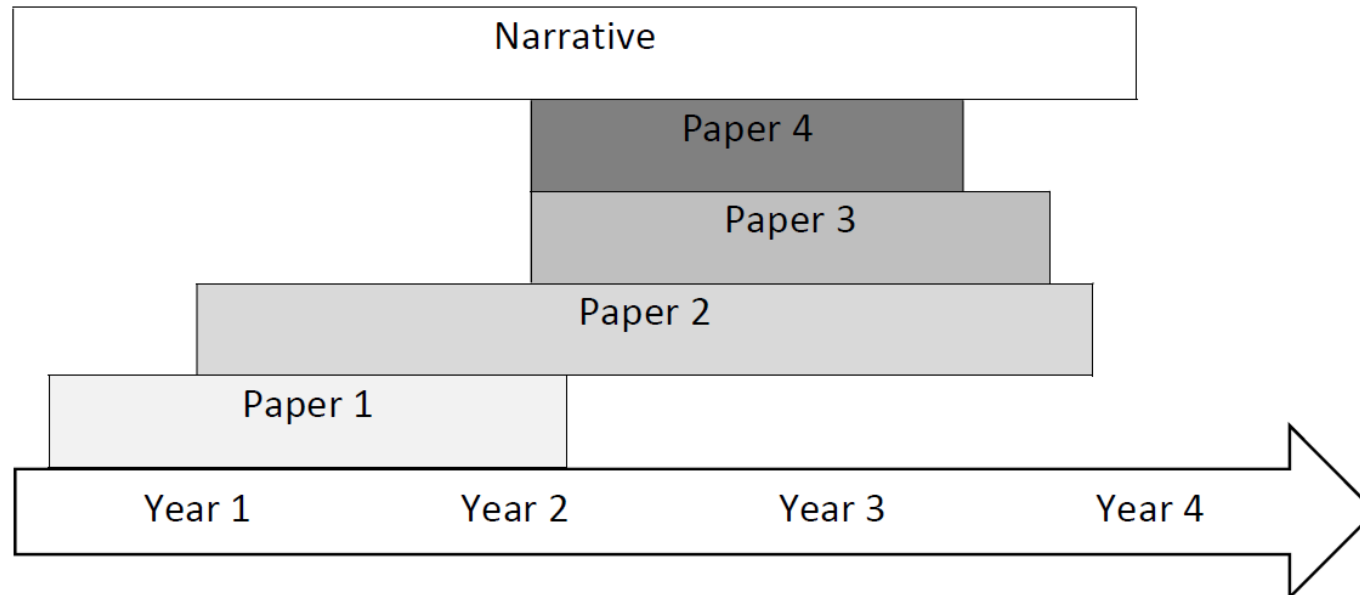


3. Expect things to be out of order

A



B



4. Sign up for a kappe workshop!

- Offered each semester
- Next one:
 - Session 1: November 11th, 12:00 – 15:00
 - Session 2: November 25th, 12:00 – 15:00
 - Session 3: December 9th, 12:00 – 15:00
- Sign up at this incredibly handy URL:
- <https://ansatt.oslomet.no/nb/oslomet-akademiet/-/kalender/32403/view>
- Or go to the OsloMet Academy: <https://ansatt.oslomet.no/en/oslomet-academy>, and type in “kappe” in the search function
- Or if all else fails, send me an e-mail 😊



References

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Nygaard, L. & Solli, K. (2020). *Strategies for Writing a Thesis by Publication in the Social Science and Humanities*. Routledge.

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Icons from the Noun Project

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