How To Have a Bad Career in Research

1. Minimize numbers and flavors of courses
2. Maximize numbers and grades of courses
3. Read everything that may be relevant to your research
4. Read nothing that may be irrelevant to your research
5. Don’t talk to students and professors working on different problems
6. Don’t talk to others working on the same problem
7. Work only on straight-forward problems
8. Work never on straight-forward problems
9. Work on problems many others think about
10. Work on problems nobody cares about
11. Always think about finishing your thesis
12. Never think about finishing your thesis
How To Have a Bad Career in Research

13. Don’t waste time by going to talks and conferences
14. Don’t waste time on polishing papers and talks
15. Don’t organize your day, month, and semester
16. Only work the number of hours you are paid
17. Always be very critical with yourself
18. Never be very critical with yourself
19. Always stick to your plan
20. Don’t trust your advisor and committee
21. Always wait for and rely on your advisor
22. Don’t have fun
23. Don’t ask questions
24. Avoid and ignore criticism