

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES



PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2014-2015

PLEASE NOTE: All full time MA and PGR students, and all students living near to Chester are **expected to attend** training sessions, research seminars and external speakers' presentations. Please make a note of the MA and PGR Symposiums, and the PGR Annual Progress Reviews.

The programme is, occasionally, subject to change. Please do check the TRS Research Events page for updates <http://www.chester.ac.uk/trs/research/seminars>, check your Chester email regularly for reminders, the Department Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/TRSChester> and look out for our regular tweets @TRSChester

We try to film all of the PG Training Sessions and make them available on the TRS Chester website, and you can also watch current and previous seminars here: <http://www.chester.ac.uk/trs/research/seminars>

AUTUMN TERM

Wednesday 1st October 2014, Hollybank PG Induction Day

The department welcomes all new MA, MPhil, PhD and DProf students to the department.

Wednesday 8th October 2014, Hollybank CHB009

2.00 – 3.30 **PG Training: *How to Present in the Department*** by Dr Wayne Morris

A workshop on presenting your research for an academic audience, and thinking through expectations, and conventions.

3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments

4.00 – 5.30 **Research Seminar** Prof Elaine Graham (University of Chester)

'The Final Frontier? Theology at the Boundaries of the Postmodern, the Posthuman and the Postsecular'

Wednesday 15th October 2014, Hollybank CHB009

2.00 – 3.30 **PG Training: *Digital Humanities Workshop with the Religious Studies Project (RSP)***

(<http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/>)

This workshop, led by RSP founders Dr David Robertson (Edinburgh) and Christopher Cotter (Lancaster), focuses on straightforward ways in which technology can help us develop research skills, collaborate with other scholars, build academic networks, and promote and disseminate our research. As well as imparting insights from their work at the RSP and inviting contributions from those who attend, Chris and David will provide interactive practical examples of building a collaborative project, continuing into the afternoon session where an interview and roundtable discussion will be recorded with departmental staff.

3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments

4.00 – 5.30 **Research Seminar: *The Religious Studies Project in Conversation with TRS Chester***

This session will feature an interview with Dr Alana Vincent, on her work in literature and theology, followed by a roundtable on 'Narrative and Reflexivity in the Study of Religion' with Prof. Elaine Graham, Dr Wendy Dossett, Dr Alana Vincent and Dr Dawn Llewellyn.

Thursday 16th October PG Study Centre, Chritchley CCR001

3.30 – 5.30 PG Training (Faculty Event): *PG Tips!*

This event is the first Faculty event of the year, and is open to all MPhil, PhD, and DProf students in Humanities. Come and meet other new and existing research students, and hear some handy tips and hints on how to survive being a postgraduate at Chester!

Refreshments included. Please RSVP to humanitiespg@chester.ac.uk.

Wednesday 22nd October 2014, Hollybank

2.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar

Short papers featuring staff and research students from TRS Chester and TRS partnerships colleges. (*Details to follow*)

Wednesday 12th November 2014, Hollybank CHB009

2.00 – 3.30 PG Training: *The Life of a Research Project* by Dr Jasjit Singh (Leeds University)

In this session, Dr Jasjit Singh will share his experiences of doctoral and post-doctoral research, reflecting on the different stages of both projects, from initial conception all the way to the production of the thesis and publications.

3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments

4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar: Dr Jasjit Singh (Leeds)

‘Online / Offline? Methods of Religious Learning Among Young British Sikhs’

Wednesday 3rd December 2014, Hollybank CHB009

2.00 - 3.30 Postgraduate Research Papers

Owen Edwards, William Wade, and Michel Favre

3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments

4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar Dr Helen Bond (Edinburgh University)

‘Pre-Markan Sources, Suffering Righteous Ones, and Historical Reports: How Not to Read Mark's Passion Narrative’

Wednesday 10th December 2014

10.00 – 4.00 PG Training (Faculty Event) *How to Get Published!*

This one day workshop, led by professionals working within the publishing sector (Palgrave) and academics with experience of navigating the challenges of the publishing process, will offer some answers to the frequently asked question: ‘how do I get my research published?’ This is a great opportunity to learn about how the world of academic publishing works (from both sides of the table!), why publications matter, and what you need to do for your work to be considered.

Details of venue, timings and registration to follow.

Wednesday 17th December 2014, Hollybank

MA Symposium *All MA Students*

This is the first dedicated MA event of the year, and features an afternoon of lunch, training, presentations from 2nd year students on their dissertation work, and sessions to prepare for the MA One Day Conference in May (see below).

12.30 – 1.00 Lunch & Arrivals

1.00 – 3.30 Papers

3.30 – 3.45 Refreshments

3.45 – 5.00 Papers

Wednesday 14th January 2015, Hollybank CHB009

- 2.00 – 3.30 PG Training (Faculty Event): *Royal Literary Fellow Writing Workshop*
An introductory workshop with the University's Royal Literary Fellow on developing your research writing skills.
- 3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments
- 4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar Dr George Chrystides (Birmingham University)
'Conversion to New Religious Movements: Why do People Really Join?'

