

The Graduate School's Blog – Some Guidelines

The Graduate School's blog is an open forum and an excellent opportunity for students to share their experiences with the rest of the College and externally. Blogs can cover a wide variety of topics; for instance, previous student bloggers have showcased their cohort building activities and how they have made use of the research community fund, they have shared their experience of international Global Fellows Programmes, cross-department , networking events and public engagement projects they have been involved in.

Blogs should also be visually impactful so have a think about photos you can add to the blog or any other appropriate graphics and images.

The Graduate School's blog can be viewed here:

<https://wwwf.imperial.ac.uk/blog/icpostgrad/>

If you are interested in writing for the blog, please contact

graduate.school@imperial.ac.uk

As a blogger, you are free to write in the way that you wish. However, the below template may be helpful to you in structuring your post. Whilst there is no formal word limit, ideally blogs should be around 500 words long.

Title of Blog
Try to make this as concise as possible; the title needs to encapsulate the content of the blog and capture the readers' attention. Using pronouns is a good way to make the blog relatable and human. For example – ' <i>my</i> time at the Global Summer School', or ' <i>our</i> experience at the Chemistry conference'.
Introduction (approximately 100-150 words)
This should introduce who the blogger is and what they are writing about. Remember that the blog has an audience from across the College and externally. The purpose of the blog is to share information on a specific subject/activity, and the opening of the post should explain precisely what it is about. For example, Centre for Environmental Studies PhD student Daniel Hdidouan introduced the Environmental and Sustainability Mixer in the following way: 'The second annual Environmental and Sustainability Mixer took place on Wednesday 27th of September. The mixer is a cross-departmental initiative, the aim of which is to encourage the postgraduate research student community working in environmental and sustainability research to get to know each other. It was a fantastic event which saw high turnout for the social; students enjoyed pizzas and drinks in the Physics common room on Level 8 of the Blackett Building.' A picture of who you are or what you are writing about would also be an excellent way to accompany your introduction.

Main body of text (approximately 200-300 words) – think on an engaging sub-title to break up the text

With the topic of the blog introduced, you should now go into more detail about the subject of your writing. Detailing the purpose and benefits of the subject but also your personal experiences in being involved with it is an excellent way to inform and engage the reader. For example, you could use this section to give a breakdown of the activities involved, or a detailed explanation of the aims/point of the collaboration.

Several pictures of activities/locations etc. would be ideal here.

Conclusions/outcomes (approximately 150-200) – again, think of an engaging title for your conclusion

This should summarise your blog. Think about what was achieved as part of the subject as a whole, but also what you personally learned and experienced being involved with it. You could also include learning points, what went well, advice for other students thinking about taking forward similar projects. If you are happy for other students to get in touch with you, include your email address.