

Faculty of Humanities Researcher Development Bulletin

April 2014

Inside this bulletin you will find information and events of interest to postgraduate researchers and research staff within the Faculty of Humanities. This bulletin and previous issues can also be downloaded from the [bulletins](#) page of the Researcher Development website.

For all regular researcher development updates please follow our [Twitter page](#).



Useful links

[Researcher Development site](#) [PGR Development Calendar](#) [PGR Resources](#) [methods@manchester](#) [artsmethods@manchester](#) [eProg](#) [Vitae](#)

Introducing the Researcher Development Team

I'm Dr. Claire Stocks, and I've recently returned to my role as Researcher Development Officer in the Humanities Faculty after a year on Mat Leave. My background is in American Literature, but I have worked as an academic developer for the last eight and a half years, firstly at the University of Oxford and, more recently, here in Manchester. My role is to support Ian in delivering training and development opportunities for researchers from across the Faculty and, in addition to delivering workshops, I'm an accredited coach. In the past I have worked mainly with Research Staff and Supervisors, but over the next year I'll be doing more work with PGRs, so I look forward to meeting some of you in training sessions.

Researcher Development Programme 2014/15

There is still time to complete our short survey on what you would like to see on the programme of researcher development sessions for next academic year. The results so far indicate a preference for face to face workshops over online resources and interest in workshops on presenting posters, social responsibility and transitioning out of doctoral study and a demand for more literature review workshops. **If you would like to have your say you can find the survey [here](#).**

Postgraduate Development Workshops

[Presenting a Poster](#) 30/04/14

[Attracting an audience, making your mark, and measuring it.](#) 07/05/14

[Academic Writing workshops](#) 13/05/14

[GTA Training](#) Please note – these are the last GTA workshops for this semester

For all Researcher Development workshops please go to the [PGR Development Calendar](#) – please click on the course you want to attend and book through eProg.

methods@manchester [What is...? Talks](#). A regular series of lunch-time talks which provide short, accessible introductory guides to key research methods. These talks are ideal for research students — or their supervisors — who want to find out what the method does and whether it might be useful in their research. They will also be of interest to any member of staff who is curious to find out about a new method.

methods@manchester workshops These events focus on particular methods or resources and provide an opportunity for discussion and exchange. Booking is essential – click here for full details.

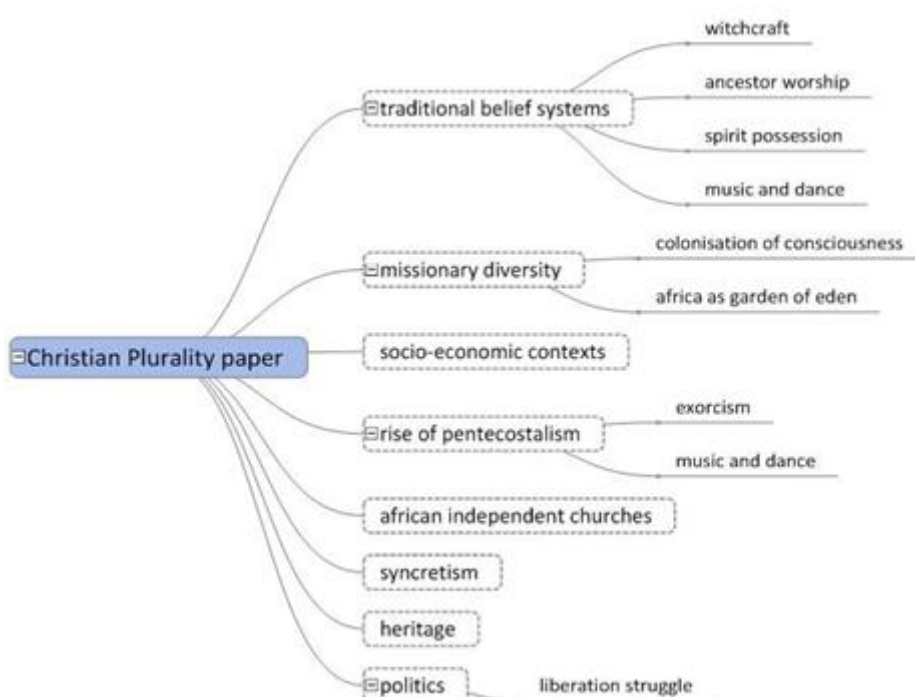
Manchester Methods Summer School 7 – 11 July 2014

[Courses](#) are offered at competitive rates, places are limited, so please book early to secure your place. The course fee is for a single course, and includes 28 hours of face-to-face teaching over 5 days, and lunch on 4 days. To book and for further information [click here](#).

artsmethods@manchester is a programme of talks, workshops and events running throughout the year that explore approaches to arts research and the breadth of methodological expertise in arts and languages at the University of Manchester. artsmethods also works closely with cultural partners across Manchester and the North West to enhance the impact and dissemination of arts and languages research. The website contains useful resources both at the University of Manchester and nationwide. Workshops are available to book through eProg.

