

Where to go for assistance

Multiple resources are available to help you with posters, presentations, and written documents during your studies at Virginia Tech. The following courses provide guidance to support development of research concepts:

CNST 5944: Construction Research Topics Seminar (fall semester) - this one credit seminar course provides an overview of current research topics being undertaken by faculty in the MLSoC.

CNST 5944: Construction Practice Seminar (fall semester) - this one credit seminar course introduces students to approaches for identifying industry challenges that can benefit from research, and guides students in learning to summarize and present their ideas in writing

CNST 5084: Methods in Construction Research (spring semester) - this three credit course guides students through the process of finalizing a research topic, conducting a literature/state of practice review, articulating research questions, designing a research study, selecting appropriate research methods, and preparing the written proposal.

CNST 5424: Construction Research Presentation - taken in the final semester of study, this one credit course helps students prepare to present their research orally and in poster form.

Dr. Josh Iorio (iorio@vt.edu), Assistant Director of the MLSoC, leads the one credit seminar series and can recommend university resources for help in communicating research. His expertise includes knowledge in the domains of linguistics, communications, and cultural processes.

Dr. Annie Pearce (apearce@vt.edu), Graduate Chair of the Department of Building Construction, leads the Methods in Construction Research Course and can provide assistance with the research process, relevant procedural requirements, study design, and committee formation. She can recommend university resources for help in designing your study, collecting and analyzing your data, and summarizing your results.

The Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Statistical Analysis (LISA) (<http://www.lisa.stat.vt.edu>) provides free help for student researchers in designing experiments, analyzing and plotting data, running statistical software, interpreting results, and communicating findings of qualitative studies. Their statistical collaborators are available for scheduled meetings and walk-in consulting, and short courses on specific methods and topics are available throughout the school year.

The Virginia Tech Writing Center (<http://www.composition.english.vt.edu/writing-center/>) is a free service located in Newman Library that can provide assistance with reading and writing assignments and projects on a walk-in or appointment basis. The center also provides training and facilitation on how to form writing support groups for help in writing your thesis, dissertation, journal articles, or other written products.

The Virginia Tech Institutional Review Board (<http://www.irb.vt.edu>) provides training and support for conducting research involving human subjects. Their online training is required for anyone submitting a research protocol for review and approval by the university.

Ms. Leslie Matthews (lesliem2@vt.edu) is the Art & Architecture Librarian for the university. Located in the Art & Architecture Library in Cowgill Hall, Ms. Matthews can help you find publications and information resources to support your literature review and research

investigation. She can also suggest possible journals where you may consider publishing your work.

Ms. Melissa Lohrey (mlohrey@vt.edu) is a Repository Collections Specialist who can help you archive your intellectual products in VTechWorks, Virginia Tech's Google Scholar-indexed electronic repository. Work such as reports, papers, presentations, and other intellectual products not restricted by publisher copyright can be archived in VTechWorks and are accessible and easily found by anyone searching for scholarly works in Google Scholar.

The Virginia Tech Electronic Thesis & Dissertations (ETD) process (<http://etd.vt.edu>) is used to archive your electronic thesis or dissertation and make it available for worldwide search and access. All theses and dissertations must be submitted using this process after they have been defended and approved by your advisory committee.