ANU Academic Skills

HDR & ECR Research Writing

The Academic Skills and Learning Centre (ASLC) in collaboration with the College of Business and Economics (CBE) is offering HDR students and early career researchers workshops on planning, writing, disseminating and editing your research.

Start me up

Knowing how to approach your research can be a major challenge. If you get it right, it can be smooth sailing and you will be on your way to completing your research project in good time.

Day one (3 April)
Research project management
(10am-12noon)

How do you go about successfully managing a large research project from start to finish over a number of years? This 2-hour workshop is ideal for research students or early career researchers at the start of their projects, although those further along are welcome to attend. The workshop takes a holistic approach to time, information and project management. Topic coverage includes reading and research strategies, using effective information management tools, and literature reviews.

Lunch provided (12-1pm)

Thesis Proposal Reviews
(1pm-3pm)

The research proposal outlines what you intend to conduct research on, why and how. It is the first major milestone for PhD students and is very important for convincing your Research School that you understand the process of scholarly enquiry, and that you have a project that is both viable and feasible. You will have an opportunity in this workshop to deconstruct past research proposals to develop a better understanding of the proposal’s purpose, key components, and how you might go about structuring and writing one.

Write me up

6 April
Journal article writing
(10am-12noon)

If you are writing a thesis by compilation and/or intend on pursuing an academic career, establishing a publication portfolio is fundamental. Learn how to get the ball rolling including what to consider when targeting a relevant journal for publication, how to structure an article, and how to write effectively to communicate argument. We draw on sample articles from relevant fields to demonstrate journal article writing principles. Discover tips for responding to reviewer feedback and crafting an effective abstract that conveys essential information about your research in a way that creates reader interest.

Lunch provided (12-1pm)

Introductions and literature reviews
(1pm-3pm)

Your introduction situates your study within your field/discipline by providing important background context needed to understand your study and its significance. It introduces the study’s key themes, concepts, issues and arguments, and provides readers with a “road map” for how you will go about connecting these in developing your overall message in the thesis’ various chapters. Learn to identify the key features of introductions, how to structure them, and develop strategies for writing an effective introduction. Understand the vital role of literature reviews in introductions and individual chapters for demonstrating your command of the field, contextualising your research, and showing how your research is making a contribution to knowledge.

Finishing and editing your work
(1pm-3pm)

Completing a paper or larger piece of work will involve tying all the parts together to ensure cohesion and clarity. Discover a systematic approach to editing your writing and others’ to improve its overall quality. This workshop provides a macro approach to editing your writing and delves into expression and style, taking you through the final steps to produce a polished piece of work. Additionally, learn how to interpret and respond to feedback professionally, so that you can get the most out of it.

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