

MSc Digital Transformation for the Health and Care Professions

Residential Weekend



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

200
1822 - 2022

Man Geni Addysg Uwch yng Nghymru
Where Higher Education Began in Wales

Workshop

Exchanging experiences: Student learning and expectations

Aims of this workshop

- To encourage Peer Learning, whereby students to learn from, and with each other, by:
 - Reflecting upon upcoming challenges and experiences...
 - Exploring hopes and concerns
 - Sharing experiences
 - Providing an Open forum for discussion

Looking Ahead

Anticipations and Hopes:

- What are you most looking forward to this year?
- Specific modules or projects catching your eye?
- Got any personal targets or milestones you're aiming for?
- Any lessons you have learned you want to put into action this year?

Apprehensions:

- Any parts of the course seem a bit daunting right now?
- Any challenges you think might pop up?

Seeking Advice:

- What would you really like to hear about from the Year 3s?
- Are there areas, based on what you've heard or seen, where you'd appreciate some insider tips?

Year 3 Dissertation Topic Insights

Research Focus:

- What is the core type of research you are planning to undertake:
- Evaluation: Are you assessing or measuring the effectiveness, outcomes, or benefits of a particular aspect?
- Exploration: Are you investigating unknown areas, seeking to uncover new insights or understanding?
- Development: Are you designing, creating, or enhancing a tool, method, or concept?

Choosing a Topic:

- Factors that influenced your choice: Industry trends? A personal experience? An identified gap?
- Potential pitfalls or challenges in topic selection and how to navigate them

Inspirations & Drivers:

- The backstory: Was there a eureka moment? A mentor's guidance? A compelling article or paper?

The Benefits of Early Dissertation Topic Selection

Focused Planning:

- By starting early, you outline a clear path for your dissertation. It provides structure, ensuring you navigate through both academic and work pressures with greater ease.

Thorough Research:

- More time equates to deeper exploration. This allows for a richer understanding of your topic and flexibility to adjust if needed.

Access to Resources:

- Being proactive can lead to essential research materials being available to you. Think of it as securing the tools to craft your best work.

Benefit of Feedback:

- Starting sooner offers opportunities for regular insights. This iterative process helps fine-tune your dissertation, making it as strong as possible.

Work and Study Balance:

- With an early start, you can better weave together your professional and academic pursuits, ensuring neither gets overshadowed.

The Challenges of Early Dissertation Topic Selection

Commitment Anxiety:

- Choosing a topic early might feel like locking into a commitment prematurely. You might wonder if you've made the right choice or if something more fitting might come along later.

Evolving Interests:

- As you continue your coursework, your academic interests could evolve. An early topic choice might feel restrictive if your passions shift midway.

Limited Exposure:

- Picking a topic at an early stage might mean making a decision with limited exposure to all potential subjects or areas of study. Later modules or readings might introduce concepts that resonate more.

Overthinking and Second-Guessing:

- With more time on hand, there's a possibility of overanalysing your topic or second-guessing its relevance and scope. This could lead to unnecessary stress and uncertainty.

Closing Thoughts

- Everything you feel is completely natural
- Don't compare yourself to others
- Rely on each other, your tutors and supervisors for help

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!