

## PhD Vlog Week 2: Hossam El-Zalabany Transcript

TIME	SPEAKER	AUDIO
00:00:14	Hossam El-Zalabany	Hi guys! Welcome to <span style="color: red;">[inaudible 00:00:16]</span> Philosophy at Humboldt University. This is our institution – the Institution of Libraries and Information Science and this is our room for PHD students. Actually I'm here today because I had to go to the library and I have a very short time to talk to you. So I prefer to come here to be able to find the time for this video and also I'm coming here so often when I have to work or study and also
00:00:44		I have to attend some kind of lectures or meetings which I'm going to do today. This evening I have a lecture to attend here and I thought it would be a good idea to come here to read sometime and study sometime and to have this video blog with you. Now this week I had also updated my books reading list. I already started to give back some of the books and I sure brought another. Yeah today
00:01:14		I have to head to library – I had some books which has been expired and I have to give them back and I hope that I can find a place there to sit down because I have like two hours before I have to attend a kind of lecture at our Institution and yeah, I suppose that to be a good idea to go there and sit down but it's not that easy to find a place at the library all
00:01:44		the time – we will see.
00:02:14		The good news is students are able to check out a good number of books so you can just have them and study anywhere if you need these books. The most fascinating thing that I did this week is right now I'm ready for the doctoral meeting which will be held at the first of next week. Actually I wanted to
00:02:44		cut and shrink my research question and I get a very good ideas about that. I already have right now a small research question which I think it would be searchable in some way. I think the next meeting is very important to me. I need to hear a lot of ideas from my colleagues and my

		supervisor about how to start gathering this data and I think I'm going to plan this gathering through the first
00:03:14		semester of this year and I may have some students to gather data through them and make the interviews through. I think some of my friends also who are working right now as lecturers at the institution may help me with that. dealing with the language – I think this is not a big deal, not a big problem because most of higher education students are speaking English and I can find a way to negotiate and
00:03:44		to discuss the issues with them. This week also I have a meeting with a friend who give me some knowledge and information about the system which I'm willing to use in my research to gather the data and to analyse. Actually it's fascinating because this software is very important for me and it will save a lot of time, give me a lot of capabilities for analysis and it's a benefit from the University
00:04:14		because the University have its licence and I'm able to use is freely and I am going to use that. One thing is this programme is max QDA that we used to store the data and the interview data inside it, then we will be able to code this data and to analyse and to get out some results, some information from this software and this is different than the ways which
00:04:44		I was dealt with before, it's normally statistical programmes which you use kind of statistical tests for example and so on but this programme is dedicated for scientific research in social sciences and humanities which means it's very coping with my research topic. It's very good to have colleagues here because they are very helpful and they are tending to help you any time you want
00:05:14		help. This is a very healthy working environment. Everybody here is trying to help each other and my colleagues – I'm lucky to have them because they are trying to give me their knowledge which I'm missing or try to make me adapt with different scientific and academic lifestyle here and this is very good

		thing that I think getting some knowledge and information from colleagues is very important way of
00:05:44		gaining knowledge. You may get a lot of knowledge from reading, from data analysis, from everything but getting data from a colleague and from a discussion, it's very important. It comes inside the point which you are asking for. You might find a very good shortcut to what you really need and he gives you the experience which is very important too – the experience of former students or persons who had passed through your
00:06:14		way before – it's very important to you to give you a push to make you feel also confident that they already passed through the same degrees and the same steps. I think such community is okay and I learned since I came here, if I don't know something, I just ask and people would answer you and sure, if somebody wants some help which you can give it to him, don't hesitate.
00:06:44		Hi guys! Good morning and today we are free, tomorrow we are free. That means that we finished our work two days earlier this week and I'm happy because I was able to free these days. This is very important to us, we have some sort of cultural and religious feast which is [inaudible 00:07:04] feast and we were planning to make use of these two days and have fun. Me and my
00:07:14		wife, I want to just make her feel at home and we have some friends, we are planning to go outside and enjoy the last days of the summer and have some drink but first of all we are going for prayers. We will pray for all of you, for the peace of the world and wish to see you next week. See you.

**END OF TRANSCRIPT**