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THE OVERDRESSED ARCHEOLOGIST

In this mini-workshop I will share tips & tricks to help (R)MA-students through the thesis-writing process. The focus will be on very practical advice regarding how to do this, tricks to help make it easier, and tips on how to prepare for and endure this process. I will also offer some pointers for how to potentially turn their thesis research into a published article and some practical advice on writing in English.

I will be drawing both on my own experiences from my studies and PhD, as well as my experiences with publishing my own work and my work as a professional editor and publisher. I find that a very loose and casual atmosphere works best for this, and I will be encouraging participants to ask questions and find the fun in this part of obtaining your degree, which we all know can be quite hellish.

I propose to spend the allotted 45 minutes of the workshop as follows:

- 1) Introduction: 5 min
- 2) Setting up your thesis: 10 min
- 3) Writing your thesis & prepping it for submittal: 10 min
- 4) Turning your thesis into a publication: 10 min
- 5) Questions & targeted advice: 10 min

During the introduction (1) I will both introduce myself, and ask the audience where in the thesis-writing process they are so that I can fine-tune the provided information to their needs. I will then spend roughly 10 minutes on the process of setting up a thesis (2), followed by advice on how to (3) write and prep a thesis for submittal. This portion will also include some targeted advice regarding writing in English and editing a manuscript. In conclusion I will give a (brief) overview of some of the options for publishing (4) their thesis-research, and some tips on how to prepare a manuscript for publication. This will of necessity not be a complete overview of all publishing options they could use, and will instead therefore focus more on how to select parts of their thesis which could work as a separate article, and how to prepare a manuscript. At the end there will be 10 mins for questions and advice (5).

In short, the workshop proposed would strive to help students through the thesis-writing portion of their degree, and to provide insights into writing in English and the editing of manuscripts – skills which will help any academic or archeologist in the long run as well.

With kind regards,

Sasja van der Vaart-Verschoof