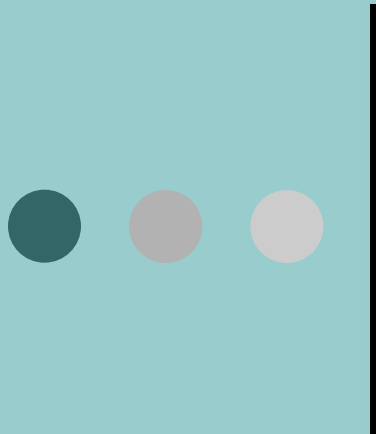




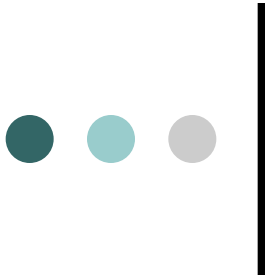
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Risk Assessment for Fieldwork; Summary 15 March 2016

*Will Hudson, Deputy Director
Occupational Health & Safety Service*

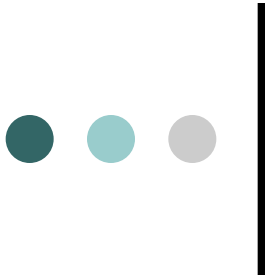


Definition of fieldwork

“Any work carried out by staff, researchers or students for the purposes of teaching, learning, research or other activities while representing the University off site”



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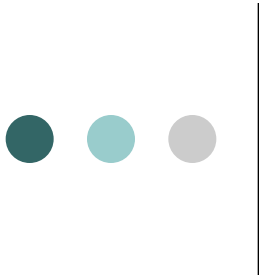
- 
- This definition includes activities such as attendance at conferences, undertaking social science interviews as well as fieldwork involving hazardous activities and locations
 - Much fieldwork defined above is often carried out by individuals travelling and working alone





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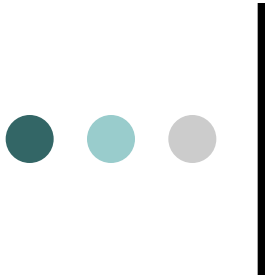


What is risk assessment and who should do it?

- A careful examination of what in your fieldwork project could cause harm yourself or the people you are working with
- Understanding if you are creating a risk you are in the best place to complete the risk assessment



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Planning and preparation...1

- Identify the hazards and risks associated with the location, activities and the environment
- Do you have any known medical conditions ?
- Arrange for suitable immunisations and anti-malarials well in advance of the trip
- Suitable first aid kit
- FCO “*Know before you go campaign*”
- Contact details





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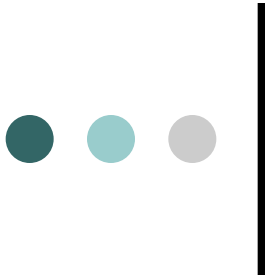
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Some of the common hazards you need to consider

- Driving
- Slips and trips
- Lone working
- The type of fieldwork
- Changing weather conditions
- Political instability
- Manual handling
- Working in a remote part of the world
- Personal safety
- Living alone as a single female





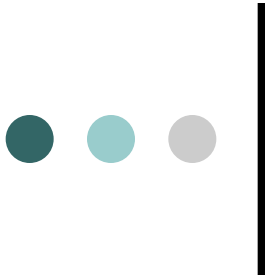
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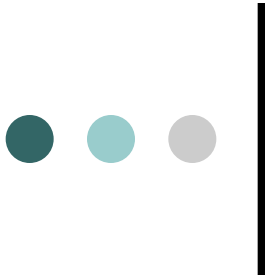


British Standard BS8848 2014

- Specification for the provision of visits, fieldwork, expeditions and adventurous activities outside the UK
- Can be used as a benchmark for existing safety management procedures
- Includes University and Academic fieldwork



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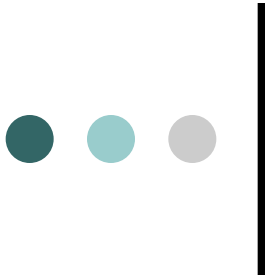
University and College Employers Association (UCEA)

Guidance on Health and Safety in
field work

“Provides a framework for establishing
policies and procedures that enable
staff, students and other participants
in HEI’s to undertake fieldwork safely”



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Social Research Association

Code of Practice for the Safety of Social Researcher

- Relevant to working in unfamiliar environments
- www.the-sra.org.uk



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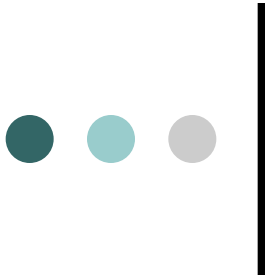
Geological Fieldwork Code

