Writing Boot Camp

Information leaflet

Objective:
Attending the Writing Boot Camp will help research postgraduate students:
• 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 the overall shape, direction and writing of their thesis or article
• increase awareness of review and peer-support processes

Students need to write at the venue and share and discuss their own and others' writing in the Writing Boot Camp. Each participating student MUST work on a part of their own thesis – either specific chapter(s) or a related research article. It is assumed that participants have already completed the Graduate School Thesis Writing module and have an overview of the appropriate structure and 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 have started writing their theses.

Time and Venue:
Orientation & Introduction Session:
June 16, Friday, 2:30 pm to 4:20 pm, Centennial Campus, HKU
Writing Boot Camp:
June 19-21, Monday to Wednesday, 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, Centennial Campus, HKU

Programme:
Day 1 (June 16 (Fri), 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm) - Orientation and Introduction
Overview of Boot Camp, preparation and reflection, planning ahead and setting individual writing goals.

[June 17 - 18 (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 (June 19 (Mon), 9:30 am - 5:00 pm)
Group meeting to set and share goals; talks by facilitators; individual writing time; end-of-day check-in meeting: accountability of reaching goals.

Day 3 (June 20 (Tue), 9:30 am - 5:00 pm)
Group meeting to set the day's goals; preparation for journal publications; individual writing time; end-of-day check-in meeting: reflection (each student brings up one question for writing on productivity).

Day 4 (June 21 (Wed), 9:30 am - 5:00 pm)
Group meeting to set goals and refine individual time-frame/deadlines if necessary; ways to beat procrastination; individual writing time; end-of-camp wrap-up meeting and evaluations.

Notes:
1. The Boot Camp concept involves full commitment of participants to focus on thesis writing. To get the most out of this experience, students must stay at the venue throughout the entire period of each session. In cases where students have urgent reasons to leave the camp, they should notify the facilitators or the Graduate School (email: gradsch@hku.hk) in advance.
2. Each participant will submit a one-page REFLECTION on writing productivity and what they have personally achieved at the Boot Camp. The Boot Camp is not assessed formally.

Quota: 20 (Applications will be considered on a first-come-first-served basis.)

Application:
Interested students should register online:

Students will be asked to submit the endorsed thesis proposal or abstract with indicative working timeline to the Graduate School (gradsch@hku.hk) before June 3, 2023 and will be notified of their application results by email.

May 2023