



University
of Glasgow

SLD Doors Open Day programme

Tue 14 May 2024, 10:30 - 15:20
for all staff who teach or support teaching



RSVP at www.gla.ac.uk/SLD

Who are SLD?

Student Learning Development, or SLD (*formerly LEADS for Students*) is a team of 19 permanent staff and 40+ GTAs who teach, advise students and staff, develop resources, consult on UofG policy, and generally work to enhance student learning in numerous significant ways across the institution.

Our team are recruited on the basis of research background and relevant professional experience, and we regularly publish in our respective fields.

What do we do?

Teach on almost all UG and PGT programmes across all our campuses	Provide year-round academic skills and maths/stats one-to-one appointments for all UG and PGTs	Run the UK's largest academic writing / academic research / academic integrity course , with c. 13k students per academic year
Teach year-round open classes on key elements of academic literacies, academic writing, maths and stats, and academic success	Create, build, and develop suites of online, asynchronous / anytime resources for students	Run the University's pre-entry course, T2G: Transition to Glasgow , for incoming undergraduate students
Run the University's multidisciplinary UG research conference, Let's Talk About [X] , and research journal, [X]position	Publish research and scholarship into the practice(s) of Learning Development , student engagement, and promoting student success	Provide peer learning, peer mentoring and peer support opportunities across all Colleges / levels
Provide a range of methodology and dissertation writing courses	Act as the central, compulsory referral point for student academic misconduct cases	Run a range of pre-entry and transitions / induction activity (including Glasgow Essentials)



Join us for coffee and cake

We're excited to announce a Doors-Open-Day for all staff who contribute to teaching across the institution.

There'll be a relaxed atmosphere where you can **browse the range of student-facing materials we produce**, including significant online resources, with **coffee, pastries and muffins** available throughout the day.

You'll get to **meet and chat with the SLD team**, who will be on hand to showcase the innovative teaching strategies used across our suite of open classes, which any of your students are welcome to attend.

10:00 - 15:30, McMillan Reading Room
with short talks next door in the Fraser Building

Dr Andrew Struan
Head of Student Learning Development
andrew.struan@glasgow.ac.uk

 **RSVP at www.gla.ac.uk/SLD**

Programme at a glance...

Time	McMillan Reading Room	Fraser Building 402	Fraser Building 403
10:30	Doors stay open all day Come and chat to the team!	Doors open in McMillan Reading Room with tea & coffee in Fraser Building - Level 4	
11:00		SLD overview *	
11:20		Artificial Intelligence: central student guidance *	Info session: SLD for International students *
11:40		Case study: Integrating SLD into CoSE teaching	Session demo: Being critical in the Social Sciences
12:00		Mind the Gap: Helping students with maths and numeracy	Introducing induction & transitions in SLD
12:20		UG research: Let's Talk About [X] / [X]position *	T2G: Transition to Glasgow *
12:40		Doors open in McMillan Reading Room with tea, coffee and muffins in Room 305	
13:00		Meet the team and follow up on how we can work with your students	
13:20		SLD overview *	Peer Learning at UofG: A Summary
13:40		Session demo: Planning and structuring essays in MVLS	Session demo: Critical analysis in Arts & Humanities
14:00		Tailoring stats content for in-course, open, or pre-sessional	Maths anxiety: What is it, and how can we help?
14:20		Info session: SLD for International students *	T2G: Transition to Glasgow *
14:40		The Academic Writing Skills Programme (AWSP)	UG research: Let's Talk About [X] / [X]position *
15:00		Artificial Intelligence: central student guidance *	

Session key

SLD overall / projects

International Team

Inductions & Transitions Team

Maths Adviser

Stats Adviser

Peer Learning Facilitator

College Effective Learning Advisers

* = repeated

Overall SLD work and projects

The Academic Writing Skills Programme (AWSP)

14:40, Fraser Building 402

Dr Andrew Struan

Head of Student Learning Development

andrew.struan@glasgow.ac.uk

SLD runs the largest compulsory writing/research course in the UK: the AWSP. All UG and PGT students are enrolled onto and must complete AWSP. The course is fully asynchronous, with flexible deadlines, and covers key elements of: academic language, academic research, and academic integrity.

