Welcome to our Taught Postgraduates

www.facebook.com/MSkills
www.st-andrews.ac.uk/pgstudents/academic/advice/mskills/
www.facebook.com/pgsoc
Dr Monique L Mackenzie
Assistant Vice-Principal (Provost)

Welcome to your new home!

• Committed to all postgraduate students
• Director of the Graduate School for Interdisciplinary studies
• Head of St Leonard’s College – your community
The world needs you - now more than ever

Education brings people together

We need highly trained people to look at complex issues with specific questions

You are not an irrelevant elite
The world needs you - now more than ever

A masters degree differentiates you

The world is becoming more complex, we need to understand a greater range of issues
Transition to postgraduate training, closer to research

Independent learning is never comfortable:

**Taking responsibility for your own learning in terms of self-organisation, motivation, location and acquisition of knowledge**

Independent learning and research is not an arcane hobby, it effects people’s lives

We are lucky enough to work with people with ideas.
St Leonard’s College

Grab this opportunity

You are a member of St Leonard’s College
- News and Events
- Social functions

Postgraduate Society
- Academic Representation
- Welfare and Support
- Events and Social Activities
- Get Involved
Pro Dean of Taught Postgraduates

Professor Sibylle Scheipers

prodean-pgt@st-andrews.ac.uk
Pro-Dean role

- Curriculum
- Policy
- Student cases
- Consultation with PGT students
- Consultation with Schools
- Quality assurance
What is a Masters?
The skills of...

- Undergraduate Degree
  - 4 years
- PhD
  - 3-6 years
- MSc./MLitt.
  - 1 year
PGT demographics at St Andrews

• Diversity in terms of
  - Nationality
  - Age
  - Educational and career background
Joint aim:
Common PGT challenges

• Achieving ‘mastersness’
• The transition from taught elements to independent research
• Short time frame
• Career plans?

=> The paradox of the Masters degree: broadening your skill set while deepening your expertise
Am I doing it right?
Common resources

• Your fellow students
  ⇒ Diversity
• Your advisers and programme directors
  ⇒ Experience
• The wider university support community: CAPOD, Student Services, Careers Services, the Chaplaincy, the Student Association
  ⇒ Professionalism
What is a Masters?

Meet your fellow Masters students

Answer these two questions (10 minutes):

• What do you want to achieve this year?
• What are you most concerned about?

Student ambassadors will assist!
Step 2

• Student ambassadors will distribute clickers
• Vote for the ambition/concern you’d like to focus on.
What would you most like to achieve this year?

A. Get to know the town
B. Getting a Masters!
C. Building relationships
D. Getting to know the subject better
E. Increase employability
F. Have a well-rounded experience
What is your greatest concern?

A. Needing to hit the ground running/ time management
B. Lack of contact with academics
C. Studying in different language
D. Getting used to a new place
E. Finding a job at the end whilst studying
F. Failure
G. Switching University systems
• PGT Pro-dean
• Library
• International Education
• Careers

• Chaplain
• PG Society
• Student Services
• CAPOD
MSkills Workshops 2019/2020

Join us for interactive workshops that will support key points in your Masters programme.

Critical Thinking
Thursday 26th September
This workshop will identify key critical engagement within academic work, and explore how you can apply critical values to your reading, writing and academic practice.

Successful Revision for PGT Exams
Tuesday 19th November
This short workshop examines cognitive science research to highlight the most effective learning strategies for PGT exams.

Kick-Start Your Dissertation
Tuesday 2nd June
This workshop aims to get you started by breaking down the Dissertation process into achievable tasks. We will look at developing a research strategy, project and time management and writing workshops.

Dissertation Boot Camp
Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd July or Thursday 16th and Friday 17th July
Dissertation Boot Camp is an intensive 2-day event focused on generative writing. Dedicated solely to getting words down on paper (or a computer screen), this program is designed to help Masters students over that writing hurdle, or to kick-start their writing progress.

Check the CAOD web pages for more opportunities:

- Online study guides
- Professional Skills Curriculum with over 100 online and in person workshops
- Bookable 1:1 study skills appointments

For more information and to book go to the MSkills St Andrews webpages or on PDMS.
PG Society Events

- **Monday 9th September** – Drinks Social – *Beacon Bar, Students Union, 7-9pm*
- **Tuesday 10th September** – PG Postgraduate Safari – *Main bar, Students Union, 2-5pm*
- **Thursday 12th September** – PG Picnic & Academic Family Event – *Botanic Garden, 12-2pm*
- **Friday 13th September** – Meet the PG Society Social – *The Byre Theatre, 7-10pm*
- **Sunday 15th September** – Pier Walk – *St. Andrews Pier, Noon*
- **Sunday 15th September** – DRA Drinks – *David Russell Apartments, 7-9pm*

Facebook page: [http://www.facebook.com/pgsoc](http://www.facebook.com/pgsoc)
Facebook group: [http://www.facebook.com/groups/pgsoc](http://www.facebook.com/groups/pgsoc)
Instagram: @Postgrads_Of_StAndrews
Coming to St Andrews for the 1st time!

Captivating talks... Scintillating images...

POWERED BY

PechaKucha

20 x 20

Images, Seconds

PechaKucha.org

DEvised & Shared BY
Klein Dytham Architecture

15 October / 6.30 – 10 pm
Parliament Hall, St Andrews

Email for more info: pechakucha@st-andrews.ac.uk
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Please continue now with informal networking and refreshments in the adjoining room