



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



INSTITUTE FOR
**ACADEMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

Postgraduate Researchers 23/24

Transferable skills, professional and personal
development training and support





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Welcome

Welcome to the 2023/2024 Institute for Academic Development (IAD) brochure for postgraduate researchers. This brochure is intended for all postgraduate researchers, specifically doctoral researchers, masters by research and professional doctorate students at the University of Edinburgh and details the range of provision on offer from the IAD.

Developing a range of personal and professional transferable skills is now widely recognised as a key element of the postgraduate research experience. The IAD offers a comprehensive programme of workshops, activities and courses designed to equip you with relevant skills to help you to get started, prepare for key milestones, and complete your research degree, as well as with skills which can be transferred to future employment.

The IAD programme is designed to complement School and College level support and is delivered by expert trainers. The focus is on providing interactive, practical and relevant support and this is delivered in a range of ways, from short workshop sessions to longer courses and through face to face and online delivery. As well as learning from the tutors, our workshops also provide opportunities to meet and share experiences with other research students.

We encourage you to make the most of the opportunities on offer to you during your research degree, and look forward to welcoming you.



Dr Fiona Philippi



Louise McKay



Dr Anna Pilz

Researcher Development Team
(Doctoral Provision)

Supporting you and your wellbeing

Your supervisory team will meet you regularly to ensure your PhD project is on track and to identify and tackle problems as they arise. In the same way, the University has a range of services and resources to help you recognise when issues are troubling you and affecting your wellbeing. The IAD's role is to support you in developing the skills you will need to succeed in research, but when you attend our workshops and events you can also meet other researchers and share perspectives from them about your concerns and successes.

We are continuing to develop a range of online resources, so you can access development opportunities flexibly.

There's no shame or stigma in admitting that you need help during your research degree. If you ask for help early, there's more time to work with you to find the right support for your needs. Schools and institutes support wellbeing in many different ways – coffee mornings, pastoral tutors, mentoring or student-staff committees. The fact these mechanisms are in place demonstrates that we expect you to need, and ask for help during your PhD.

If you need more than peer support, you can and should approach one of the University's support services. The Student Counselling Service supports the mental health of all students, including PhD researchers, through counselling, workshops and referral to other services. The Student Disability and Learning Support Service provides specialist support, advice and guidance on request. The Student Advice Place is the Edinburgh University Students Association's professional advice team. The Chaplaincy offers a wide variety of wellbeing activities, for people of all faiths and none. You can also access support from a range of expert third parties including TogetherAll and the Feeling Good app.

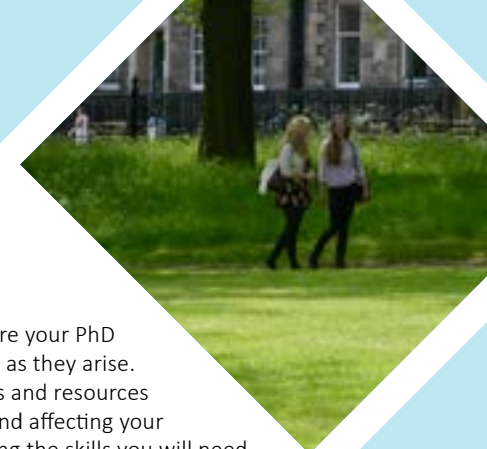
www.ed.ac.uk/counselling-services

www.ed.ac.uk/chaplaincy/mindfulness-and-wellbeing

<https://www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/adviceplace>

www.ed.ac.uk/student-disability-service

www.togetherall.com



How to use this brochure

This brochure is a guide to the core training and support available through the IAD for postgraduate researchers. To make it easier for you to find what you are looking for, we have broken down our core programme of workshops into themes: Research Planning and Management, Communication and Impact, Writing and Publishing, Digital and Library Skills, Personal Effectiveness and Public Engagement. Each workshop has a short description, and you can find out about suitability and an indication of how frequently it is run through the academic year on our webpages.