Wednesday 21st January 2015, Hollybank CHB009

- 2.00 – 3.30 PG Training: *Preparing for your Viva* by Dr Hannah Bacon and Prof. David Clough
Strategies for thinking about and preparing for the all-important viva!
- 3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments
- 4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar Dr Aaron Gross (University of San Diego)
'The Question of the Animal and Religion'

Wednesday 4th February 2015

- 2.00 – 3.30 PG Training (Faculty Event): *How to Organise a Conference*
The next in our series of 'How to' workshops, this session will be run by students for students (and with a bit of input from us as well!), making use of the wealth of conference organisation experience within Chester's own postgraduate community. This workshop will offer its attendees the chance to learn how an academic conference is put together, from the development of a theme or concept, through to devising Calls for Papers, designing the programme, and orchestrating the event. It is also an opportunity for you to volunteer to become involved with the organisation of this year's Faculty Postgraduate Conference.
- 3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments
- 4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar Prof. Mike Higton (Durham University)
'Lindbeck's Crusader: Making Sense of Doctrine in Practice'

Wednesday 11th February 2015, Hollybank CHB009

- 2.00 – 4.30 Research Seminar
Short papers featuring staff and research students from TRS Chester and TRS partnerships colleges. (*Details to follow*)

Wednesday 4th March 2015, Hollybank CHB009

- 2.00 – 3.30 Postgraduate Research Papers
David Ford and Valentina Gamberi
- 3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments
- 4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar Dr Eric Stoddart (University of St Andrews)
'Prophets, Politics and Pandas: Practical Theology and the Scottish Referendum'

Wednesday 11th March 2015, 009 Hollybank

- 2.00 – 3.30 Postgraduate Research Papers
Jonathan Black, Gordon Thackray, and Stephen Henderson
- 3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments
- 4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar Dr Dominika Kurek-Chomycz (Liverpool Hope University)
Title: tbc

Wednesday 25th March 2015 University Anniversary Service

SUMMER TERM

Wednesday April 29th 2015, Hollybank CHB009

- 2.00– 3.30 Postgraduate Research Papers
Mersedeh Dadmohammadi, Jane Natrass, and Peter Atkins
- 3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments
- 4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar tbc

Wednesday 6th May 2015, Hollybank CHB009

- 2.00 – 3.30 Postgraduate Research Papers
Jon Bremmer, Elisabeth Storrs, and Janice Silo
- 3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments
- 4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar tbc

Wednesday 13th May 2015, Hollybank

- 2.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar
Short papers featuring staff and research students from TRS Chester and TRS partnerships colleges. (*Details to follow*)

Wednesday 20th May 2015, Hollybank CHB009

MA Symposium *All MA Students*

In this symposium, all MA students present 10 minute papers outlining work in progress based on their dissertation. The day will also include dissertation training sessions, refreshments and lunch (and followed by drink and or meal out!)

Deadline for Abstracts: 13th May 2015 to d.llewellyn@chester.ac.uk

- 12.00 – 12.30 Lunch
- 12.30 – 2.00 Papers
- 2.00 – 2.15 Refreshments
- 2.15 – 3.00 Papers
- 3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments
- 4.00 – 5.30pm Research Seminar TRS Chester Staff
Prof. Oliver Scharbrodt, Dr Suzanne Owen, Dr Steve Knowles

Wednesday 27th May 2015 (Venue tbc)

Faculty PGR Conference

This day conference is open to all Postgraduate Research Students in the Faculty and is an opportunity to meet other MPhil, PhD and DProf students in Humanities, present your work in a friendly environment, and attend training sessions. Refreshments and lunch are included, and the day is followed by a meal out!

Abstract and Registration Deadline: Friday 13 March 2015 to humanitiespg@chester.ac.uk.

Details to follow.

Wednesday 3rd June 2015, Hollybank CHB009

- 2.00 – 3.30 PG Training *Research Methods Workshop* by Prof. Elaine Graham and Dr Dawn Llewellyn
What are the main principles underlying research design? How can you translate your research question into an appropriate methodology and method? This workshop will introduce you to some of the theory and practice of undertaking qualitative work.
- 3.30 – 4.00 Refreshments
- 4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar Prof. Chris Partridge (Lancaster University)
'Why Popular Music Matters: Some Thoughts on Popular Music and the Sacred.'

Wednesday 10th June 2015, Hollybank CHB009

PGR Progress Reviews

- 4.00 – 5.30 Research Seminar Dr Anna Rowlands (Durham University)
'Critical Challenges for Catholic Social Teaching'