



# Thesis Boot Camp (Cliff College)

Monday 2nd July – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July

## **GUIDANCE NOTES**

### **Event Overview**

This is an intensive writing event aimed at enabling final-stage doctoral students to produce a substantial portion (e.g. 20,000 words) of first draft material of their thesis. As such, there is no formal input or teaching. This event is designed to help participants get over the final hurdle, or kick-start the writing process if it has stalled. This event is organised by the Faculty of Humanities Researcher Development Team at The University of Manchester.

Participants will join other final-stage PGRs during this intensive writing event. The introductory session will include motivational talks, goal setting and strategies for writing quickly and writing well. Support staff will be on hand and catering will be provided to ensure an encouraging, distraction-free environment.

The event takes place during the following times: **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 4:00pm – 8:30pm / Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 9:00am – 7:00pm / Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 9:00am – 7:00pm**. Participants must be willing and able to attend ALL sessions, complete preparatory tasks in the lead up to the event, and commit to the ethos of dedicated writing required at Thesis Boot Camp.

### **Off-campus location**

This event will take place at Cliff College, an approved partner of The University of Manchester. This location was chosen to provide minimal distractions during the event. For more information about the location visit: <http://www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/>.

### **Cost**

This event is FREE and includes accommodation, all materials, snacks, and meals throughout the event.

### **Application Eligibility**

You must meet EACH of the following criteria in order to be considered for a place:

- **You are going to submit your thesis between September-December 2018.** Preference will be given to applicants in their submission pending year who must submit by September 2018.
- **You will have completed your data collection and data analysis before the start of Thesis Boot Camp.** Bear in mind that chapters such as findings, results, discussions and conclusions are better suited to being written at Thesis Boot Camp than heavily referenced sections such as the literature review.
- **You have written several sections/chapters of your thesis.** This event should not be used to start the thesis writing process, nor should it be used to edit or revise sections.
- **You are committed to completing all the preparatory tasks in the lead up to the event.** In order to gain the most benefit from this event, attendees will be required to complete pre-event planning activities.
- **You are able to provide details of an academic referee to support your application.** Your referee may be consulted if there are not enough places for all eligible applications.

If you are not submitting your thesis in September 2018 please DO NOT APPLY. There are other writing activities happening throughout the year, such as our monthly [Shut Up and Write](#) sessions.

### **How to apply**

- Carefully read these guidance notes and check whether you meet all of the criteria listed.
- Discuss your application with your Supervisor/PI to ensure they support it.
- Complete and submit the application form in MS word format to [Humanities-training@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Humanities-training@manchester.ac.uk)

If you are unsure if an intensive writing event is right for you, consider participating in one of our monthly Shut Up and Write events (Visit the [ProGress website](#) for dates / times) to experience what it is like to write in a pressurised environment.

### Application Process

1. Download the application form from [HERE](#).
2. Submit your application by **12 NOON, MONDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL**. Late applications will not be accepted.
3. You will be notified on the outcome of your application via email by 5:00pm, Tuesday 1<sup>ST</sup> May.
4. If you have been allocated a place, you have until Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May to email us that you wish to take up your place.
5. Once you have confirmed your place, you will be contacted by the event facilitator, who will guide you on the preparatory tasks in the lead up to the Thesis Boot Camp event.

### Cancellations

Providing catering for this event is at a significant cost to The University of Manchester. For that reason, if you are unable to attend Thesis Boot Camp, **you must cancel your place by 5:00pm Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018** to avoid wasted resources. *Your supervisor will be notified in the event that you do not attend the event and have not cancelled your place by the due date.*