We have also mapped all our training to the Researcher Development Framework (RDF).

Please note that the programme is subject to possible change throughout the year, the most up to date information (including dates, full descriptions and booking information) can be found here:

www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/postgraduate/doctoral/courses/course-list



How do I know what training I need?

We recognise that each researcher has a set of unique development needs and recommend that you consider the following:

1. Reflect on your current skills to identify your strengths and areas where you feel there are gaps. The RDF can be used for this purpose.
2. Speak to your supervisor about your training needs.
3. Speak to other researchers, to share advice and recommendations about training.
4. Check what your School/College provides in terms of support and training.
5. Look at the IAD web pages, read our monthly newsletter and follow our blog.

Bookings and Cancellations

Booking: To book any of our workshops please visit our webpage:

www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/postgraduate/doctoral/courses/course-list

where you will find a list of all workshops on offer and a link to book a place. Workshops generally open for booking one month in advance of the shown date. If you do not see a live booking link, please check back nearer the workshop date.

Waiting lists: If the workshop is full please add yourself to the waiting list, if we see there is a high demand for a workshop we will aim to add additional workshops based on waiting list numbers.

Cancelling: If you need to cancel your booking, please do so at your earliest opportunity and at least 3 days before the event. Someone else may be able to take your place, but we need time to contact them. Also, although you are not charged for an event, there are costs we incur (e.g. administration costs, tutor fees and catering) which relate directly to places reserved.

How to cancel: You can cancel your booking via the MyEd Event Booking Channel. Go to MyEd and then the Event Booking Channel. Click on "My Bookings" - here you will have the option to cancel your place.

Attendance: We maintain attendance registers; unexpected absences will be noted. If you consistently fail to attend, or repeatedly cancel with very short notice, you may be prevented from booking future IAD events.

PGR Roadmap

This road map is designed to help you plan your development through your time as a postgraduate researcher. This is indicative only and you should always take time to reflect and plan your own personal development and discuss this with your supervisor.

STARTING OUT

Starting out is exciting, but can be daunting as there seems to be so much to do!

Consider the following

- Understand your expectations, those of your supervisor and of the institution. Look at the Code of Practice for Supervisors and Research Students, read information available through your School and College, speak to your supervisor.
- Understand the milestones– what are you working towards and make a plan. Remember to include time to relax and do activities outside your research.
- Start your networks with peers and other researchers. Find out what is available and attend relevant events.
- Take time to ensure you are confident with the basics, eg. do you know how to use the library? Do you know about reference managers?
- Breathe! Think of the first stage as a starting point in a much bigger project – you are not expected to have all the answers from day one!

Some skills to focus on

- Project planning and management
- Time management
- Library skills – finding literature, managing references etc.
- Language and writing skills
- Understanding ethics and integrity

Some recommended workshops

Getting Started with Postgraduate Research, How to be an Effective Researcher, Seven Secrets of a Highly Successful Research Student, Project Management, Good Practice in Research Data Management, Time Management and Speed Reading

MID-STAGE

Take time to reflect, review your progress and start to look forward to life after your degree. If you are finding this period tough, try not to worry. Speak to others and identify ways to ensure you have a good work/life balance.

Some things to consider

- Review your research plan. Ensure it is still current.
- Focus on writing. Writing is hard work and requires commitment. Identify ways in which you can prioritise writing time. Experiment with different approaches to find ones which suit you.
- Reflect on the achievements you have made and how far you have come. Examine your skills, what have you developed and what do you want to develop now?
- Focus on communication skills. Find out about ways to communicate your research and build on your networking skills.
- Think about what next – do some career planning.

Some recommended workshops

Presenting Skills, Effective Writing, Second year PhD Skills, How to Edit your Work

FINAL STAGES

The end is in sight, although the writing up stage can seem to drag on! Make sure you know what is expected from you in terms of thesis formatting, submission and examination procedures and regulations.

