AVOID THE POTHOLES

Best Practice Approach to On-Time Thesis Development
• Accept that a thesis is an iterative process of discovery and creation. You can’t know it before you know it.
• Read other theses in your discipline for organization, tone, and content.
• Go with the flow when choosing a research problem. Use the resources available to you – faculty expertise, ongoing research streams, study populations, professional contacts.
• Articulate the research problem.
• Really, articulate the problem. If you can’t explain it in a few sentences then you don’t really know what you’re looking for in the lit review.
• Develop a time management plan and a research plan (unless you’re into wasting time). Work the plans. Every day.
• Organize your information **before** you start.
• Get to know your librarian. She holds the keys to the kingdom.
• Writing challenged? Use the Writing Center.
• Hold regular, purposeful meetings with your thesis chair.
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