London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership

Advanced Research Methods in Social Sciences

Course Code & Title	LISS354 Preparing Effectively for your PhD Viva				
Convenor(s)	Sarah Jasim				
Institution	King's College London		Department	LISS DTP	
Academic Year	2021-22		Term	Summer	
Number of sessions	1	Research Platform		Length of Session(s)	3 hours

Day, Date	Start : End	Room Location
Monday 16 May 2022	09.00 : 12.00	Via Zoom

Enrolment Links:	Click here to register for this course on Skillsforge. You may be prompted to log in.

Online Course Description:

This online course introduces PhD students to **strategies for effective viva preparation**. The required pre-assignment for this online course will give students a practical tool to assist them in their viva, but also in future presentations, seminars, or conferences they may attend.

As the class is **highly interactive and participatory**, students will be expected to have their **video switched on***, discuss their own research with their peers, and undertake short assignments during the session aimed at improving their confidence during the viva. The pre-assignment should be **completed before attending the session** as it will be used in breakout sessions, and students should come to class prepared to discuss their PhD work.

We strongly encourage students to read some of their thesis chapters before starting the session, and perhaps engage with one or two key readings / authors from their field.

*If unable to keep video and audio switched on – please e-mail the course convenor in advance to provide reasons.

(outline continues on following page...)

Pre-course preparation:

Prepare a 3-minute elevator pitch to summarise your research to your PhD examiners.

Session Aim:

1. Introduce you to resources that might help you effectively prepare for your upcoming PhD viva

2. Give an overview of the viva examination

3. Offer you the opportunity to practice (in pairs / small groups) questions and answers to help you effectively prepare for your upcoming PhD viva

4. Provide tips to help reduce stress and anxiety during preparation

Reading List:

None

Number of students:

Minimum number required to run: 10

Maximum number of places available: 30

Eligibility:

You must be a 3rd or 4th year PhD student at either King's College London, Queen Mary University of London, or Imperial College London, using social science methodologies, and be based in a department that does not already offer this training.

Pre course preparation:

This session requires a pre-assignment (see above).

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