Some things to consider

- If you are still finding it difficult to get into a regular writing habit, attend a writing retreat.
- Ensure you know the standards required for your thesis. Become an expert proof reader!
- Prepare as best you can for the viva examination.
- Continue to build a plan for your career post-degree.
- Although this can be a stressful time, do still plan for breaks and taking time out for yourself.

Some recommended workshops

Thesis Writing Bootcamp: Planning, Finishing and Avoiding Pitfalls
Final Year Focus
Thesis Submitted, What Next?
Viva Survivor

Researcher Development Framework (RDF)

The Researcher Development Framework (RDF) was developed by Vitae (www.vitae.ac.uk) as a tool to assist researchers in identifying and planning their professional and personal skills development. It is a comprehensive framework made up of 4 main domains:

Domain A: Knowledge and Intellectual Abilities

Domain B: Personal Effectiveness

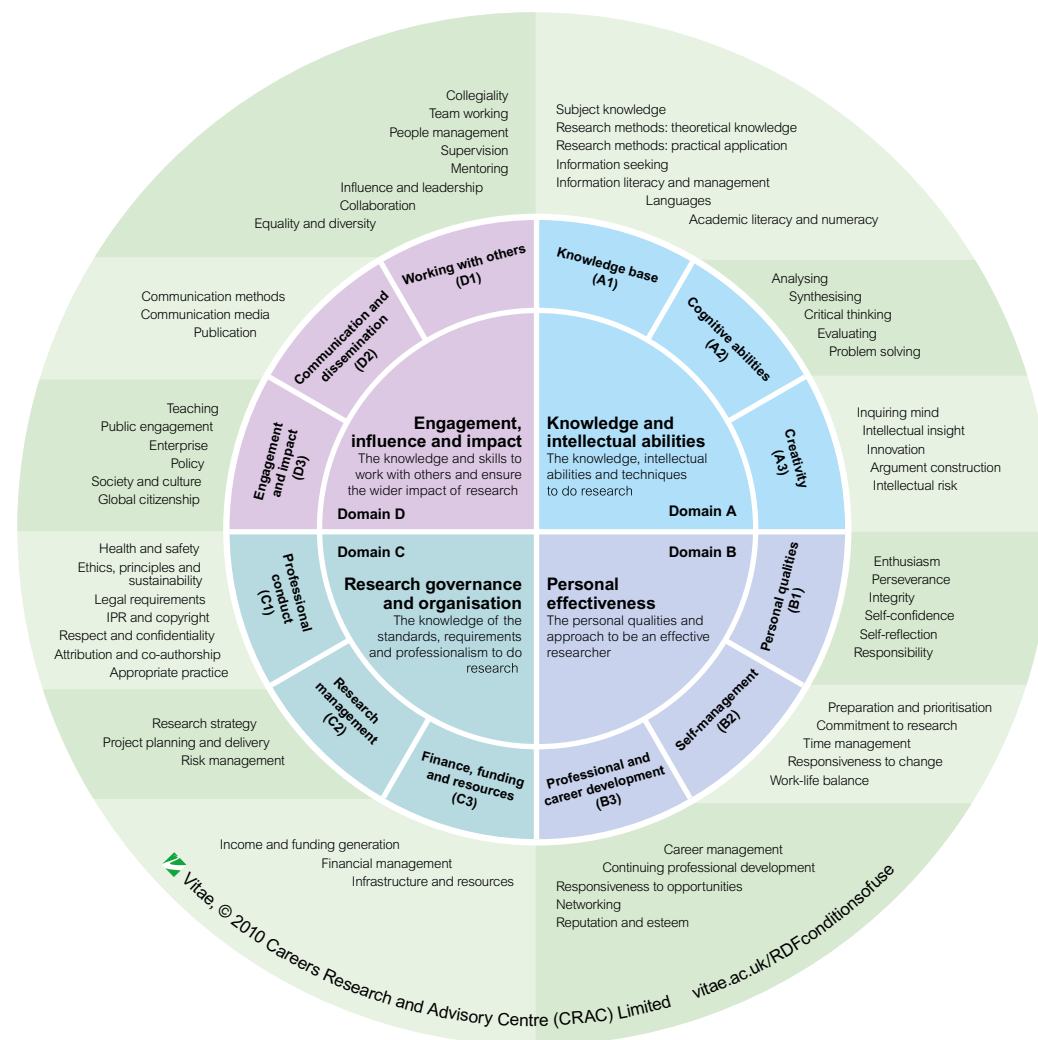
Domain C: Research Governance and Organisation