We'll discuss the aims of the course and how we teach students these key skills.

You should come if: *you teach incoming UG / PGT students and want to know more about the compulsory course they're all required to take.*

UG research platforms: Let's Talk About [X] and [X]position

11:40, Fraser Building 402

14:40, Fraser Building 403

Caitlin Diver

Dr Rosalind McKenna

Amber Hinde

Dr Mona O'Brien

Dr Aleix Tura Vecino

Dr James Rowe

[X] initiative team

talkaboutx@glasgow.ac.uk

Let's Talk About [X] and [X]position are the University's multidisciplinary undergraduate research conference, and journal, respectively. Initially conceived such that the [X] stands as a placeholder for the student's individual research topic, the underlying spirit is communication of a range of complex topics in ways that are accessible to a wide range of non-specialists.

You should come if: *you supervise undergraduate research projects and want to be able to recommend another route to dissemination for their work, and the support and training they'd get to tell their message to a non-specialist audience.*



Overall SLD work and projects



SLD produces the central student guidance on the use of AI within studies, research and writing.

We'll cover how we produced the guidance, our work with students in developing the information, and what we can teach students around the ethical use of AI in studies.

You should come if: *you want to hear about central policy, likely upcoming developments, and ways to discuss appropriate use of AI with your students.*

T2G is the award-winning pre-entry course offered to all undergraduate students joining us.

We'll discuss the course structure and aims, alongside key findings from student voice at this key transition stage.

You should come if: *you want to discuss what academic literacies, skills and abilities students need to be prepared for as they join university study in the UK.*

Artificial Intelligence: Central student guidance

11:20, Fraser Building 402

15:00, Fraser Building 402

Dr Andrew Struan

Head of Student Learning Development

andrew.struan@glasgow.ac.uk

Dr Scott Ramsay

Deputy Head of Student Learning Development (Sciences, Maths & Stats team)

scott.ramsay.2@glasgow.ac.uk

T2G: Transition to Glasgow

12:20, Fraser Building 403

14:20, Fraser Building 403

Dr Andrew Struan

Head of Student Learning Development

andrew.struan@glasgow.ac.uk

Induction & Transitions

Introducing Induction & Transitions in SLD

12:00, Fraser Building 403

Dr Stuart Purcell

Induction & Transitions Manager

stuart.purcell@glasgow.ac.uk

Lucy McCormick

Dr Clare Brown

Induction & Transitions Advisers

lucy.mccormick@glasgow.ac.uk

clare.brown@glasgow.ac.uk

Strong induction and transitions provision continues to be a focus for colleagues across the University as we adapt to an increasingly diverse student body. This session introduces SLD's newly-established Induction & Transitions team and outlines their key projects for 2024-25 and beyond, followed by a chance to share priorities, challenges and best practice in induction and transitions, and to discuss how we can work together to facilitate effective transitions for your students.

You should come if: *you are keen to work on additional induction and transitions projects, both with us and in collaboration with colleagues across the institution.*



International-specific: Effective Learning Advisers for International Students

SLD for international students provides a wide range of sessions, advice, and resources to support our international community at UofG.

This session will cover the different facets of how we engage students and what the international team offer, from building students' understanding of academic expectations at UofG to enhancing key skills like reading, criticality and more.

You should come if: *if you want to understand what support is available for international students at UofG, and if you want to develop specific resource for those in your courses.*

Info session: SLD for International Students

11:20, Fraser Building 403

14:20, Fraser Building 402

Dr Mona O'Brien

Amber Hinde

*Effective Learning Advisers for
International Students*

mona.obrien@glasgow.ac.uk

amber.hinde@glasgow.ac.uk



Maths Adviser

Mind the Gap: Helping students with maths and numeracy

12:00, Fraser Building 402

Dr Jenny August

Maths Adviser

jenny.august@glasgow.ac.uk

Many of the students who approach us struggle purely because of a gap that they didn't know existed in their mathematical education, and which they don't know how to fill.