Geologists Association

Sets out very clear points for safe working in the field



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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

- Know Before You Go Campaign
- www.fco.gov.uk
- Up to date information on all countries and regions



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‘Oxford handbook of Expedition and
Wilderness Medicine
ISBN 978-0-19-968841-8’



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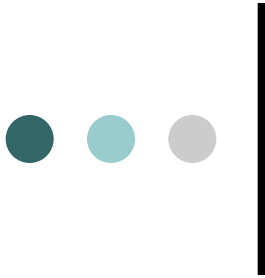
British Mountaineering Council

Safety on Mountains



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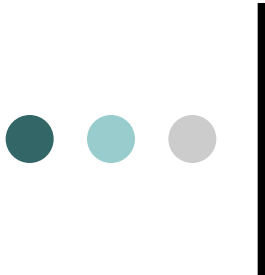


The law does not expect you to eliminate all risks and the University is certainly not risk averse

- Carry out the risk assessment with minimum fuss
- Health and Safety Office here to assist and support you
- Talk to your colleagues



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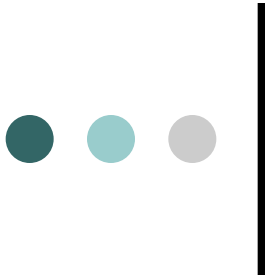


Case Study 1

Palaeoanthropological investigation in
North Kenya – Leverhulme Centre for
Human Evolutionary Studies



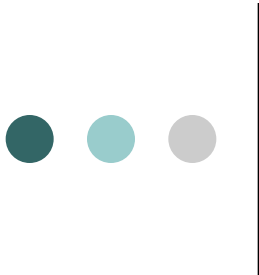
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Planning, Risk Assessment and Management...1

- Adequate supervision
- Relevant training
- All fieldworkers must be adequately prepared
- Communication must be considered
- Accidents and incidents are reported and investigated





Planning Risk Assessment and Management...2

Help to consider 3 types of risk when planning fieldwork

- Universal risks
- Generic risks
- Specific risks



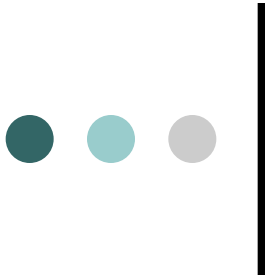
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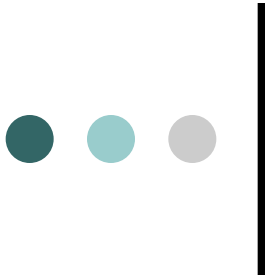


Workshop

- Monitoring of jackdaw nest boxes and natural nest holes in the countryside around Madingley Hall – Department of Zoology
- Study of Emerging Market Economies, research into the financial system in China based in Shanghai for 1 year – Department of Land Economy



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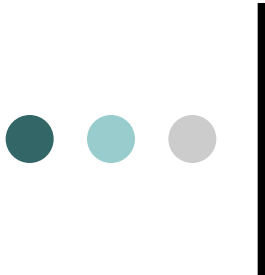


Workshop continued

- Structure, Tectonics and Earthquakes conference in Tehran, Iran – including presentation, teaching and site visits – Department of Earth Sciences
- World Health Organisation conference on Ebola in Freetown, Sierra Leone including visit to survivors project and clinical trial laboratories – Department of Veterinary Medicine



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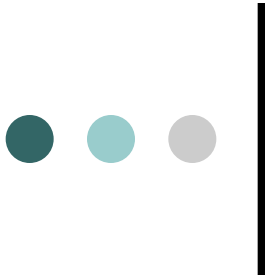


First Aid

- Everyone should have a minimum knowledge of emergency first aid
- Suitable first aid kit for the work and environment
- Personal first aid kit
- Report all accidents
- Emergency procedures



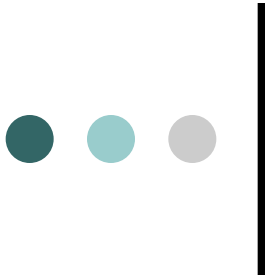
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Health and Fitness

- Participants must be asked to declare whether they knowingly have any disability or medical condition such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy etc
- This may compromise their health and safety or that of others
- Occupational Health
- Strenuous activities





Health Education

Particular attention should be given to

- Environmental hazards
- Avoidance of food poisoning
- Insect, plant and animal hazards
- Personal hygiene



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