

Summer GradFest 2019

Tuesday 29 October

10.00-11.10 am

Cheryl de la Rey, (Vice Chancellor): Opening address and welcome (followed by morning tea) Bronwyn Hayward (Facilitator)

Undercroft, Room 101

11.10-12.00 pm

Bronwyn Hayward: The thesis journey

Undercroft, Room 101

This session covers strategies for structuring and planning a thesis, beginning with the importance of identifying a clear research objective. Students will also learn about the relationship between the different parts of a thesis.

OR

Dirk Pons: Responding to critique from examiners and journal reviewers

Puaka-James Hight, Room 308

Tips for effective proofreading, and responding to journal reviewers and examiners.

12.00-1.00 pm

Lunch break/PGSA Poster Showcase light refreshments

1.00-1.50 pm

Elena Moltchanova: Statistics in your thesis, Part I: Planning and experimental design

Undercroft, Room 101

This session will discuss proper planning for data collection and statistical analysis for your thesis. We will explain how to set a proper research question, plan data collection, choose a suitable method of analysis, and avoid common pitfalls.

OR

Dave Petrie and Jacqueline Tither: Writing CVs and cover letters (2 hours)

Puaka-James Hight, Room 308

Learn to write a cover letter that is appropriate, clearly-written and free of grammatical errors, and pick up tips for proofreading your own CV and cover letters. There will be an opportunity to talk with a Career Consultant or Learning Advisor about your own CV and cover letters.

2.00-2.50 pm

Erik Brogt: Making the most of the supervisory relationship

Undercroft, Room 101

This interactive session will explore issues in supervision that present challenges to students and scenarios that might arise in student-supervisor relationships.

OR

Kerry Gilmour: Getting the best out of Google Scholar

Puaka-James Hight, Level 2, The Den (Arrive in good time, as seating limited)

This workshop will help you to use Google Scholar more effectively to find scholarly articles. You will learn about using advanced search, citing references, setting up alerts, accessing full-text and creating and saving citations. You will also learn how to create your own Google Scholar profile.

3.00-4.00 pm

Welcome Social (sponsored by PGSA) - *The Shilling Club*

Wednesday 30 October

9.00-9.50 am

Jessica Ritchie & Janette Nicolle: Literature reviews

Undercroft, Room 101

This session introduces students to the role of the literature review in a thesis. It includes strategies for evaluating and synthesising literature, and advice on how to plan and structure a review.

OR

Julie Wuthnow: Poster making design principles

Puaka-James Hight, Room 308

Learn how to create posters that will attract attention, generate interest in your topic, and effectively communicate the most important elements of your research.

10-10.50am

Hear from your Deans: Bryce Williamson, Bronwyn Hayward and Ekant Veer.

Lisa Carter (Facilitator)

Undercroft, Room 101

10.50-11.10 am

Morning tea: Undercroft 101

11.10-12.00 pm

Elissa Cameron: The journey to becoming an academic

Undercroft, Room 101

Finding your own pathway beyond the PhD: a personal reflection on the trials, tribulations, and triumphs behind my academic story.

OR

Elena Moltchanova: Statistics in your thesis, Part II: Getting started with data analysis

Puaka-James Hight, Room 308

This session will explore some of the software available for statistical analysis and briefly discuss pros and cons of each, discuss resources available to upgrade your statistical knowledge, examine some basic exploratory data analysis techniques and provide a general overview of statistical modelling and hypothesis testing to determine if, when and how the p-values are important.

12.00-1.00 pm

Lunch break

1.00-1.50 pm

Jon Harding: Giving a conference/research presentation

Undercroft, Room 101

This session will discuss how to design a good research or conference presentation. It will include tips for speaking, slide design (including a look at good and bad slides) and some dos & don'ts. It will be entertaining!

OR

Richard Davies: TURNITIN

Puaka-James Hight, Level 2, The Den (Arrive in good time, as seating limited)

Did you know that you can submit your research to the plagiarism-checking system Turnitin at any point in the PhD process? This hands-on session will show you how Turnitin works and outline some problems you may face in the submission process.

2.00-2.50 pm

Jessica Ritchie: Writing in your own words: Summarising

Central Library, Undercroft, Room 101

Summarising involves briefly stating the main points from someone else's work. Learn a process for summarising short texts and develop skills for effective summarising through practical exercises.

OR

Kerry Gilmour: NVivo for literature reviews (2-3.30pm)

Puaka-James Hight, Level 2, The Den (Arrive in good time, as seating limited)

This is an introductory session to the NVivo qualitative analysis software and how it can assist with your literature review. The principles taught in this session can also be applied to survey/interview analysis.

