

Special Workshop on

Writing and Publishing Books

Thursday, February 22, 2018
MPIWG Villa, Seminar Room

11:00–12:30

Journalist-in-Residence Seminar

Olivia Judson: Becoming Popular—The How and Why of Writing Books for the General Public

What are the steps in publishing a book for a general audience, and why bother anyway? In this mini-workshop, the current Journalist-in-Residence, award-winning writer Olivia Judson, will discuss the challenges of popular writing, from whether (and how) to hire a literary agent to book topics, titles, structures, and word choices. Olivia will use examples from her own work and the work of others, and attendees are invited (but not required!) to bring their ambitions of popularity with them.

13:30–15:00

Tacit Knowledge Workshop

Preparing a Book Proposal

The aim of this session is to have a conversation about this critical step—submitting a book proposal—in the working practice of historians. All members of the Institute are welcome to join—from early-career researchers facing their first book proposal to senior scholars who have successfully taken this hurdle many times. We will ask experienced scholars to share their insights, both as applying authors and as selecting editors.