



# London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership

## Advanced Research Methods in Social Sciences

<b>Course Code &amp; Title</b>	<b>LISS354 Preparing Effectively for your PhD Viva: A Practical Workshop</b>				
<b>Convenor(s)</b>	Sarah Jasim				
<b>Institution</b>	King's College London	<b>Department</b>		LISS DTP	
<b>Academic Year</b>	2023-2024	<b>Term</b>		Summer	
<b>Number of sessions</b>	1	<b>Research Platform</b>	Please choose one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Theory &amp; Epistemology (STE)</li> <li>• Qualitative Research (QuL)</li> <li>• Quantitative Research (QuT)</li> <li>• Digital &amp; Archival Research Methods (DAR)</li> <li>• Knowledge Exchange &amp; Co-generation (KEC)</li> </ul>	<b>Length of Session(s)</b>	3 hours
<b>Day, Date</b>		<b>Start : End</b>		<b>Room Location</b>	
22 <sup>nd</sup> April, 2024		13.00 : 16.00		MS Teams	
<b>Enrolment Links:</b>	Available to book on SkillsForge from <b>Tuesday 2 April 2024</b> . Click to log in and register: <a href="https://training.kcl.ac.uk/kcl/#he/dev/eventDetails;;em_providerCode=LISS,providerOrgAlias=kcl,number=354;">https://training.kcl.ac.uk/kcl/#he/dev/eventDetails;;em_providerCode=LISS,providerOrgAlias=kcl,number=354;</a> Questions? Visit our Training FAQ here: <a href="https://www.kcl.ac.uk/liss-dtp">Frequently Asked Questions - LISS DTP (liss-dtp.ac.uk)</a>				

### 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.

**\*Out of respect to all our students if you cannot participate for all four sessions and all the group activities – please e-mail the course convenor in advance to provide reasons. We will be operating a waiting room, so students who are unable to attend within 10 minutes of the start of the session will not be permitted to attend. Courses will NOT be recorded.**

**Eligibility:** Due to high demand, this online course is largely restricted to students from small departments that do not offer their own in-house methods training, or students who are required to undertake this training as a condition of their ESRC funding.

Please email [liss-dtp@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:liss-dtp@kcl.ac.uk) **before signing up** if this online course has not been recommended to you by your department or supervisor.



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### **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*

### **Eligibility:**

*3rd or 4th year PhD students*

### **Number of students:**

*Minimum number required to run: 10*

*Maximum number of places available: 30*

### **Eligibility:**

You must be a 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).