

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
GRADUATE SCHOOL

Writing Boot Camp
Information leaflet

Objective:

Attending the 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 the 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 need to be prepared to write at the venue and to share and discuss their own and others' writing in the Writing Boot Camp. **Each participating student MUST write 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 the Boot Camp will aim to reinforce. The main focus at the Boot Camp will be on writing strategies and productivity.

Eligibility:

RPg students (i) who have already passed the probationary period, (ii) whose thesis proposals have been approved, and (iii) who should have started writing their theses.

Time and Venue:

Orientation & Introduction Session: Oct 13, Friday, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm, P501, Graduate House, HKU

Writing Boot Camp: Oct 16-18, 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 - 4:30 pm) - Orientation and Introduction

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

Sat/Sun – at home, students complete a questionnaire and reflect on writing goals; search, select and collect data sources and other materials 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; ways to beat procrastination; 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 of the participants 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.
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** (GS Website> Downloadable Forms > Current Students > Courses & Workshops) and submit it along with the endorsed thesis proposal or abstract with indicative working timeline to the Graduate School before **October 7, 2017**. Endorsement from the supervisor is needed for the application. The Graduate School will notify students of their application results by email no later than October 10, 2017.

Refundable Fee:

Students who have successfully registered for the Writing Boot Camp will be asked to pay a fee of HK\$300. The fee less the cost of meals of \$200 is refundable upon students' FULL participation of the camp, i.e. attending the orientation session as well as staying at RBC throughout the entire period of each session.

September 2017