This session will discuss how we help these students through our appointments, diagnostic tests and refresher sessions, including an activity based around one of the most common gaps we see: how to connect equations and graphs.

You should come if: *you have students who need some level of maths, but it's not core to their degree - so they might not have taken it to a high level before (or have had time to forget what they knew!)*

Maths Anxiety: What is it, and how can we help?

14:00, Fraser Building 403

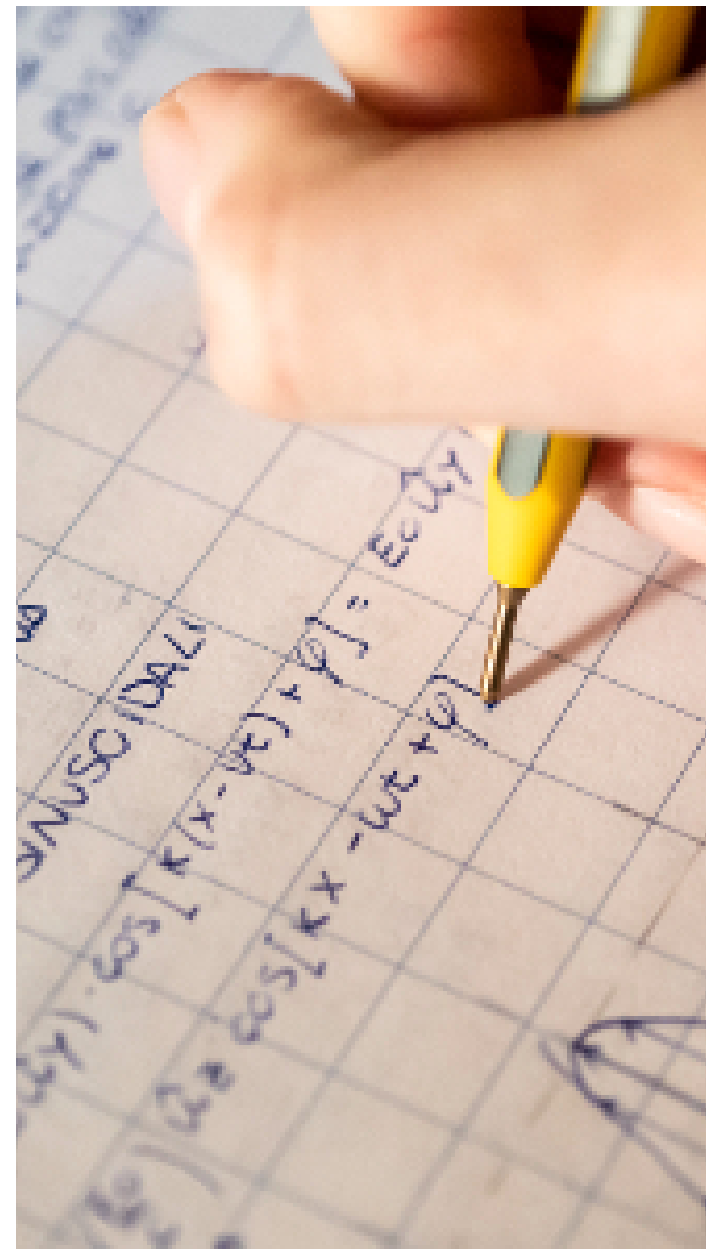
Dr Jenny August

Maths Adviser

jenny.august@glasgow.ac.uk

Defined as "a feeling of tension and anxiety that interferes with the manipulation of numbers and the solving of mathematical problems", maths anxiety has been shown to be a widespread phenomenon. This session aims to raise awareness of this issue, which affects students of all mathematical abilities, and to explain some of the tools and techniques we can use to help students overcome these feelings.

