

# The UCD Humanities Institute presents

# COMPLETING & SUBMITTING A PHD THESIS & TAKING A VIVA VOCE EXAMINATION

The third in a Series of Career Development Workshops for Early Stage Researchers in the Humanities

### **DATE & TIME**

Tuesday 2 July 2013 @ 10.00 am-1.00 pm

### **VENUE**

Ardmore House, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4

(Ardmore House is located just behind the Tierney/Administration Building and to the left of AIB bank)

A campus map is available to download here: www.ucd.ie/maps (Ardmore House is located at point 4 on the map)

### **WORKSHOP 3 KEYWORDS**

Completing & submitting a PhD thesis; things to keep in mind for the viva; the experience of the viva from perspective of the examiner & the candidate

#### DESCRIPTION

This series of career development workshops provides early stage researchers (PhD students and postdoctoral fellows) in the humanities with practical guidance regarding the professional experience required when applying for positions in academic institutions. Delegates will be offered opportunities to meet and discuss their work with a panel of academics, postgraduate students and other professionals who will talk about their experiences of, for example, managing research projects; working with PhD students' experience emotional difficulties; presenting research; publishing research and assessing materials for publication; applying for funding and assessing funding applications; conducting viva voce examinations; organising events; interviewing candidates for academic positions; and working post-PhD within, in collaboration with, and outside academia. Each workshop will begin with presentations by a panel of guest speakers, after which there will

be time for questions and discussion. Each of the presenters will give short talks about their work in the area of their presentation, focusing particularly on the practicalities involved. The second half of each workshop will focus on delegates' own work, a sample of which delegates will be asked to bring with them. Guest speakers will work with delegates to address delegates' concerns and the specificities of each person's situation.

### **REGISTRATION**

Registration is free and is open to postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows. Places are limited so pre-registration is necessary. Registration operates on a 'first come, first served' basis. To register, send the following details to Dr Noreen Giffney, UCD Humanities Institute: noreen.giffney@ucd.ie

- 1. Delegate's name, School where registered, supervisor's name
- 2. PhD working title and short description of topic of thesis (c. 150 words)
- 3. Short biographical statement (c. 150 words), including research interests, conference/ seminar presentations, teaching experience, and publications

Telephone 01-7164685 if you have any queries.

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#### **UCD HUMANITIES INSTITUTE**

The UCD Humanities Institute comprises a vibrant research community of postgraduate, postdoctoral and academic researchers in the interdisciplinary fields of the humanities. The Institute has over fifty members from among the academic staff in the UCD Colleges of Arts & Celtic Studies, Human Sciences and Engineering & Architecture as well as hosting visiting fellows from other universities. The Institute's research theme, 'Culture, Society and Change', provides a broad framework for members' research initiatives in the areas of 'Culture, Identity, Expression', 'Gender, Culture and Identity', 'Space and Place', 'Visual, Textual and Material Culture', 'Understanding the Past' and 'New Directions in the Humanities'.

National and international experts regularly give lectures at the Institute as part of conferences, symposia, seminar series and other academic events. These talks are archived in the Institute's podcast series which has, to date, been accessed by over 24,000 web users. The Institute has, moreover, links with scholars based in a range of international locations, through alumni, research associates and memberships of consortia (European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST), Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure (CLARIN), the Consortium of Humanities Centres and Institutes (CHCI), the European Consortium for Humanities Institutes and Centres (ECHIC), the Consortium for Humanities Institutes and Centres (CIAS) and Universitas 21). The Institute is home to a number of research and training initiatives, including the Centre for Gender, Culture and Identities, the Graduate Research and Education Programme (GREP) in Gender, Culture and Identity, the Irish Virtual Research Library and Archive (IVRLA) and UCD Press. Doctoral and postdoctoral residents thus have opportunities to meet and discuss their own research with established and experienced researchers from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary backgrounds, members of the institute, visiting fellows and distinguished guest lecturers.

