

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
GRADUATE SCHOOL

Writing Boot Camp
Information leaflet

Objective:

Attending Writing Boot Camp will help research postgraduate students to

- reflect on their writing process and habits
- identify, discuss and use strategies that enhance writing productivity
- sharpen focus of their own Abstract & Thesis in relation to a research gap or space
- make some progress towards completion regarding overall shape, direction and writing of their thesis or article
- increase awareness of review and peer-support processes

Students have to be prepared to write at the venue and to share and discuss their own and others' writing in Writing Boot Camp. **Each participating student MUST work on writing a part of their own thesis – either specific chapter(s) or a related research article.** It is assumed participants have already completed the Thesis Writing course & have an overview of the appropriate structure & grammatical choices which Boot Camp will aim to reinforce. The main focus at Boot Camp will be on writing strategies and productivity.

Eligibility:

RPg students who have already passed the probationary period and whose thesis proposals have been approved; and they have started writing their theses.

Time and Venue:

Orientation & Introduction Session: Oct 9, Friday, 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm, LG101, K. K. Leung Building

Writing Boot Camp: Oct 12-14, Monday to Wednesday, 9:30 am to 5:30 pm, Kong Siu Luey Lounge, Robert Black College, HKU

Programme:

Day 1 (Fri, 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm) - Orientation and Introduction

Overview of Boot Camp, preparation and reflection, planning ahead and setting individual writing goals.

Sat/Sun – at home, students complete questionnaire and reflect on writing goals; search, select and collect data sources and other material needed for writing during the camp.

Day 2 (Mon, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm)

Group meeting to set and share goals; review of writing strategies for Abstracts / other thesis sections; lunch; individual writing time; talks by invited speakers; end-of-day check-in meeting: accountability of reaching goals.

Day 3 (Tue, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm)

Group meeting to set the day's goals; on Reviewing Logical Flow and Metatext; lunch; individual writing time; end-of-day check-in meeting: reflection (each student brings up one question for writing on productivity).

Day 4 (Wed, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm)

Group meeting to set goals and refine individual time-frame /deadlines if necessary; individual writing time; lunch; end-of-camp wrap-up meeting and evaluations.

Notes:

1. The Boot Camp concept involves full-time commitment to focus on thesis writing. To get the most out of this experience, students must stay at RBC throughout the entire period of each session. In cases where students have urgent reasons to leave the camp, they should notify the facilitator/s or the Graduate School (email: gradsch@hku.hk or phone: 2857 3470) before they leave.
2. Students will have lunch at the Dining Hall of Robert Black College. This will be arranged by the Graduate School. Snacks & drinks will also be available on the premises.
3. Each participant will submit a one-page REFLECTION on writing productivity and what they have personally achieved at Boot Camp. This course is not assessed formally.

Number of Places Offered: 20

Application:

Interested students should fill in the **Application Form for Workshop Registration** (available at <http://www.gradsch.hku.hk/gradsch/downloadable-forms/current-students>) and submit it along with the endorsed thesis proposal with indicative working timeline to the Graduate School before **September 25, 2015**. Endorsement of supervisor is needed for application. The Graduate School will notify students of their application results by email no later than October 5, 2015.

Refundable Fee:

Students who have successfully registered for the Writing Boot Camp will be asked to pay a fee of HK\$300. The fee is refundable upon students' FULL participation of the camp, i.e. staying at RBC throughout the entire period of each session.