You should come if: *you have students who probably don't use maths often, and want to know what's available to help them overcome initial worries.*



Statistics Adviser



Several Schools have approached SLD and asked if we would be able to fill in the gaps in students' statistical knowledge.

We'll give examples of how we adapt and match stats lessons to suit the content, level and aims of your course.

Such examples include biology (in-course sessions), accounting & finance (pre-sessional material), archeology (in-course lectures), and intercalating medical students (workshops).

You should come if: *you think your students would benefit from improving their data analysis skills.*

These could be anything from the most basic operations like calculating various types of averages, to being comfortable with complex statistical models for postgraduate research.

**Tailoring New Stats Teaching for Students on Your Modules:
in-course, open,
or pre-sessional**

14:00, Fraser Building 402

Dr George Vazanellis

Statistics Adviser

george.vazanellis@glasgow.ac.uk

Peer Learning

Peer Learning at UofG: A summary

13:20, Fraser Building 403

Bob Imbur

Peer Learning Facilitator

robert.imbur@glasgow.ac.uk

Becoming experienced collaborators and reflective learners are two of ten points in UofG's core list of ten Graduate Attributes.

This presentation provides an overview of the activities of the Peer Learning team, including Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) sessions, mentor/buddy schemes, opportunities for curricular embedding of peer-enabled pedagogy, and the introduction of a new Peer Academic Writing Tutorial Service targeting first- and second-year students.

You'll also learn about SLD's opportunities and incentives for training students as peer leaders and mentors.

You should come if: *you're curious how students are being encouraged and trained to set up and run their own student-student networks in a way that supports them in enhancing their performance.*



College-specific: CoSS and Arts & Humanities Effective Learning Advisers

Being able to critically analyse and write about both text and non-text sources is a core skill in the Arts & Humanities.

This interactive event will offer examples of activities that develop critical writing and analysis across disciplines, using multiple types of sources such as texts, music, film, artifacts, and artwork.

You should come if: *you work in Arts & Humanities and want to discuss developing sessions for your students around criticality.*

Being critical is one of the key skills that students at the UofG in general, and in CoSS in particular, need to foster in order to succeed in their degrees. Despite its centrality, the skill is often not well understood by students. This event will demonstrate the ways in which we introduce students to the basics of being critical, and explore how criticality may manifest in different forms of assessment.

You should come if: *you work in the Social Sciences and want to discuss creating sessions for your students to develop their critical skills in discussion and in writing.*

Session demo: Critical analysis in the Arts & Humanities

13:40, Fraser Building 403

Dr Robyne Calvert

*Effective Learning Adviser for the
College of Arts & Humanities*

robayne.calvert@glasgow.ac.uk

Session demo: Being critical in the Social Sciences

11:40, Fraser Building 403

Dr Aleix Tura-Vecino

*Effective Learning Adviser for the
College of Social Sciences*

aleix.turavecino@glasgow.ac.uk

College-specific: MVLS and CoSE Effective Learning Advisers

Session demo: Planning and structuring essays in MVLS

13:40, Fraser Building 402

Dr Rosalind McKenna

Effective Learning Adviser for the College of MVLS

rosalind.mckenna@glasgow.ac.uk

Students across all schools in MVLS are required to plan and structure academic writing, commonly in the form of essays. However, students at all levels of study often report difficulties in organising their ideas, evidence, and arguments. This event will include an example interactive activity delivered across several cohorts in MVLS to encourage careful consideration when planning an essay and develop understanding of how to structure writing clearly and concisely.

