College of Social Science

Research Student Generic Skills Training Programme

Tuesday 9 February 2010
Charles Wilson Building, 4th Floor, 9.30 am – 3.30 pm

www2.le.ac.uk/colleges/socsci
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Introduction

Welcome to the College of Social Science Training Day, which is the second of three. The first was held on 12 November 2009 and the third session will be held on 18 May 2010. The programme is designed for all Social Science research students and consists of three training days in a “conference style” format. Each day follows the same timetable and is divided into three ninety minute sessions and each session has three separate talks/workshops. There is a break for coffee after the first session and lunch is provided after the second:

09:30  Tea and Coffee
10:00  Session One
11:30  Tea and Coffee
11:45  Session Two
13:15  Lunch
14:00  Session Three

During the coffee and lunch breaks students will have an opportunity to meet informally with members of staff and students from other years. The talks are designed for specific year groups but you may elect to attend whichever sessions are most useful to you at this stage in your studies. The programme has a strong social sciences bias but it is not subject specific.

We very much hope that these will be enjoyable social as well as intellectual occasions giving you a chance to meet with other research students in the College and a chance to participate in the wider postgraduate community.

Useful web-links

College research training programme
http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/gradschool/current/rdt-guide/training/college/social-science

Graduate School
http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/gradschool

Student Support and Development, Postgraduate Research Skills Site
http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/ssds/sd/pgr/
The Programme

Refreshments

Refreshments are free to all participants; these breaks afford an opportunity to network with students and staff within the College.

Tea and Coffee will be served in the Garendon at 9.30 and 11.30 am and lunch will be in the Quorn at 1.15 pm.

Welcome to the College of Social Science

9.45 am. For all students – there will be a brief introduction and welcome to the College of Social Science from Dr Hugh Busher.

Early Stage Research Training (Pre-APG Review and Recent APG Review)

Advancing from APG Status

Course Tutor: Mayra Grano Maldonado

Venue: Gartree & Rutland - 4th Floor, Charles Wilson Building

Time: 10.00 am

Description: This session will:

- ask you to reflect on what you have achieved during your first year
- explain the APG Upgrade process
- give you an opportunity to ask questions about what will be expected of you
- offer opportunities for you to practise discussing your work

During the session, participants will:

- reflect on and articulate their own achievements
- consider how best to plan for the APG upgrade
- discuss their work with other participants
Epistemology and Ontology

**Course Tutor:** Dr. Arwen Raddon, Centre for Labour Market Studies

**Venue:** Gartree & Rutland - 4th Floor, Charles Wilson Building

**Time:** 11.45 am

**Description:** Provides an introduction to the philosophy of social science considering both the epistemological and ontological debates underpinning social science research. By the end of the session participants will be able to:

- understand the differences in the epistemological starting points of qualitative and quantitative approaches to research
- know the core issues involved in research design
- explore the links between philosophical debates and research practice

Databases and Bibliographic Facilities

**Course Tutor:** Andrew Dunn, Information Librarian

**Venue:** Ken Edwards Building – Third Floor – CL 323

**Time:** 2.00 pm

**Description:** Electronic resources can provide easier access to published research. This session aims to introduce the key resources that are subscribed to by the University of Leicester and ways in which they can be used to help your research.

Further information and the RefWorks tutorial can be found by following this link [http://www.le.ac.uk/library/research/refworks.html](http://www.le.ac.uk/library/research/refworks.html)

If students from other stages are interested in this training, details on sessions offered can be found at [http://www.le.ac.uk/library/learning/training.html](http://www.le.ac.uk/library/learning/training.html)
Middle Stage Research Training (Post-APG Review)

Preparing a Lecture from Your Research

Course Tutor: Karen Henderson, Department of Politics and International Relations

Venue: Sparkenhoe – 4th Floor, Charles Wilson Building

Time: 10.00 am

Description: This session will examine the process that we undertake to turn our research into lectures for a variety of different audiences. In particular it will look at the challenges faced in turning an area of specialist research into something that is appropriate for the lecture format. By the end of the session participants will have: reflected on the challenges and opportunities presented by the lecture format, considered how they could turn their research into an inaugural lecture, designed a lecture for a popular audience and considered what existing modules their research might qualify them to teach.

Poster Design

Course Tutor: Stuart Johnson, Student Learning Centre

Venue: Sparkenhoe – 4th Floor, Charles Wilson Building

Time: 11.45 am

Description: This session will look at the design of posters for presentation at conferences.

Research vs. Non-Research Careers

Course Tutor: Martin Coffey, Careers Management Skills Developer, Student Support and Development Service

Venue: Sparkenhoe – 4th Floor, Charles Wilson Building

Time: 2.00 pm

Description: On completion of this workshop participants will have: gained an enhanced understanding of research careers in the contemporary academic context, explored a range of challenges facing the contemporary researcher and explored the prospects for a career in research, as against a career outside of research.
Final Stage Research Training (Approaching Completion)

Post Doctoral Research Funding

Course Tutor: Professor Stephen Hall, Department of Economics

Venue: Goscote – 4th Floor, Charles Wilson Building

Time: 10.00 am

Description: This session aims to provide practical advice on the types of post-doctoral funding available, as well as giving tips on how to find suitable opportunities. By the end of the session, successful students will have an awareness of the research paths beyond the PhD and the major sources of funding and know how to look for post-doctoral posts.

Preparing for the Oral Examination

Course Tutor: Mayra Grano Maldonado

Venue: Goscote – 4th Floor, Charles Wilson Building

Time: 11.45 am

Description: This session will focus on preparing students for the viva voce examination. During this session participants will consider the strengths and limitations of their thesis; clarify their original contribution to knowledge; participate in asking and answering some “typical” viva questions; share strategies for combating nervousness; and think about how best to spend the time between submission of your thesis and the examination.

From PhD to Monograph

Course Tutor: Dr. Patrick White, Sociology

Venue: Goscote – 4th Floor, Charles Wilson Building

Time: 2.00 pm

Description: This session will consider developing a PhD thesis for publication as a monograph. By the end of the session students will be able to articulate the characteristics associated with different research outputs; understand the processes linked to the production of a monograph and reflect upon their own thesis in the light of these discussions.
For further information contact

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