Birkbeck
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

RELEVANT DATES FOR THE 2012/13:

RESEARCH PROJECT
(60 CAS CREDITS)

&

LITERATURE REVIEW
(30 CAS CREDITS)

FOR THE

GRADUATE DIPLOMA
ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION
(CAS STUDENTS)

Research Project (60 CATS)

- You must produce a **400 word outline** of your Research Project, including a provisional title, background and context, as well as indicative research methods.
- The deadline for submission of the outline (by email to e.peters@bbk.ac.uk) is **6pm. on Wednesday 25th April, 2012.** Indicate clearly on the outline that you wish to submit a Research Project and NOT a Literature Review.
- **You will be allocated a supervisor in May 2012.** You may have up to one meeting with your supervisor during the summer term to discuss your Research Project outline. This meeting will be approximately 30 minutes duration. Please prepare for this and subsequent meetings with your supervisor by having an idea of the questions you wish your supervisor to consider.
- If you are unable to produce a suitable idea that can be taken forward as a project you may revert to a Literature Review on a suitable topic.
- To continue with the project you must submit a detailed **Research Project Proposal Form by Monday 9th July 2012.**
- After that you should start your project with a view to having made substantial progress by **1st October 2012**, i.e. the start of the academic year in which you intend to finalise (2012-13). If you have not made adequate progress on the project by the start of the academic year, your supervisor may suggest that you transfer onto the Literature Review.
- Final module choice must be made by **Wednesday 26th September 2012.** You must ensure that you include the Research Project AND also that you have enough CATS points to finalise.
- You may have two further meetings with your supervisor during the 2012-13 academic year, again of approximately 30 minutes duration.
- You may provide your supervisor with a contents page and one draft chapter to look over and provide feedback during the autumn or spring terms.
- **The deadline for submission of the 8,000 word Research Project is Monday 8th April 2013.**

Literature Review (30 CATS)

- You are required to submit a **250 word outline** of your Literature Review.
- Deadline for submission of the outline (by email to e.peters@bbk.ac.uk) is **6pm. on Wednesday 25th April 2012.** Indicate clearly on the outline that you wish to submit a Literature Review and NOT a Research Project.
- Your outline will be checked by the Dissertation Co-ordinator. Once it has been approved by the Dissertation Co-ordinator, you can start working on the Literature Review.
- **You will NOT be allocated a supervisor** if you are undertaking a Literature Review, unlike the Research Project.
- A meeting with GEDS academic staff will take place in **June 2012** to consider issues around producing a good Literature Review.
- Final module choice must be made by **Wednesday 26th September 2012.** You must ensure that you include the Literature Review AND that you have enough CATS points to finalise.
- You are required to submit an **updated 500 word Literature Review outline plus a bibliography of 10-15 references** (books, journal articles, edited book chapters) which are relevant to your Literature Review. The deadline for submission of the outline and bibliography is **6pm. on Monday 8th October 2012.**
- A workshop will be held in **November 2012** at which GEDS academic staff will meet with students to discuss their outlines and bibliographies.
- A final workshop will be held in **January 2013** at which students will meet with GEDS academic staff to discuss any outstanding queries.
- **The deadline for submission of the 8,000 word Literature Review is Monday 8th April 2013.**

Term dates for academic year 2012/13

Autumn term	Monday 1 October to Friday 14 December 2012
Christmas closure	There will be no teaching and most services will be unavailable from 5pm, Friday 22 December 2012, re-opening at 9am on Wednesday, 2 January 2013
Spring term	Monday 7 January to Friday 22 March 2013
Easter closure	There will be no teaching and most services will be unavailable from 6pm, Wednesday 27 March 2013 to Tuesday, 2 April 2013. Normal services will resume from 9am on Wednesday, 3 April 2013
Summer term	Monday 22 April to Friday 5 July 2013