



MAXIMISE

YOUR POTENTIAL

AT THE LEARNING DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

**Postgraduate Dissertation
Workshops**

October - November 2012

Contact Us:

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Blackboard: the LDC Module

Postgraduate Dissertation Writing

Workshops are FREE and are available to all postgraduate students. The aim of these workshops is to provide advice and support in preparing, researching and writing at thesis and dissertation level. Workshops will take place in **MB512** (Main building, 5th floor). **Please note that you can sign up to the workshops a maximum of 2 weeks prior to each session.**

To book yourself onto a workshop contact us with your **full name, student number** and the **workshop reference number(s)**:

- LDC enquiries desk (1st Floor of the Library) 10am – 5pm weekdays
- Phone: 0121 204 3040
- Email: ldc@aston.ac.uk
- Website: www.aston.ac.uk/ldc
- For more information visit the [LDC Blackboard Module](#)

Workshop 1: Planning your Dissertation

Wednesday 31st October 2.30 pm - 4.00 pm (ref. no.499)

This workshop will examine issues concerning the initial planning and preparation of your dissertation. Topics covered will include: time management, working with your supervisor, developing a proposal and preparing an action plan.

Workshop 2: Reading for and Writing up Your Literature Review

Wednesday 14th November 2.30 pm - 4.00 pm (ref. no.500)

This session will help you to develop a critical approach to your academic reading. It will help you to analyse the material you intend to use as part of your literature review and develop a more critical and analytical academic writing style.

Workshop 3: Demystifying Research

Wednesday 28th November 2.30 pm - 4.00 pm (ref. no.501)

Deciding on which research methods you will use is a key part of developing your dissertation. This workshop will provide an overview of qualitative and quantitative research methods and also examine the advantages and challenges of using different research methods.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I sign up for a workshop?

To book yourself onto a workshop contact the LDC with your full name, student number and the workshop reference number(s).

Can anyone attend a workshop?

Workshops are FREE and open to anyone, whether you're new to Aston or an existing student.

What will a typical workshop consist of?

A mixture of group discussions, tutor presentations, and small-group activities.

How many students can attend a workshop?

The room can hold up to 20 students.

Do I need to bring anything along to the workshop?

You'll need to bring along pens and paper, and an interest in developing your skills.

Do I need to be referred by my personal tutor/lecturer?

No. Attendance is voluntary and open.

Will my lecturers know that I've attended a workshop?

No. We are an independent and confidential service. You're welcome to tell them though, and many would no doubt be impressed that you are developing your skills.

Will there be any assessment or 'homework'?

No. The sessions are designed to encourage you to apply your new skills to your Aston assignments.

What happens if I sign up for a workshop and then change my mind?

Places for the workshops are limited. Please contact the LDC to cancel your workshop booking(s).

Is there any other support available?

Yes. You can book a one-to-one tutorial with a Learning development advisor or a student writing mentor.