

GROUP 'A' GENERIC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Courses in this group are compulsory, unless otherwise stated, and must be completed within 6 months of enrolment, irrespective of whether you are registered as a full-time or part-time student.

Courses are held regularly throughout each year and it is recommended you attend as soon after you enrol to fully benefit from the information provided.

Exemptions are not permitted unless students have been awarded the degree of MPhil by DMU and have completed these courses previously.

To reserve a place on courses in Group 'A' please contact the Graduate School Office on 0116 250 6242 or by email at rtp@dmu.ac.uk.

English Language for Academic Research Purposes (REST7104)

Course Description:

This course is compulsory for students where English is not their first language and is targeted specifically at individual needs.

The following topics are covered:

- academic writing skills,
- presentation skills,
- general English language skills,
- advice on form filling,
- writing summaries, abstracts and journal articles.

Exemptions

Requests for exemption will be considered. Please refer to page 3.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Communication Skills

Intellectual Property Rights and Ethics (REST7103)

Course Description:

This is an introductory course to the concepts of and University regulations concerning intellectual property rights and ethics as they apply to research.

This course will:

- introduce postgraduates to the concept of intellectual property rights (IPR) with discussion on copyright, patents, trademarks, ethics, etc.,

- make postgraduates aware of the University's protocols regarding IPR arising from research and data protection,
- provide a basic overview of the key issues relating to copyright and ethics,
- outline the impact of Data Protection and Freedom of Information Legislation and the management of research records.

Exemptions

Requests for exemption will be considered.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Environment

Literature Searching and Reference Management, including Endnote (REST7001)

Course Description

Completing a comprehensive literature review is often one of the first tasks for many research students.

There are a great many resources available to you to help you keep up to date and informed on research in your chosen area.

It is recommended you attend this course at the earliest opportunity as it forms an important foundation for your future research.

This course will:

- review how to develop a strategy for undertaking the initial literature search,
- provide you with information on where to access information and secondary sources,
- enable you to find semi-published material, including conference papers and theses,
- offer advice on how to remain up to date with the literature throughout the course of your research,
- demonstrate how 'EndNote' can be used to create bibliographies and manage references.

Exemptions

Requests for exemption will be considered.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Management

Planning and Managing Research (REST7102)

Course Description:

Starting a research project, whether your aim is to achieve a PhD or an MPhil degree is a major undertaking for any student.

This course aims to help you through the early stages of the research process, preparing you to successfully determine the direction of your research and plan and manage your project.

This course will:

- establish the differences between doctoral and masters level research,
- look at what makes a good research degree,
- provide assistance in defining your aims and objectives,
- enable you to review your current time management practices and develop new ones,
- assist you in scheduling and timetabling a project effectively,
- examine possible obstacles to achieving your goals and how to reduce or eliminate their impact.

Exemptions

Requests for exemption will be considered.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Management

Research Student Induction Event (REST7101)

Course Description:

This course will provide you with information you need to be aware of at the start of your research.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet students from other areas and to be able to talk over lunch to other students in the same situation as you.

Topics covered will include:

- an introduction to the University and the research environment,
- code of practice incorporating research degree regulations and procedures,
- the registration and transfer process,
- an introduction to Library facilities for research students,
- the research training programme,
- the Training Needs Analysis document,
- personal development planning,
- an informal discussion with current research students,
- a demonstration of myDMU.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Environment

Personal Effectiveness

Networking and Teamworking