Academic Development Classes

These classes focus on the best ways to study and learn at University. They are aimed at students who are new to UofG or who would like to improve their knowledge of academic practice.

Enrol yourself onto the course Moodle (link below) for class announcements, recordings, slides and resources.

Week Beginning	Class Details Each class is a live Zoom lecture with space for questions at the end of the session. Additional online resources are available on Moodle: https://moodle.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=10317	Class Time and Date The class runs twice a week, so pick the time that suits you best. Zoom Link: https://uofglasgow.zoom.us/j/94803821502 Zoom ID: **948 0382 1502**	
24th Jan	**Lectures, labs, and tutorials** *We discuss how to approach your classes in a strategic way so that you get the most out this valuable time with your lecturers.*	Mon 24th Jan 11:00-12:00	Wed 26th Jan 11:00-12:00
31st Jan	**Working in groups** *Group work is an integral part of many degree courses. This class will show you how to get the most out of assessed and informal group work.*	Mon 31st Jan 11:00-12:00	Wed 2nd Feb 11:00-12:00
7th Feb	**Exam revision strategies** *We will show you the best revision strategies, and how to combine them to the best effect in the weeks before an exam.*	Mon 7th Feb 11:00-12:00	Wed 9th Feb 11:00-12:00
14th Feb	**Avoiding procrastination** *Procrastination is normal! But this class will help if you feel that it is getting in the way of your studies.*	Mon 14th Feb 11:00-12:00	Wed 16th Feb 11:00-12:00

Science Writing: Fundamentals Classes

These classes will help you to plan and structure the different sorts of science writing that you will come across in your degree.

Enrol yourself onto the course Moodle (link below) for class announcements, recordings, slides and resources.

Week Beginning	Class Details Each class is a live Zoom lecture with space for questions at the end of the session. Additional online resources are available on Moodle: https://moodle.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=10316		Class Time and Date The class runs twice a week, so pick the time that suits you best. Zoom Link: https://uofglasgow.zoom.us/j/98849325886 Zoom ID: 988 4932 5886	
24th Jan	**Planning and structuring an essay** *A well structured essay will ensure that your writing is clear and concise with logical flow. In this class, we'll look at how to plan your essay and structure your argument.*		Tues 25th Jan 12:00-13:00	Thurs 27th Jan 12:00-13:00
31st Jan	**Lab report writing** *A lab report usually follows a standard format, with each section of the report fulfilling a unique job. We'll work through these sections and tell you what the expectations are for each.*		Tues 1st Feb 12:00-13:00	Thurs 3rd Feb 12:00-13:00
7th Feb	**Reflective writing** *In many science degrees (particularly in clinical subjects) you are required to reflect on your practice and communicate your learning. We'll look at how to write reflectively for an academic audience.*		Tues 8th Feb 12:00-13:00	Thurs 10th Feb 12:00-13:00
14th Feb	**Referencing and plagiarism** *This class will show you how to cite according to the University's requirements so that your writing is professional and credible.*		Tues 15th Feb 12:00-13:00	Thurs 17th Feb 12:00-13:00

Science Writing: Advanced Criticality Classes

Being able to critically analyse topics in your degree is essential for academic success. This series will show you how to conduct desk based research, from finding sources to incorporating them into your writing.

Enrol yourself onto the course Moodle (link below) for class announcements, recordings, slides and resources.

