

Navigating Research Writing

A short course on entering postgraduate studies

29 March - 1 April 2016

Doing research as a postgraduate asks that we read, write and engage in ways that are different to how we communicate as undergraduates or in the workplace. This engagement with research can be particularly challenging for students in transition between the workplace and university, or between countries, languages or disciplines.

This four day intensive course orients postgraduates to writing-related concepts and skills essential to becoming a confident researcher.



This is a non credit-bearing University of Cape Town Short Course (for which you will gain a certificate) but the course is not part of UCT's admissions procedures nor a guarantee of acceptance into postgraduate study

The writing task is however likely to help you articulate your research ideas in the company of peers and writing specialists.

It is NOT a research methods or research design course. These would be offered by Faculties and Departments.

CONTACT US

If you are interested please visit us at www.ldg.uct.ac.za to apply online or email lucia.thesen@uct.ac.za or mathilde.vandermerwe@uct.ac.za for further details and any queries about RPL.

The deadline for receiving applications is 7 March 2016. Limited places available as the class size will be kept small. Final acceptance on the course depends on payment of course fees.



WHO may find this course relevant:

All prospective postgraduate students from any discipline are welcome to apply. It will be most suitable for those who already hold an Honours degree (or equivalent). Current postgraduates may also attend with the approval of their supervisor(s). The course may appeal particularly to those who:

- are returning to study from the workplace or a long break from studies
- are prospective RPL candidates (Recognition of Prior Learning)
- feel underprepared for postgraduate studies
- are transitioning between disciplines, countries, universities and languages
- want to refresh their approach to research writing

WHAT the short course is about:

- understanding and articulating your research interests in an exploratory pre-proposal 'concept paper'
- developing a research identity
- sustaining a strong writer's voice
- working with the knowledge of others (including citation and information literacy in collaboration with the UCT library)
- making and supporting claims in words and numbers
- digital research skills
- exposure to research resources on campus

HOW the course will be offered:

The main focus is an intensive four day face-to-face course blended with a three week follow up of optional online support which will assist you to write a 1200 word pre-proposal concept paper.

THE COURSE:

- is full-time (9am to 5pm Tuesday to Friday)
- will require extra time during April for tasks leading to the draft concept paper
- does not assume prior experience of online learning
- includes time and space to access online and face-to-face library and writing support

Requirements

- an Honours degree (or equivalent competence if preparing for an RPL application)
- be considering entry into a postgraduate programme or currently registered at UCT for a postgraduate degree
- have access to a computer for online learning in the week before and three weeks after the course runs
- be available to attend classes every day from 29th March to 1st April 2016
- a R1 200 course fee
R600 for UCT students and staff
If UCT students have financial difficulties, please write to lucia.thesen@uct.ac.za to motivate for a reduced fee.



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