



The UCD Humanities Institute, in collaboration
with the UCD English Graduate Society, Presents

PHD PROJECT MANAGEMENT, THE PHD EXPERIENCE & ACADEMIC EVENT ORGANISATION

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

DATE & TIME

Tuesday 30 April 2013 @ 9 am-1.30 pm

VENUE

Room H204, Humanities Institute, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4

Web: www.ucd.ie/humanities

A campus map is available to download here: www.ucd.ie/maps

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.

WORKSHOP 1 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

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.

DELEGATES' REQUIRED PREPARATION FOR WORKSHOP 1

Delegates should bring along **ONE** of the following: 1) an accurate schedule of their typical working week, including the difficulties they experience trying to keep to the schedule; **OR** 2) a draft abstract (c. 300 words) of their current research which they are interested in presenting on at a conference; **OR** 3) an idea for a conference/ seminar series/ symposia they would like to organise.

SCHEDULE

- 9.00 am-10.30 am** *PhD Project Management, Psychological Experience of the PhD, & Academic Event Management*
- 9.00 am-9.30 am **Cathal Coleman:** PhD Project Management
- 9.30 am-10.00 am **Karoline Nicholson:** Psychological Experience of the PhD
- 10.00 am-10.30 am **Emma Radely:** Academic Event Management
- 10.30 am-11.00 am** *Questions & discussion, facilitated by Noreen Giffney*
- 11.00 am-11.30 am** *Tea & coffee break*
- 11.30 am-12.00 pm** *PhD Life*
- 11.30 am-11.40 am **David Deacon:** PhD Life/ Research (organising your time, research management, keeping motivated)

11.40 am-11.50 am **Treasa de Loughry:** Organising Events (EGS seminars, postgraduate symposiums, reading groups, social media)

11.50 am-12.00 pm **Ben Miller:** Presenting Your First Paper (tips and tricks, abstract writing, conference preparation, questions, panels, which conference to apply for)

12.00 pm-12.30 pm *Conference Organisation*

12.00 pm-12.15 pm **Scott Hamilton**

12.15 pm-12.30 pm **Feargal Whelan**

Over the past three years Scott Hamilton, Feargal Whelan and Alan Graham have successfully convened a ‘Samuel Beckett and the “State” of Ireland’ international conference in UCD’s Humanities Institute. The proceedings of the first symposium will soon be published as a book, with several more publications to follow. They have also been successful in attracting seed funding, a photographic exhibition from *The Beckett Country* (1986) and artwork to complement their conference. Scott and Feargal will present on conference organisation, attracting keynote speakers, the challenges they faced, the importance of conference organisation, publications and funding.

12.30 pm-1.30 pm *Small-group discussions with delegates regarding a sample of delegates’ own work, facilitated by members of the English Graduate Society*

GUEST SPEAKERS AND FACILITATORS

Dr Cathal Coleman holds a PhD in political theory from University College Dublin, where his research topic covered the philosophy and practice of the principle of subsidiarity. He has taught in the UCD School of Politics and International Relations, as well as at NUI Maynooth and Dublin Business School. He has a special interest in PhD project management and has conducted numerous seminars on the topic with UCD Colleges of Human Sciences, Arts, Business, and Law. He also lectures in the areas of democratic theory and institutions, subsidiarity, political corruption and the history and institutions of the European Union.

David Deacon holds a BA in history and English, as well as an MA in American literature from University College Dublin. David’s MA thesis was supervised by Dr Nerys Williams with the title, ‘The New Humanist Agenda of the Postmodern Author: A Consideration of Select Works from Cormac McCarthy, Paul Auster and Don DeLillo’. Since then David has commenced a PhD at UCD, supervised by Dr Fionnghuala Sweeney and Dr Brian O’Connor, focusing on postmodern American fiction and contributing philosophy, as well as becoming an active member of the English Graduate Society.

Dr Noreen Giffney coordinates postgraduate and postdoctoral researcher training in the UCD Humanities Institute. Her research focuses on psychoanalysis, theories of gender and sexuality, and film studies. She is the co-editor of *The Ashgate Research Companion to Queer Theory* (Ashgate 2009); *Queering the Non/Human* (Ashgate 2008); *The Lesbian Premodern* (Palgrave Macmillan 2011); *Theory on the Edge: Irish Studies and the Politics of Sexual Difference* (Palgrave Macmillan 2013); *Twenty-First Century Lesbian Studies* (Palgrave Macmillan 2007); and *Clinical Encounters: Psychoanalytic Practice and Queer Theory* (under review). She is writing a book on the discourses of desire in the work of the psychoanalyst Wilfred Bion. She works as a psychoanalytic psychotherapist in private practice in Dublin.