Week Beginning	Class Details Each class is a live Zoom lecture with space for questions at the end of the session. Additional online resources are available on Moodle: https://moodle.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=10315		Class Time and Date The class runs twice a week, so pick the time that suits you best. Zoom Link: https://uofglasgow.zoom.us/j/97817236393 Zoom ID: **978 1723 6393**	
21st Feb	**Sourcing evidence from the literature** *We will look at how to get the most out of academic databases, and what to look for when sourcing evidence from the literature.*		Tues 22nd Feb 12:00-13:00	Thurs 24th Feb 12:00-13:00
28th Feb	**Critical reading** *This class explores the next stage of critical analysis: reading your sources. We look at the questions you should ask and ways of keeping your records organised.*		Tues 1st Mar 12:00-13:00	Thurs 3rd Mar 12:00-13:00
7th Mar	**Writing a critical review** *In this class, we focus on how to structure and write a critical review of a single study.*		Tues 8th Mar 12:00-13:00	Thurs 10th Mar 12:00-13:00
14th Mar	**Writing a literature review** *This class looks at putting together a review of several studies that address a common topic.*		Tues 15th Mar 12:00-13:00	Thurs 17th Mar 12:00-13:00

Dissertation Writing Classes

These classes are suitable for undergraduate and postgraduate taught students who are undertaking their dissertations. The series covers the writing process, with a focus on analysing your own and previously published scientific data.

Week Beginning	Class Details Each class is a live Zoom lecture with space for questions at the end of the session. Additional online resources are available on Moodle: https://moodle.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=12843	Class Time and Date The session runs once a week. Class recording will be posted on Moodle for you to access anytime. Zoom Link: https://uofglasgow.zoom.us/j/94470825666 Zoom ID: 944 7082 5666
31st Jan	**Your dissertation from beginning to end** *We examine what the whole dissertation process looks like, from choosing a title to handing in.*	Tues 1st Feb 14:00-15:00
7th Feb	**Writing a literature review** *This class will explore the process of finding and critically analysing journal articles, as well as how to incorporate academic literature into your writing.*	Tues 8th Feb 14:00-15:00
14th Feb	**Developing a methodology** *We outline things to consider when designing your research methods and discuss how to write your methods chapter.*	Tues 15th Feb 14:00-15:00
21st Feb	**Presenting your findings** *We look at the most effective way of discussing your data and writing about your results in the context of your field.*	Tues 22nd Feb 14:00-15:00
28th Feb	**Editing and proofreading** *The class looks at the stages of editing and proofreading that you need to complete in order to achieve a polished and professional dissertation.*	Tues 1st Mar 14:00-15:00

Statistics for the Sciences Classes

These classes will introduce you to R and Rstudio, show you how to construct a hypothesis and choose the right statistical method for your data, and finally, detail effective ways of presenting statistical results.

Enrol yourself onto the course Moodle (link below) for class announcements, recordings, slides and resources. Undergraduate and PGT students in the Colleges of Science and Engineering and MVLS are welcome.

Week Beginning	Class Details Each class is a live Zoom lecture with space for questions at the end of the session. Additional online resources are available on Moodle: https://moodle.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=19841		Class Time and Date Zoom Link: https://uofglasgow.zoom.us/j/96094524216 Zoom ID: 960 9452 4216
31st Jan	**Introduction to R (Class 1)** *In this session we describe how to create various R objects (e.g. vectors, matrices and data frames) using basic functions.*		Mon 31st Jan 12:00-13:30
7th Feb	**Introduction to R (Class 2)** *In this session we will introduce more complex functions and various plotting capabilities.*		Mon 7th Feb 12:00-13:30
14th Feb	**Descriptive statistics** *In this session we will cover measures of central tendencies, dispersion, and position.*		Mon 14th Feb 12:00-13:30
21st Feb	**Probability** *In this session we will cover the basic rules of probability, discrete probability distributions, and continuous probability distributions.*		Mon 21st Feb 12:00-13:30
28th Feb	**Hypothesis testing** *This class will extend your understanding of inferential statistics. We'll cover the construction of a hypothesis test given a certain claim.*		Mon 28th Feb 12:00-13:30
7th Mar	**Simple and multiple linear regression** *In this session we describe and use the various R functions to generate a best fit line to pairwise ordered data. We will then include multiple independent variables to generate a more complex linear model.*		Mon 7th Mar 12:00-13:30

Communicating Science:
Beyond Essays and Dissertations Classes

Written assignments probably account for the majority of your assessed work, but these other formats are also important in your development as a scientist or engineer. These classes will also help you prepare to describe your work and your interests to a wider audience than just classmates or lecturing staff on your course.

