

MSc Dissertation Week

29 June to 3 July 2015



For MSc students: a series of events designed to help you plan, write and make the most of your dissertation, hosted by LSE's Teaching and Learning Centre

To reserve your place at any of these events, please book online at www.lse.ac.uk/tlc/dissertation. You will be informed of the location of the event in an e-mail confirmation following your booking.

Managing your research project

Monday 29 June, 10:00-11:00

Claudine Provencher (LSE Teaching and Learning Centre) talks through the key steps involved in producing a quality, research-based MSc dissertation and gives an insight into what supervisors are looking for when they read dissertations.

Going beyond Google: finding literature, case studies and evidence

Monday 29 June, 12:00-13:00

In this session, Maria Bell (LSE Library) presents some key resources for finding theoretical and empirical literature and data. Techniques and tools to organise and manage the material you gather to facilitate writing-up will also be presented.

Structure, style and argument

Monday 29 June, 15:00-16:30

Chris New (LSE Office for University of London International Programmes) uses examples from LSE academics and best-dissertation prize winners to show you how to sustain a solid argument through all sections of your dissertation.

This session is repeated on Tuesday 30 June, 10:00-11:30

The psychological challenges of dissertation writing

Tuesday 30 June, 12:00-13:00

Ohemaa Nkansa-Dwamena (LSE Student Counselling Service) helps you explore some of the psychological and personal issues involved in writing your dissertation.

This session is repeated on Friday 3 July, 12:30-13:30

Creative techniques to support thinking and writing

Tuesday 30 June, 14:00-15:00

Marina Benjamin (professional writer and LSE Teaching and Learning Centre consultant) offers advice on harnessing natural creativity and developing a sense of your personal writing craft.

Telling the story of your research: developing a narrative and flow throughout your dissertation

Tuesday 30 June, 15:30-17:00

Effective dissertations have a clear narrative built across each section of the text—a “flow”. During this workshop, facilitated by Claudine Provencher and Helen Amelia Green (LSE Teaching and Learning Centre), you'll reflect on how each section of your dissertation tells the story of your research and you'll have time and guidance to formulate the narrative of your own project.

This session is repeated on Thursday 2 July, 15:00-16:30

Maximising the visual impact of your dissertation**Wednesday 1 July, 10:00-11:30**

Film-maker and academic Penny Hilton (London College of Communication) introduces ideas to maximise the visual impact of your dissertation—not only in its printed form but also through image and film—to communicate your findings to the outside world, including potential employers.

Writing dissertations on quantitative topics**Wednesday 1 July, 10:00-11:30**

Mark Baltovic (LSE Teaching and Learning Centre) talks about the use of data analysis, mathematical models, and other quantitative topics in MSc dissertations.

This session is repeated on Wednesday 1 July, 14:00-15:30

Writing retreat: introducing your work**Wednesday 1 July, 12:00-13:30**

Students work on drafting a clear and captivating introduction for their dissertation or long essay during this hands-on writing workshop, facilitated by Marina Benjamin. She offers practical techniques to get your ideas on paper, then clarifying and building your story.

This session is repeated on Wednesday 1 July, 15:30-17:00

Marketing your MSc effectively to employers**Thursday 2 July, 10:00-11:00**

Maddie Smith (LSE Careers) covers various aspects of marketing your experience and skills effectively to employers in your job search, including using your dissertation to develop your network, talking about your MSc on your CV, and developing your career story.

How to make an original argument**Thursday 2 July, 11:30-12:30**

Helen Amelia Green shows examples of originality in research and dissertations and suggests where there may be potential to emphasise the originality in your work.

Home alone with your dissertation**Thursday 2 July, 13:00-14:00**

Marina Benjamin discusses motivation and writing techniques and offers practical advice on meeting deadlines.

Thinking of doing a PhD?**Friday 3 July, 11:00-12:00**

Catherine Reynolds (LSE Careers) discusses the reality of a PhD, good (and bad!) reasons for choosing to do one, and the application process, including choosing where to study, finding funding, meeting deadlines and writing a strong proposal.

Citing and referencing others' ideas and work**Friday 3 July, 14:00-15:00**

Maria Bell explains when and how to cite other work throughout your dissertation and how to create a bibliography according to the accepted standards of academic research.

Bookings: lse.ac.uk/tlc/dissertation

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