Domain D: Engagement, Influence and Impact

These domains are further categorised into 12 sub-domains and for each there are 5 stages of development.

There are many different ways in which researchers can make use of the RDF. One of these is to start by doing a skills audit to identify present and desired competence and confidence levels in a particular skill area. As a researcher you are likely to have a wide range of skills which may have been acquired through past studies, work or other experience. It is important to recognise these and to reflect on how these can be refined and developed. Equally, you may have gaps in your knowledge or experience of a particular skill area, and the RDF can help you to recognise these. One way to develop skills is to undertake training in a certain area.

Find out more about the RDF here - <https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/postgraduate/doctoral/advice-support/vitae>



The following workshops make up our core programme (open to all postgraduate researchers), we also support many Schools in a range of other ways including: induction sessions, managing your PhD, preparing for first year review, PhD Thesis Workshops and viva preparation sessions. For information on these please check our webpages and with your School.

Please note that all workshops are subject to change throughout the academic year. Full descriptions, learning objectives and links to booking for each of our workshops are available on the IAD website at:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/postgraduate/doctoral/courses>



Find out what support is available from your College by contacting the College Postgraduate Office:

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences: hsspg@ed.ac.uk

College of Science and Engineering: pgrcse@ed.ac.uk

College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine: mvmppg@ed.ac.uk



Research Planning and Management Workshops



Managing Your Research Project

This workshop focuses on the project management of research projects, covering topics such as high-level planning, prioritising, and monitoring the progress of your projects.

How to Organise your Stuff

This workshop focuses on top tips on how to organise your drafts, reading materials, notes etc and introduces you to tools and systems that will save you time.

Second Year PhD Skills

This workshop focuses on the skills you need as you enter the middle stages of your PhD, including starting to develop your thesis.

Realising the Benefits of Good Research Data Management

This workshop explores key data management topics including day to day management, planning, back up and security.

Final Year Focus

This session is for those approaching the end of their PhD and will look at tools and processes to help with the final year of your PhD.

Writing a Research Data Management Plan for your Research

This practical workshop will explain the components of a good data management plan.

Viva Survivor

This workshop covers preparation for the viva, sources of support, practical strategies and discusses common viva questions.

For 2nd and 3rd year PhD Students

Research Planning and Management Workshops

How to Develop a Research Strategy

This workshop focuses on practical approaches to align your research activities with your career plans to enable you to invest your energies with purpose.

How to Plan your PhD Backwards

This workshop introduces you to three key tools that enable you to plan your PhD journey backwards, keeping the big picture in mind and taking into account the knowns and unknowns of the PhD journey.

How to grow your Research Network

This workshop outlines practical approaches to developing your research network.

How to Find Funding

This workshop introduces you to the UK funding landscape and what types of funding can support your research and professional development activities.

Applying for Funding 101

This workshop offers an introduction to the essentials of a compelling funding application

7 Reasons you'll pass your Viva

This workshop will offer advice on ways you can prepare for the viva.

Thesis Submitted - What Next?

This workshop offers you the opportunity to reflect and take stock at this transition in your career journey, equipping you with the tools to prioritise and draw up your next action points.