You should come if: *you work in the sciences and want to discuss tailoring a writing session for your students around an assignment, a module, a course ILO etc. in your field.*

Case study: Integrating SLD into CoSE Teaching

11:40, Fraser Building 402

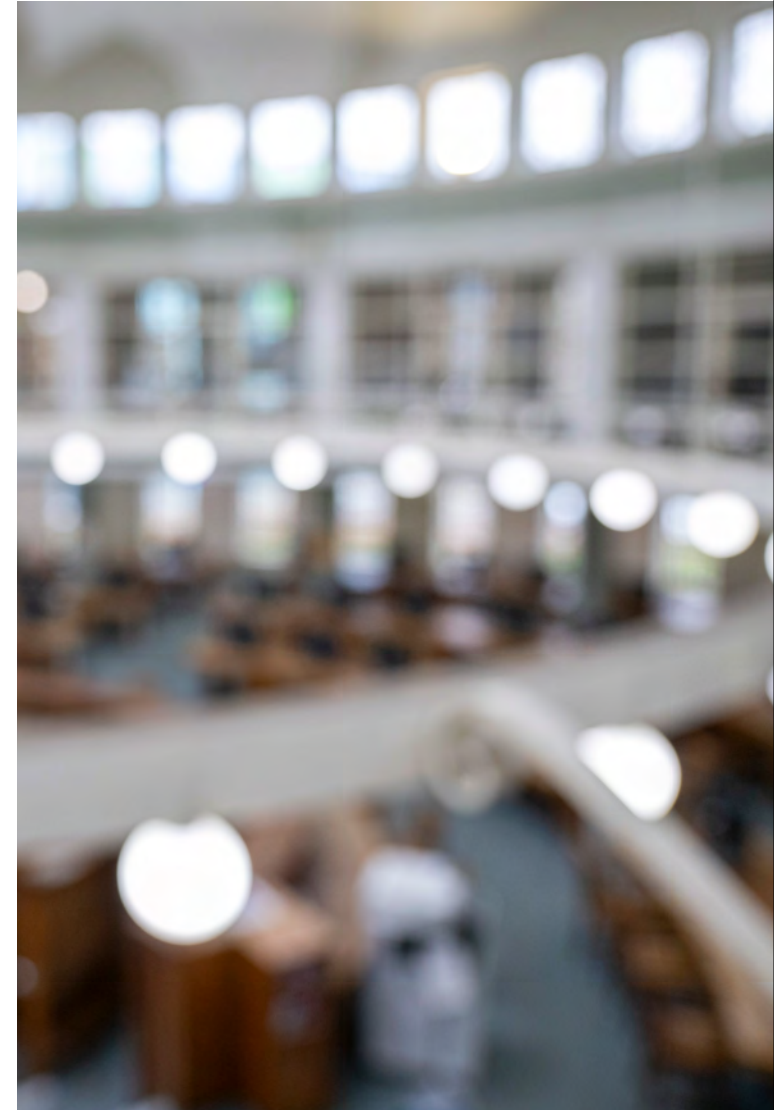
Dr James Rowe

Effective Learning Adviser for the College of Science & Engineering

james.rowe@glasgow.ac.uk

Building SLD-based teaching activities into school specific teaching is an excellent way to develop students academic literacies. In this course we will go through one of our large-scale developments embedded into Geography 1, explaining the development process and the iterative and collaborative nature of our work.

You should come if: *you work in the sciences and want to learn more about the most successful integrations between SLD and existing subject courses.*



Developing Your Students in Partnership With SLD

Our large team consists of:

- **six Effective Learning Advisers** (one per College plus two dedicated International Advisers)
- **Maths Adviser**
- **Stats Adviser**
- **Peer Learning Facilitator**
- **Inductions & Transitions Team**
- **Digital Learning Technologist**
- **two Royal Literary Fund Fellows**
- **40+ graduate teaching assistants**

We can therefore work with you on every aspect of your students' academic development.

We offer in-course lectures, optional classes, drop-ins, credit-bearing courses, pre-sessional courses, and 1:1 appointments.

Classes are recorded and supplemented with a wide range of further readings, quizzes and discussion on Moodle.

Work is under way to build MOOCs and microcredentials.



Contact us to find out more, or RSVP to attend Doors Open Day:

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/SLD>

