

Innovative Learning Week

Years 1 and 2

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Morning	Welcome to ILW (NKS) Staff Research Presentations (All)	Essay and exam writing (Jan P)	Museum	
13.00	Lunch offered	Lunch offered		
Afternoon		Searching for literature and Referencing – using WoK and EndNote (NKS and Library)		

Innovative learning week in Geography: Pre-Honours years

Innovative Learning Week (ILW) is a new programme being run in the University for academic year 2011/12 from February 20th to 24th.

The Institute of Geography has planned an exciting and vibrant week full of new learning opportunities. In order to take part in ILW we need you to sign up for sessions by Wednesday February 1st. I will then be in touch to confirm your place on the relevant workshops.

The week will begin on Monday morning with brief research presentations from staff, a chance for you to see what we do when we are not teaching! On Tuesday we will run various trans-skills workshops which are detailed below. It is these workshops which **you need to sign up for** as each is capped with regards to capacity. On Wednesday we are offering the opportunity to engage with an exciting exhibition in the Museum in a much more hands-on interactive way.

Innovative Learning Week: Meet the staff

Title: What do we do when we are not teaching?

Staff: All geography staff

Max number of students: No Maximum number

Timetable: Monday 20th 10.00 – 13.00

Come along and let us introduce you to our research as each member of staff gives you a 5 minute presentation on their work. You will see just how varied and vibrant the research is within the Institute of Geography.

Title: Essay and exam writing workshop

Staff: Dr Jan Penrose

Max number of students: 30

Timetable: Tuesday 21st 10.00 – 13.00

This workshop is a “heads on” event designed to explain what makes for good essays and good exam question answers, and to show students how to demonstrate their knowledge and skills to best effect. The workshop begins with a brief, 20 minute, discussion of what examiners are looking for in essays and exam answers. This discussion will also identify errors that can doom a response before it has even been written.

The remainder of the session (about an hour) is dedicated to the development of practical skills. In particular, students will be taught how to “read” questions, and shown how this skill can assist in decisions about which questions to answer (and to avoid). Students will also learn how reading questions well can offer guidance on formulating arguments and structuring answers. Once these basic principles have been outlined, the workshop will offer students the opportunity to apply them. First, students will work through a number of prospective questions in order to start developing their question “reading” skills. Then, they will work through three or four questions in more detail to apply ideas about using the question itself to help with the formulation of arguments and structures.

This is intended to be an informal, no stress event. Active participation is required but public exposure is not. No one will be called upon to show their work to the rest of the group and everyone can engage as much or as little as their personal comfort zones allow.

Title: Searching for literature and Referencing – using WoK and EndNote

Staff: Dr Niamh Shortt and Angela Nicholson

Max number of students: 50

Timetable: Tuesday 21st 14.00 – 16.30

Are you even lost when looking for references? Do you know how to use Web of Knowledge? Can you reference correctly? Did you know that we are referencing software to do the job for you? Come along and learn all about referencing and searching for literature. It is a whole new world!

Title: Unwrap a Mummy at the National Museum of Scotland

Staff: Emma Webb and Learning Support Team at the National Museum of Scotland.

Max number of students: 15

Timetable: Wednesday 22nd Times TBC

Developed by Edinburgh International Science festival, Unwrap a Mummy is coming to the National Museum of Scotland for two weeks, as part of a programme of events for our forthcoming special exhibition Fascinating Mummies. This is your chance to experience Unwrap a Mummy for yourselves, to look at how science communication is achieved through a highly interactive, exciting programme. With (almost) real mummies! NMS Learning and Programmes staff will be able to introduce the programme to students and answer questions about the wide range of public programmes on offer at the National Museum of Scotland all year round.