The Institute is active in researcher training, convening a series of career development workshops for early stage researchers in the humanities, as well as a theory reading discussion group and a research writing group. The Career Development Workshop Programme provides early stage researchers (PhD students and postdoctoral fellows) with practical guidance regarding the professional experience required when applying for positions in academic institutions and elsewhere. Workshop delegates are offered opportunities to meet and discuss their work with a panel of academics and other professionals who talk about their experiences of, for example, managing research projects; presenting research; publishing research and assessing materials for publication; applying for funding and assessing funding applications; conducting viva voce examinations; organising events; interviewing candidates for academic positions; and working post-PhD within, in collaboration with, and outside academia. The Theory Reading Group meets every three to four weeks to discuss one or two pieces of theory in depth, from interdisciplinary perspectives and in an informal setting. Each meeting is introduced and facilitated by the person who chose the reading(s) for that meeting. The theoretical discourses discussed are wide-ranging and reflect the interests of group members. The Research Writing Group meets every three to four weeks to discuss a short piece of research writing (draft thesis chapter, conference paper, article, book chapter) by a member of the group. Group members read the sample in advance and discuss it in depth with the author. This process facilitates the author thinking through their ideas in a supportive and encouraging environment, guided by the members of the group.

Web: http://www.ucd.ie/humanities

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# THE UCD HUMANITIES INSTITUTE CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS FOR EARLY STAGE RESEARCHERS

# Workshop 1: PhD Project Management, the PhD Experience and & Academic Event Organisation

Date & Time: Tuesday 30 April 2013 @ 9.00 am-1.30 pm

**Keywords:** PhD project management; psychological experience of the PhD; challenges of integrating PhD life with other aspects of life and identity; presenting at conferences; organising academic events

# **Workshop 2: Publishing Research**

Date & Time: Monday 17 June 2013 @ 9.30 am-1.00 pm

**Keywords**: Approaching a publisher; preparing a book proposal; monographs; publishing in journals & collections of essays; peer-reviewed & non-peer-reviewed publishing; publishing in print & online

# Workshop 3: Completing & Submitting a PhD Thesis & Taking a Viva Voce Examination

Date & Time: Tuesday 2 July 2013 @ 10.00 am-1.00 pm

**Keywords**: Completing & submitting a PhD thesis; things to keep in mind for the viva; the experience of the viva from perspective of the examiner & the candidate

# Workshop 4: Applying for Research Funding

Date & Time: September 2013 @ 9.00 am-1.30 pm

**Keywords**: Research funding available in Ireland & internationally; preparing a research

proposal

# **Workshop 5: Careers in Academic & Non-Academic Contexts**

**Date & Time**: October 2013 @ 9.00 am-1.30 pm

**Keywords**: Preparing academic CVs, covering letters, personal & teaching statements; academic interviews; post-PhD career opportunities in Ireland and internationally; how a

PhD is useful for a non-academic career; 'blended' careers

# **Humanities Institute Research Writing Group**

www.ucd.ie/humanities

The UCD Humanities Institute Research Writing Group meets every 3-4 weeks to discuss a short piece of research writing (draft thesis chapter, conference paper, article, book chapter) by a member of the group. Group members read the sample in advance and discuss it in depth with the author. This process facilitates the author thinking through their ideas in a supportive and encouraging environment, guided by the members of the group. The group is interdisciplinary and is open to PhD students and postdoctoral researchers. Each meeting lasts 1.5-2 hours. Members are welcome from UCD and other universities.

**Venue:** Room H204, Humanities Institute, University College Dublin. A campus map is available to download here: www.ucd.ie/maps

For expressions of interest, email Dr Noreen Giffney: noreen.giffney@ucd.ie

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### **FURTHER DETAILS**

Dr Noreen Giffney, UCD Humanities Institute Tel. 01-716 4685 Email noreen.giffney@ucd.ie

Web: http://www.ucd.ie/humanities/education/