Treasa de Loughry is a second-year Irish Research Council Postgraduate Scholar in the UCD School of English, Drama & Film, currently based in the UCD Humanities Institute. Treasa's research focuses on a critique of cosmopolitanism and postcolonialism by investigating the formal registration of globalisation in the 'world-systemic' works of Salman Rushdie, David Mitchell and Rana Dasgupta. Her thesis is supervised by Dr John Brannigan and Dr Sharae Deckard. Treasa has been involved with the English Graduate Society since she commenced her PhD in 2011, and has experience in organising EGS seminars, their upcoming 2013 postgraduate symposium, and two successful reading groups: the 'Left Reading Group' (reading Marx's *Capital*) and the UCD Humanities Institute Theory Reading Group.

Scott Hamilton completed his undergraduate degree at University of California Santa Barbara in 2005, and completed his Masters in Anglo-Irish literature at UCD in 2006. He is currently a final-year PhD student in the School of English, Drama & Film in UCD under the supervision of Professor Anthony Roche. His thesis explores the works of Samuel Beckett in terms of the exilic experience by analysing and diagnosing the psychological aspects of exile and how it manifests itself within his texts. Over the past three years Scott has successfully co-organised the 'Samuel Beckett and the "State" of Ireland' conferences.

Benjamin Miller earned his BA in English and psychology from the University of Connecticut in 2010, an MA in American Literature from UCD in 2011, and is currently a PhD candidate at UCD's Clinton Institute for American Studies. Inspired by his own expatriate experiences, Benjamin's research examines contemporary forms of travel and socio-political dislocation as represented in American Literature. His project, entitled 'Expatriate Literature in the Age of Globalisation: Transnational Dislocation in Contemporary American Culture', aims to reassess the discourse of American expatriate literature by examining writers such as William S. Burroughs, James Baldwin, and Junot Díaz to better understand US power as empire and the writer's positioning to these imperial, global constructs. Benjamin has presented at the European Beats Studies conference, the English Graduate Society Seminar, and will be presenting at the British Association for American Studies in Exeter in April, and the International Conference on Narrative in Manchester Metropolitan University in June.

Dr Karoline Nicholson is a Clinical Psychologist who has worked in the UCD Student Counselling Service since 2008. She previously worked as a Psychologist in the Health Service Executive (HSE) primarily in the area of adult mental health having had prior experience working within the areas of child and adolescent mental health and intellectual disability. Within UCD she provides counselling to students presenting with various forms of

psychological distress which may be linked to difficulties with college, family, relationships or other issues. She has a special interest in working with PhD students and understands the kinds of issues PhD students may struggle with on their path to a PhD. She previously ran a peer support group for PhD students in UCD — ‘What’s up, Doc?’ — which incorporated discussion on PhD-related topics such as isolation, work/life balance, motivation and time management.

Dr Emma Radley is Senior Teaching and Research Postdoctoral Fellow on the GREP programme at UCD. Her recent projects include *Viewpoints: Theoretical Perspectives on Irish Visual Texts* (with Claire Bracken, Cork University Press, forthcoming 2013); a special issue of *Television & New Media*, 'Gender, Nation and Reality TV', coedited with Diane Negra and Kirsten Pike (2013); and *Lacan Redux: Film Theory, Psychoanalysis, and Postmodernism*, a book on contemporary film theory. She has published articles and book chapters in the areas of psychoanalysis, film theory, horror cinema, popular culture, and Irish cinema and culture.

Feargal Whelan holds a BA and MA in Anglo-Irish Literature and Drama from UCD. At present he is completing a PhD thesis on the work of Samuel Beckett at UCD. He has presented at numerous conferences in Ireland and the UK and is co-organiser and co-founder of the ‘Samuel Beckett and the “State” of Ireland’ conference which has been held annually at the UCD Humanities Institute since 2011. He is the current, and final, Anglo-Irish Bank scholar in Anglo-Irish literature.

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>

UCD ENGLISH GRADUATE SOCIETY

The English Graduate Society was inaugurated in the 2008-2009 academic year. The Society was founded after a number of postgraduates in the School of English, Drama and Film identified the lack of a sense of community among the School's postgraduate cohort. The Society's overall aim is to help foster a support network among the 160 or so registered School graduates. This network has been beneficial on various levels. The postgraduate experience can be rather solitary and challenging. This can be particularly acute for research-only students but may also be experienced by Masters' students who are new to UCD. From a social point of view, befriending other postgraduates creates a natural support network which has both emotional and intellectual benefits. Meeting people from within and outside your own area of research can be stimulating and insightful. Involvement in the English Graduate Society also gives postgraduates, and particularly those who become involved at an organisational level, the opportunity to acquire a wide range of transferable skills, such as communication and liaison, organisation and event management, administration, team work and innovation. Throughout the academic year the society

organises information and social events, seminars, a postgraduate symposium, and annually publishes a postgraduate journal, "Emerging Perspectives".

Web: <http://www.ucd.ie/englishanddrama/graduatestudies/englishgraduatesociety/>

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE UCD HUMANITIES INSTITUTE CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS FOR EARLY STAGE RESEARCHERS SERIES

Workshop 2: Publishing Research

Date & Time: May 2013 @ 9.00 am-1.30 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: July 2013 @ 9.00 am-1.30 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

FURTHER DETAILS

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