3.00-4.00 pm - PGSA get together - *The Living Room*

Thursday 31 October

9.00-9.50 am

Julie Wuthnow: Writing a coherent thesis: Key strategies

Undercroft, Room 101

The strategic use of linking tools such as transitions, paragraphing, and signposting is essential for producing a unified and coherent thesis. This session will show you how.

OR

Elyse Thompson: Online survey design and qualtrics

Puaka-James Hight, Room 308

In this seminar we will cover the basics of designing an online survey to collect quantitative or qualitative research data using Qualtrics Survey Software. We will introduce its functionality, how to get started, as well as ways to access help.

10.00-10.50 am

Dirk Pons: Begin with the end in mind: Workflows that will help produce an examinable thesis

Undercroft, Room 101

A research degree is awarded on provision of a thesis that satisfies the examiner (not the supervisor), and examiners typically look for a sound method, quality of academic writing, and intellectual contributions. This presentation provides suggestions for how to manage the thesis journey from the start using work streams that will help produce an examinable thesis.

OR

Dave Petrie: Career options for postgraduates

Puaka-James Hight, Room 308

An interactive seminar that will enable students to discover their career options, identify and achieve their career objectives, enhance their career decision-making skills, learn about the skills and attributes employers are seeking, and reflect on their skill development during their time at UC.

10.50-11.10 am

Morning tea: Undercroft 101

11.10-12.00 pm

Bryce Williamson: Preparing for the oral exam

Undercroft, Room 101

In this session we will discuss the rationale behind the exam, and walk through the examination process and how to prepare for it. We will also discuss tips for success, how to handle examiners' comments, and how decisions are made.

OR

Philip Schluter and Anton Angelo: Publishing research and co-authorship

Puaka-James Hight, Room 308

This presentation provides practical tactics for deciding what journals and publishers to approach to publish your work, and how to write and collaborate effectively in order to get it accepted.

12.00-1.00 pm

Lunch break

1.00-1.50 pm

Ekant Veer: Writing good scholarship applications

Undercroft, Room 101

This session will go over some of the key steps and tips that will help maximise your effectiveness at winning both UC funded and supported scholarships as well as other scholarships available nationally. We will look at how to interpret scholarship regulations, compile the best portfolio, and frame yourself as a suitable candidate.

OR

Jacqui Tither: Getting things done

Puaka-James Hight, Room 308

Practical advice for postgraduates, especially thesis writers, on how to manage your time. With some advance planning, you can complete a quality thesis in the required time and have a guilt-free social life.

2.00-3.30 pm

Samuel Maddimadugula: Technology to access, research, generate and format information

Puaka-James Hight, Level 2, The Den (Arrive in good time, as seating limited)

This session will cover specific open source and proprietary assistive technology applications including text to speech, speech to text, optical character recognition, literacy support and research study skills tools.

3.00-4.00 pm

PGSA Showcase Prize-giving (light refreshments) - *The Living Room*

Friday 1 November

9.00-9.50 am

Judith Coullie: Writing a thesis proposal

Undercroft, Room 101

Tips for writing an effective proposal, whether you are undertaking qualitative, quantitative or mixed methods research. The key elements that may be needed in the proposal will be discussed.

OR

Shan Ross: ESOL smart strategies throughout the thesis cycle

Puaka-James Hight, Room 308

This session will address specific thesis-related challenges for postgraduates who speak English as a second or additional language. It will offer strategies for managing these issues at different stages of the thesis cycle, from the initial research proposal to the end product of a well-written thesis that has been successfully defended.

10.00-10.50 am

Dean Sutherland: Applying for research ethics approval

Undercroft, Room 101

This session will cover ethical considerations inherent in conducting research and key processes needed to apply for ethical approval for research projects at the University of Canterbury. Participants will have opportunities to ask questions about their own research and making applications for ethics approval.

OR

Nick Scullin: Word thesis formatting

Puaka-James Hight, Level 2, The Den (Arrive in good time, as seating limited)

Preparing a long document such as a thesis usually requires Microsoft Word's advanced features. In this hands-on session you will learn how to set up a customised style sheet, how to create a table of contents, and much more.

10.50-11.10 am

Morning tea: Undercroft 101

11.10-12.00 pm

Judith Coullie: The Publication Process

Central Library, Undercroft, Room 101

How would you go about submitting your research to a journal for publication? This session will cover structuring and editing your submission, and understanding the process.

OR

Panel of experts: Managing stress

Puaka-James Hight, Room 308

As requested by previous Gradfest attendees! You'll hear about key strategies for managing stressful situations, learn where you can go for help, and get advice from a fellow thesis writer. There'll be plenty of time left for your questions (please bring some 😊).

12.00-1.00 pm **Final Event - UCSA sponsored BBQ – Haere-roa**