Communication and Impact

How to get the most out of your first Conference

This session offers top tips on preparing for your first conference; networking strategies; and understanding the benefits of conferences for your professional and project development

Promoting yourself and your Research

This workshop will cover strategies for developing a communication strategy, pitching your message to your audience, how to make it accessible without dumbing down, dealing with media and using new media and much more.

BANish Big Audience Nervousness

This workshop focuses on tips and techniques to deal with nerves when presenting in front of a large audience.

Presenting for the Terrified

This workshop focuses on tips and techniques to help conquer the fear of speaking in public.

Presenting your Research with Confidence

This workshop will provide a clear step by step structure that you can use to give a high quality presentation.

Presenting your Research Virtually - Best Practice for Online (and Live) Presenting

This workshop will cover tips and techniques for giving an effective online presentation.

Question Time - Handling Questions at a conference presentation

This workshop will cover tips and techniques when answering questions after giving a research presentation.

Communication and Impact

Pitch Perfect: Public Speaking, Networking and Engaging

This workshop will focus on verbal skills and communication, focusing on techniques for presentation delivery, pitching research, networking and handling questions.

Communicating the Impact of your Research

This workshop will cover strategies for developing a communication strategy to effectively communicate your research and its impact.

Good Feedback: Asking for it, getting it and responding to it

This workshop will look at asking more specific questions and being clear about the type of feedback you want.

How to Connect

This workshop enables you to identify ways to connect with the wider research community and to build a network that will benefit your research project and your professional development.

Figures, Images and Visualising Information for Research

This workshop is designed to introduce participants to various types of visual formats including standard graphs, information visualisations and graphics for publication.

Research Posters – an Engaging Graphical Research Story

This workshop examines the features of good poster design, looking at the relative importance of pictures versus words, and will equip the participants to play an active role in the design of their future conference posters.

Handling Presentation Difficulties

This workshop will cover tips and tricks for dealing with the presentation stumbling blocks that you can't control, such as difficult questions.

Writing and Publishing

The Writing Process: Getting Started

This workshop focuses on the early stages of the writing process: getting started, generating material, structuring a text and developing a first draft.

Is My Writing 'Academic' Enough?

This workshop will look at academic conventions in terms of writing style, organisation, and linguistic and stylistic choices.

How to Develop and Argument and Structure

This workshop provides a practical overview of the core components of an engaging and coherent argument.

How to get Published

This workshop provides some guidance and advice on targeting your research to academic and non-academic audiences with a strategy.

How to Edit your Work

This session equips you with editing strategies that enable you to foreground the argument, revise the structure, strengthen paragraphs and cut text

Text: Coherence, Structure and Argumentation

This workshop focuses on improving writing skills, including ordering sentences and paragraphs, signposting, and developing arguments.

Academic Writer - The Creative Writer

This workshop explores some of the creative writer's toolkit through short writing exercises that initially take us outside the realm of academic writing, and eventually back into it.

Beating Writer's Block

This workshop focuses on writer's block and strategies to overcome it.



Writing and Publishing

An Introduction to Copyright and Publishing

This workshop provides an overview on the fundamentals of copyright as it applies to PhD students in terms of writing the PhD thesis and associated publications.

Academic publishing between Copyright, Creative Commons and Open Access

This workshop provides an overview of academic publishing, copyright, creative commons and open access as it applies to PhD students in terms of writing the PhD thesis and associated publications.

Writing Clinic Day

During hands-on sessions, you can try out editing strategies that will improve your writing in terms of clarity, structure and argument.

Be a Better Writer

This workshop will look at habits, tools and strategies for effective writing.

This is what I do... and this is why it matters

This workshop explains how to capture what your research is about in an engaging way, so that it makes sense to others who might not share your background.

Writing a Literature Review

This workshop will focus on practical strategies for writing a literature review, including selecting source material, effective reading methods, note taking and structuring a review.

Writing for Publication

This workshop aims to provide advice and information on the publication process, looking at publication strategies, revising material, preparing manuscripts, targeting journals, working with editors, and the review process.

