

Conducting Research: Postgraduate DL residential course in Gerontology

The Centre for Research on Ageing offers a residential course on poverty and inequality over the life course, as part of the MSc Gerontology (Distance Learning). This course is primarily targeted to Distance Learning students, however face-to-face students from the MSc Gerontology and MSc Gerontology (Research) programmes are also invited to attend particular learning and social functions. The aim of the course is to enhance the students' research skills and deepen their knowledge in the areas of poverty and health inequality over the life course and across the world, taking into consideration the complexity in defining and measuring poverty and health inequality, especially among older people. In addition, the course addresses policy challenges and academic knowledge gaps that arise in both developing and developed countries by considering relevant research methods and sources.

As part of the course, students will have the opportunity to conduct targeted literature research on one of the topics related to poverty or inequality. By the end of the course, all participants will have an opportunity to present their research findings to the group. The group activities will guide students to reflect on key policy-related topics, while the 'brainstorm' sessions are designed to provide an opportunity to generate ideas, research projects and policy reforms on specific themes related to poverty and inequality.

Day 0 (12 September 2011): Arrival in Southampton

Day 1 (13 September 2011)

- 09:00 Meet with members of staff
- 10:00 Meeting with your personal tutor
- 10:30 Guided tour of the University of Southampton campus
- 11:00 Hartley Library guided tour
- 13:00 Lunch provided by the CRA
- 14:00 Lecture: To what extent are older people included in the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) agenda?
- 16:00 Guided group activity
- 17:00 Brainstorm session and conclusion
- 18:00 Selection of presentation topics
- 18:30 Dinner

Day 2 (14 September 2011)

- 09:00 Research in University Library

Centre for Research on Ageing

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11:00 Session on researching and preparing presentations

12:00 Lecture on one of the following topics:

1. Support networks and vulnerability in later life
2. Well-being in later life
3. Role of the welfare state in poverty reduction
4. Pensions and their role in poverty reduction
5. Old age care homes in developed and developing countries

Please select two topics and rank them according to your preference.

13:00 Lunch: University Campus

14:00 Lecture: The measurement and study of absolute and relative poverty across the life-course

16:00 Guided group activity

17:00 Brainstorm session

18:00 Presentation preparation

Day 3 (15 September 2011)

09:00 Research in University Library

12:00 Lecture on one of the following topics:

1. Impact of HIV/AIDS on older people
2. Health inequalities amongst ethnic elders
3. Gender inequality in health in later life
4. Understanding welfare and inequality using multidisciplinary approach

Please select two topics and rank them according to your preference.

13:00 Lunch: University Campus

14:00 Student presentations

[Note: Computing facilities will be provided if required. Power Point presentation is optional]

16:00 Guided group activity

18:30 Dinner

Day 4 (16 September 2011)

10:00 Lecture: Health inequality across the life-course

12:00 Feedback to students, course evaluation, and Conclusion

13:00 Excursion to Historic Winchester

Approximate Accommodation Prices:

- Glen Eyre, Highfield campus single en suite room only £28-55 + VAT per night; en suite bed& breakfast £32-95 + VAT per night.
- Ellenborough House single en suite room from £ 38.00 including wireless internet (<http://www.ellenboroughhouse.co.uk/>)
- Madison House single en suite room only £42 (Prepaid 39.90) including breakfast (<http://www.madisonhouse.co.uk/>)
- Highfield House Hotel single en suite room from £59 including breakfast, free wi-fi and parking (<http://www.highfieldhotelsouthampton.co.uk/>)

Please note that we will finalise the accommodation option after confirmation of participation.

Orientation pack:

The orientation pack will be sent by post and will include the following items:

- Map of Southampton and the Highfield campus
- List of available transport options from London, Bournemouth and Southampton airports to Southampton
- Finalised short course timetable
- Details regarding accommodation and the local transport options
- Information related to the Day 4 excursion.

Costs:

Fees: On application

Students will have to cover the costs of national and international travel, accommodation, food and travel in Southampton. Where students require a visa, we are happy to provide a letter of acceptance on the course.

Visa requirements:

Nationals of EEA (European Economic Area) and Switzerland do not require a visa to attend this course. All other nationals require a visa to attend the course. Please contact us as soon as possible if you need a visa letter.

To find out your visa requirements, follow this link:

<http://www.ukvisas.gov.uk/en/doingvisa/visadatvnationals>

Note: For the 2011/12 academic year, students are expected to cover the cost of food, travel and accommodation. Students can access the Hartley Library facilities and student PCs in the library and in the Murray building (Social Sciences), however students are encouraged to bring their own laptop if they have one.