Week Beginning	Class Details	Class Time and Date
	The first session each week is a traditional class (with time for questions). The second session is a less formal discussion between experts, where they will discuss their real-world experiences of that week's topic, and also answer any questions. Additional online resources are available on Moodle: https://moodle.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=12927	To submit questions for the panel discussion in advance, post them on Moodle. Zoom Link: https://uofglasgow.zoom.us/j/94220367306 Zoom ID: 942 2036 7306
24th Jan	**Effective academic presentations** *This class covers designing and delivering an academic slideshow using Microsoft PowerPoint.*	Wed 26th Jan 13:00-14:00 (Class) Thurs 27th Jan 11:00-12:00 (Panel discussion / Q&A)
31st Jan	**Designing and delivering an academic poster** *We will look at some academic poster examples, as well as how to present one at an event (either in-class or at a conference) and how to manage audience questions.*	Wed 2nd Feb 13:00-14:00 (Class) Thurs 3rd Feb 11:00-12:00 (Panel discussion / Q&A)
7th Feb	**Presenting data** *We'll look at how to make tables and figures clear and unambiguous. We'll also consider techniques to deconstruct dense visual data (e.g. a complex graph or large table) and highlight the most important parts to your audience.*	Wed 9th Feb 13:00-14:00 (Class) Thurs 10th Feb 11:00-12:00 (Panel discussion / Q&A)
14th Feb	**Defining your audience: Scientific literacy across diverse groups** *We'll look at the different levels of science literacy you might expect in different audiences (peers, experts, public), how to cater to those differences, and consider some examples of real-world science communication.*	Wed 16th Feb 13:00-14:00 (Class) Thurs 17th Feb 11:00-12:00 (Panel discussion / Q&A)
21st Feb	**Persuasion, argumentation, and rhetoric: Telling a story with your science** *This class looks at some techniques to clearly communicate the meaning of data - e.g. analogy, demonstration, infographic, impact, common misunderstanding, relationship to current events, etc.*	Wed 23rd Feb 13:00-14:00 (Class) Thurs 24th Feb 11:00-12:00 (Panel discussion / Q&A)
28th Feb	**Podcasting science** *The barriers to setting up a podcast are lower than ever. Whether for a whole series or a one-off recording, this class will help you create an engaging, informative episode recording to communicate science.*	Wed 2nd Mar 13:00-14:00 (Class) Thurs 3rd Mar 11:00-12:00 (Panel discussion / Q&A)

To access the lecture materials, you can enrol yourself onto the class Moodle:
moodle.gla.ac.uk/LEADS/MVLSandSciEng

gla.ac.uk/LEADS/students

Writing Incubator Workshops

These group writing sessions are designed to help you improve your productivity. Bring along some writing you'd like to work on and have a goal in mind that you'd like to achieve.

Week Beginning	Class Details Each session is held live on Zoom. We switch cameras and mics off while completing short bursts of independent study before regrouping and reporting back on our progress.	Class Time and Date Zoom Link: https://uofglasgow.zoom.us/j/96973515397 Zoom ID: 969 7351 5397	
14th Mar	Writing Incubator week 1	Mon 14th Mar	13:00-15:00
		Tues 15th Mar	13:00-15:00
		Thurs 17th Mar	13:00-15:00
21st Mar	Writing Incubator week 2	Mon 21st Mar	13:00-15:00
		Tues 22nd Mar	13:00-15:00
		Thurs 24th Mar	13:00-15:00

To access the lecture materials, you can enrol yourself onto the class Moodle:
moodle.gla.ac.uk/LEADS/MVLSandSciEng

gla.ac.uk/LEADS/students

Exam Revision Study Groups

These sessions provide an online space to focus on your exam revision. Come along with a clear idea of the topics you'd like to work on.

