

Be prepared, not (too) scared! How sociology graduate students can slay the conference thing

Webinar 5 with Dr. Mervyn Horgan

Insights in preparing for and participating in sociology conferences.

CONFERENCE ELEMENTS

1. Attend presentations
2. Present your work
3. Other formal involvement: research clusters, session chairing, & discussant
4. Informal involvement: networking & food/functions

A BASIC PRESENTATION STRUCTURE

1. Opening puzzle/tension - <1 min
2. Scene setting: overview, background & justification - 2 to 3 mins
3. Research question(s) - 1 min
4. Research design and methods - 2 min
5. Findings - 5 to 7 mins
6. Implications/new directions - 1 to 2 mins

To access the webinar recording, please visit:

www.csa-scs.ca/student-webinar-series

KEY INSIGHTS

- **Nervousness** is often an indicator that you care about something
- Do what you need to feel **prepared** (e.g. make a script, draft questions, etc.)
- Be **generous** in your participation (e.g. attend other presentations, ask questions, etc.)
- People are generally **delighted** to talk to you about their work and responsive to cold calls
- When presenting and designing your slides, your audience is the people at the **back of the room**

“Remember that ultimately, we’re here to learn about one another’s work. So hopefully we can have some fun doing that.”

The **Student Webinar Series** is brought to you by the Canadian Sociological Association Student Concerns Subcommittee (CSA-SCS).

