Course Code and Title

EAL7822 Dissertation Writing for Politics and International Relations

Run

Semester 2

Rating

Level 7

Prerequisites

Students joining this module are already at IELTS level 7 (minimum 6.0/6.5 in writing), which equates to B2/C1 on the CEFR framework.

Lectures

None

Seminars / classes

20 hours (2 hours per week over 10 weeks)

Tutorials

None

Assessment

Formative only; written assignment of 2000 words.

Module convener

Dr. Saima Sherazi

Module aims

This module aims to respond to the linguistic and discipline specific needs of Politics and International Relations PGT students in terms of reading, analysis and synthesis, argument structure and dissertation writing skills.

Module outline

The academic skills needed to succeed in the Politics and International Relations dissertation modules have been itemised and will be presented in terms of the dissertation planning and writing process, the structure of a dissertation, and the accuracy of grammar, syntax and vocabulary. Students will be given the tools to manage their dissertation research and writing time efficiently and plan their work accordingly. They will be guided through the process of researching and writing their dissertations, encouraged to reflect upon their own practice, and provided with formative feedback to ensure the learning outcomes are achieved.

Learning outcomes

At the end of this module students should be able to:

- understand the process of writing a dissertation.
- understand the conventions for structuring and presenting a dissertation.
- develop strategies for improving and revising their dissertation writing; this includes identifying a topic and research question, identifying a theoretical framework for their research, identifying a methodological approach and conceptual framework in which to place their research.
- build a coherent argument, recognising the limitations of their own work, and writing a clear and concise, but informative abstract.
- respond appropriately to criticism and feedback, and demonstrate good judgement in their approach to dissertation writing.
- reflect upon and assess their own progress, identify their areas for improvement, and know what steps to take to improve these areas.
- use information from primary and secondary sources for evidence-based writing.

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None required