Writing Freely: Blogging About Your Research

This workshop explores what blogging can add to your academic practice and how to use it to support your research.

Writing Well: Language and Style

The workshop focuses on key features and stylistic aspects of both academic and creative writing.

Writing and Publishing

Thesis Writing Bootcamp: Planning, Finishing and Avoiding Pitfalls

This workshop will explore the practicalities of thesis writing, including planning techniques, appropriate writing style and how to make writing more productive.

How to Write an Abstract

This workshop focuses on the wide-ranging value of developing your abstract writing skills by identifying the function and audiences of abstracts as well as key components of an effective abstract.

Critical Thinking Workshop

This workshop we identify how critical engagement with your research manifests in your reading and your writing, and how you can apply critical values to your dissertation.

Collaborative Writing and Publishing

This workshop will explore both the benefits and potential pitfalls of writing in collaboration with others.

Writing your First Papers for Journals

This workshop is designed for 2nd and 3rd year PhD students who have results ready to write up as manuscripts for journals.



Digital and Library Skills

Searching Research Literature and Managing Bibliographies

This workshop covers the information research process and developing good practice in literature searching, focusing on complex search strategies, complex search tools and appropriate referencing systems.

Citing sources and creating bibliographies with Mendeley

This session is intended for students who would like to get help or advice for using Mendeley to keep a database of literature sources and create reference lists easily in essays and other written work.

Finding Academic Literature

This workshop provides an introduction to resources and databases available to research students when searching for academic literature.

Social Media: Sharing, Connecting and Building an Audience

This workshop outlines key strategies for developing an online presence and boosting career prospects through the use of social media tools.

Citing sources and creating bibliographies with Endnote

This workshop will provide advice on using Endnote to keep a database of literature sources and creating reference lists easily in essays and other written work.

Using social media - managing your online identity

This short information session will focus on the importance of managing your digital footprint (online identity)

Citing sources and creating bibliographies with Zotero

This session is intended for students who would like to get help or advice for using Zotero to keep a database of literature sources and create reference lists easily in essays and other written work

Personal Effectiveness

Creating Effective Collaboration

This workshop is an opportunity for participants to recognise their skillset, explore what makes collaborations work and identify their own collaboration goals.

Creative Problem Solving for Researchers

This workshop is designed to explore a range of methods for problem solving, and discusses how to apply and implement creative techniques to real problems experienced by researchers.

Imposter Syndrome: Why Successful People Often Feel Like Frauds

This workshop explains why high performing people often doubt their abilities and find it hard to enjoy their successes. It shows the links to perfectionism and self-handicapping strategies such as procrastination, avoidance and over commitment.

Speed Reading

This workshop provides you with the tools to help you read academic literature more quickly, strategically and critically.

How to be An Effective Researcher

This workshop focuses on practical ways to increase your effectiveness as a researcher, covering project planning, working practices, working with others, receiving feedback and planning for the future.

For First and Second year PhD Students

Survive and Thrive as a Part Time Researcher

This session will take a questioning, coaching and supportive approach to the challenges of working part time for a doctorate.



Personal Effectiveness

Conference and Events Organising

This workshop is designed for those interested in planning their own events, workshops and conferences. It covers topics such as planning, event structure, marketing, sponsorship, and post-event actions.

Staying Well and Being Productive during your PhD

This workshop will discuss dealing with isolation, staying motivated and keeping focussed during your PhD.

Team Building and Leadership Fundamentals

This workshop aims to help you understand how to be part of an effective team and enhance your leadership skills.

How to Manage your Time

This session introduces you to strategies to set realistic goals and make time visible, enabling you to develop a schedule so you can clock off with a sense of achievement.

How to Read with Purpose

This session introduces you to a strategic approach to your reading by enabling you to identify what you're reading for.

How to Cope with Imposter Syndrome

This workshop looks at the reasons why successful people can feel 'like a fraud' and introduces strategies to learn to accept that you deserve to be where you are.

