**Teaching and Learning Centre podcasts: the DISSERTATION SERIES**

**Making the most of your resources – KEY POINTS**

**Working with your supervisor**

* Communicate clearly with your supervisor about how you will work together – how many meetings can you expect to have? when? How should you communicate - by e-mail? In person only? via telephone or video chat? Will you have group supervision sessions?
* Make a plan for every meeting; let you supervisor know what you’d like to focus on; and keep a record of decisions. At the beginning of each meeting, remind your supervisor of decisions from the last meeting and your progress since then.
* Accept feedback and criticism in a constructive way. Signalling potential problems can be some of the most helpful forms of support! Be sure you understand how to address any potential weakness or problems your supervisor raises.

**Other sources of support**

* For support with finding literature, data, archives, etc. and guidance on citation, referencing and managing your references, see your department’s Academic support librarians, library.enquiries@lse.ac.uk.
* To review your writing and discussing how you go about writing, make an appointment with the Royal Literary Fund Fellows (at the TLC), studentsupport@lse.ac.uk.
* For general advice on research or writing, book a meeting with one of the TLC study advisers, studentsupport@lse.ac.uk.
* For specific questions about quantitative or qualitative research methods, visit the walk-in Methods Surgery, on Thursdays. Visit the Department of Methodology webpage for more information.

**Time management and planning**

* Be aware that supervision and study support is generally available ONLY DURING TERM TIME! Plan your dissertation work so that you can arrange meetings with your supervisor and others before the breaks begin.
* Draw up an overall research plan, complete with a detailed list of all your tasks and how much time you have to do them. Discuss your plan with your supervisor to help ensure that you have realistically judged what is involved in your research and how long it will take.