Spotlight on Technology - Mind Genius

The researcher Development Framework (RDF) emphasises the importance of planning in the research process. There are many ways of doing this, but a popular one is the technique called mind-mapping. In the old days we used to do this with large sheets of paper, card indexes and the essential 'post it' notes, but in the 21st century we have computer software to facilitate this. The University has a license for Mind Genius – mind mapping software which allows you to easily create mind maps like the one below which can then be exported into word documents and powerpoints. You will find the software on most (if not all) computers on campus, although you may have to search in 'all programmes' for it as most don't have a visible shortcut. You can download it for use off campus, but only on university owned machines. This handy youtube [tutorial](#) will help you to get started. Happy mapping!



University-Wide Development Opportunities

[Careers for Doctoral Researchers](#)

Did you know that the careers service has a number of web pages devoted to doctoral researchers? You can find the links on the researcher development website under '[Your Professional Development](#)'

[The University of Manchester Library](#)

The Library offers a range of information skills sessions throughout the year to help you with your research. Courses cover literature searching, citation analysis, reference management, keeping up-to-date and a range of workshops on specialist resources and research information issues.

[Training Courses for Research Computing](#)

IT Services is running a series of courses aimed at staff and postgraduates undertaking or interested in computational research. The courses are staged to lead you from understanding basic principles such as accessing high performance computing facilities to programming using parallel languages/extensions. Understanding the masses of data we collect is also covered via a selection of visualization courses.

Don't forget to check out [Vitae events](#).

Faculty Seminars To keep updated about what's going on in the Faculty check out the [Humnet Seminars and Events](#) web page. You can also use the online form to submit details of discipline specific seminars which you are organising.

CIDRAL CONFERENCE: 'Big Ruins: The Aesthetics and Politics of Supersized Decay' 14 May, 2014. Limited places remaining (for attendees only)

Attendees are invited to book a place on the following event. Tickets are limited, and available via [Eventbrite](#):

As global capitalism intensifies its hold on the planet, so its ruins are scaling up in size: from vast junkyards of jumbo-jets in Nevada to entire empty cities in China waiting to be inhabited. Meanwhile the urban ruins of the Cold War era continue to resist appropriation, whether because of their toxicity, ideological misplacedness, or as a consequence of intractable ethnic conflicts. Coupled with a recent plethora of (post)apocalyptic visions of ruined cities in cinema and computer games, the links between real and imagined ruination are becoming increasingly blurred. If we are to imagine large-scales sites of decay, how might their possible ruin be represented in a way that helps us adequately respond to that very possibility?

This event will address that question by focusing on the wider significance of big ruins in an age of global capitalism. Drawing from a wide range of sites - both real and imagined - this conference aims to create a dialogue between big ruins and the culturally-prescient theme of the imagination of disaster and to open up an emancipatory space that, following Slavoj Žižek, accepts the universal inevitability of ruin in order to break its ideological grasp and thus to suggest liberating alternatives.

How to Submit a Book Proposal – Manchester University Press

Tuesday 29th April 2014, 12:30 – 14:00, Seminar Room, Main University Library

Course summary

This seminar will be conducted by Emma Brennan, Editorial Director and Commissioning Editor for Manchester University Press. The session will consist of framing a book project from your thesis research, submitting a book proposal to a publisher, and what happens next. Please note that the main coverage of MUP is Humanities and Social Sciences.

Course Coverage

- Ideas on how to approach forming a book project
- A view of what publishers are looking for in a book proposal
- Information about peer review

To book a place [here](#)

[PG Symposium 2014 Call for papers](#), Keel University

We are delighted to announce that Keele's postgraduate research symposium in the humanities will be held on 6th June 2014 in the Claus Moser Research Centre. Further details can be found [here](#)

AHRC's Collaborative Skills Development Scheme, these events are open to all postgraduate and early career researchers

7 April, Leeds: ['Co-Producing Cultural Policy' Workshop](#)

The workshop covers topics including grassroots approaches to policy planning, the principles of participatory decision-making and barriers to policy implementation or research interventions.

8-9 April, Liverpool: [Engaging with Gender Issues: A knowledge exchange with women's community groups](#)

Workshop sessions will be organised around five core themes: `women, work and education?, `women and austerity?, `women and health?, `women, intersecting vulnerabilities and inequality? and `women's experiences of violence and abuse?

30 April, Manchester: [The Public Library Project](#)

The Public Library project addresses these anxieties and proposes an emancipatory infrastructure where everyone can be a librarian sharing books, sharing interests, sharing knowledge. The cultural researcher Marcell Mars will present The Public Library project and run a workshop on digitalising and sharing libraries.

30 April & 20 May, London: [Research on Display](#)

This workshop aims to increase the employability of researchers from all disciplines who might consider a career in the cultural sector, who are part of a collaborative partnership, or who simply want to know more about public engagement through exhibitions.

For further information, please contact Laura Humphreys: l.k.humphreys@qmul.ac.uk