

CONTENTS

<i>List of figures</i>	vii
<i>List of tables</i>	viii
<i>List of boxes</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	x
1 Starting out	1
PART I Preparation	13
2 Some basics about dissertations	15
3 Selecting a topic	24
4 What's been done before? Working on your literature review	37
5 Methods and data: some early considerations	52
PART II Proposal	69
6 Formulating your research proposal	71
7 Developing your research programme	89
8 Your personal safety	107
9 Ethical considerations	118
PART III Production	133
10 Obtaining and acting on advice	135
11 Directing your data collection	144
12 Analyzing your data	162
13 Structuring your dissertation	181

PART IV Post-production	197
14 Before you submit: some final considerations	199
15 Just when you think it's all over . . .	213
<i>References</i>	223
<i>Index</i>	229

Authorised by the Taylor & Francis Group, an Intertec business

Coauthors: David Timothy Duval and Gareth Shaw

Copyright of Tim Coles, David Timothy Duval and Gareth Shaw to be identified

as author of this work has been asserted by them in accordance with

sections 77 and 78 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or reproduced or utilised

in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or other means, now known or

later, including photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval

system, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

Trademarks and registered products are used only for identification and do not imply

endorsement or approval by the publisher.

Images are used only for identification and do not imply endorsement or approval

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication Data

Coles, Tim.

Student's guide to writing research proposals and dissertations. Includes bibliography.

1. Thesis--Study and teaching--Textbooks. 2. Dissertations, academic--Textbooks.

I. Coles, Tim. II. Duval, David Timothy. III. Shaw, Gareth. IV. Title.

LB1631 .C63 1997

371.01--dc22

ISBN 0 7500 0879 0

ISBN 0 7500 0878 2 (pbk)

ISBN 0 7500 0877 4 (hbk)

ISBN 0 7500 0876 6 (pbk)

ISBN 0 7500 0875 8 (hbk)

ISBN 0 7500 0874 0 (pbk)

ISBN 0 7500 0873 2 (hbk)

Typeset in Times New Roman and Amabile Gothic

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK

Printed in Great Britain by Florence Production Ltd, St Leonards, Devon, UK