Please note that theses sessions are for independent exam revision and are not a traditional lecture.

Week Beginning	**Class Details** We'll meet via Zoom and discuss our aims for the session before we turn off our mics and cameras to complete 45 minutes of independent study. We'll come back to discuss our progress in the break. Moodle link: https://moodle.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=30205	**Class Time and Date** Come along to as many sessions as you'd like. Zoom Link: https://uofglasgow.zoom.us/j/94506110921 Zoom ID: **945 0611 0921**
18th Apr	Exam Revision (Week 1)	Mon 18th Apr 11:00-13:00
		Tues 19th Apr 11:00-13:00
		Thurs 21st Apr 11:00-13:00
25th Apr	Exam Revision (Week 2)	Mon 25th Apr 11:00-13:00
		Tues 26th Apr 11:00-13:00
		Thurs 28th Apr 11:00-13:00

Who are we?

We are the Learning Enhancement and Academic Development Service, and we are here to help you develop and improve all aspects of your academic work. We work with Undergraduate and Postgraduate students across all four Colleges (Arts, Social Sciences, MVLS, and Science & Engineering).
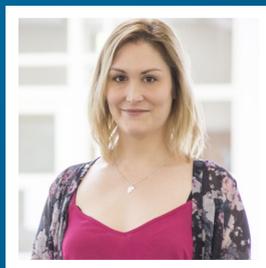
For Undergraduate and Postgraduate Taught (PGT) students, we have Effective Learning Advisers (ELAs) for each of the four Colleges, and two Effective Learning Advisers (ELAs) for International students.

For Postgraduate Research (PGR) students, we have an Effective Writing Adviser who works with PGR students across all four Colleges.

For students whose work involves Mathematics or Statistics, we have dedicated Maths and Stats advisers.

Dr Scott Ramsay
Effective Learning Adviser
(College of MVLS)

Dr Jessica Bownes
Effective Learning Adviser
(College of Science &
Engineering)

What do we offer?

We offer suites of classes to help you develop and improve all aspects of your academic work, including (but not limited to):

- Academic writing (essays, dissertations, or other assignments)

- Argumentation

- Critically evaluating literature

- Using sources and referencing

- Time and project management

- Study and revision methods

How can I attend classes?

By simply joining via the relevant Zoom link for each session—you do not have to enrol or register interest in attending our classes in advance. All of our Semester 1 classes will be delivered online via Zoom and using Moodle, as per the links provided in the class timetables.

For more advice regarding how to use Zoom or Moodle, please see Glasgow Anywhere.

What if I cannot attend a class – is there somewhere I can access the class materials?

Yes. You can access the class materials—along with many other useful resources— via our Moodle site.

To access the class materials and resources, you can enrol yourself onto the relevant class Moodle (there is no password).

Do I need to attend all of the classes in a series?

No. Most of the classes are repeated so you can attend whichever classes are most convenient for, or most useful to you.

Can I make a one-to-one appointment to see an Effective Learning Adviser (ELA)?

Yes. You can make an appointment with an Effective Learning Adviser (ELA) through our central booking system. You can check Adviser availability via MyGlasgow or via the LEADS web page for your College.

If there are no appointments available, please check again later. New appointment times are added regularly; however, we recommend attending our classes or viewing available resources via Moodle in the first instance to familiarise yourself with key principles of academic practice.

Are these classes part of the Academic Writing Skills Programme (AWSP)?

No. The Academic Writing Skills Programme (AWSP) is a compulsory writing diagnostic, which gives new students the opportunity to receive feedback on writing before their first assignment. You may be required to attend classes as an outcome of your AWSP diagnostic, but these are separate to the LEADS for Students classes, which are open to all students. You can attend these classes regardless of your AWSP outcome.