How to work with Supervisors Effectively

This session offers top tips and practical ways of working effectively with your supervisor(s) that benefit both your project and your professional development.

Improve Productivity - Reduce Stress

This workshop looks at time management and approaches to organisation that help reduce overall stress.



Personal Effectiveness

Seven Secrets of a Highly Successful Research Student

This workshop looks at the evidence-based key habits that will make a difference to how quickly and easily you complete your PhD. Topics include dealing with your supervisor, time management, writer's block, getting the help you need and motivating yourself.

Simply Assertive

This workshop focuses on techniques for building self confidence in dealing with difficult situations in a clear and assertive manner.

Managing Your Work - Working with other People

This workshop will develop your unique team working skills by helping you to focus first on how you like to work and then how to use this knowledge to co-operate and co-work with other professional people.

Working productively at a distance – working with your supervisor and time management

This workshop is for PhD students working remotely and will look at effective ways to manage your time and the relationship with your supervisor.

Think Strategically and Respond Rapidly

This workshop focuses on responding quickly to opportunities as they arise, such as last minute conference invitations, grant announcements and journal calls.

Managing Your Work, Yourself and Your Goals

This workshop looks at different time management and goal setting models.

The Inner Game - Exploring Stress, Balance, Resilience and Self-Belief

This workshop will help participants recognise and pre-emptively manage the things that stress them and look at how to manage this in a positive way.

Public Engagement

Storytelling Techniques for Effective Communication

This workshop is an introduction to using storytelling techniques for effective research communication.

Voice and Presentation Skills Workshop

This workshop will promote and enhance an awareness of what makes your voice interesting and sustainable and will focus on how you deliver a presentation.

Advanced Presentation Skills Masterclass

In this practical and interactive session, you will have the opportunity to deliver a pre-prepared presentation in a relaxed and supportive environment. You'll then review it, deconstruct it and identify opportunities for improvement

How to Design a Public or Stakeholder Engagement Process

This workshop will offer strategies to design public engagement activities where everyone is engaged and comes away with something useful.

An Introduction to Public Engagement with Research

This workshop provides an introduction to the ways you can engage the public with your research.

Facilitation Skills for Public Engagement

This workshop looks at ways of improving the communication and inter-personal skills needed to facilitate well.

Creating Impactful Public Engagement

This workshop introduces a flexible approach to planning engagement activities with focus on the outcomes.

Communications Toolkit for a Public Audience

This workshop is ideal for researchers who would like to improve their research communication skills and are new to engaging members of the public with their research.

Online Courses and Resources

We are continually increasing the online support and training we offer postgraduate researchers, please check our webpages for the most up to date information.

Developing Digital Skills

The University aspires to be a fully digital organisation where all staff and students regularly plan and update their digital skills.

The development of digital skills is underpinned by the Digital Skills Framework - a tool to help you evaluate your current levels of digital capability, reflect on development needs, plan a development path and find resources to help develop your digital skills.

See www.digitalskills.ed.ac.uk

Digital Research Services help you discover resources for data-intensive or computational projects at the University of Edinburgh. Their website provides a single-point of access to available tools, training and events. You can also get in touch with the Research Facilitators for tailored support and advice. www.digitalresearchservices.ed.ac.uk

You can attend classroom-based training through the Digital Skills Programme which offers some research-focussed workshops plus many other courses to develop a broader range of digital skills. See www.ed.ac.uk/is/skills

LinkedIn Learning is an online skills development service offering an extensive library of high quality video courses in digital, technology, creative and business skills. You have free access to the service as University staff and students. See www.ed.ac.uk/is/linkedinlearning

Online Courses and Resources

Getting Started with Postgraduate Research

Getting Started with Postgraduate Research is a 3-week, interactive course for all postgraduate researchers at the University of Edinburgh. Starting a postgraduate research degree is a very exciting time, but it can also be difficult to know where to start. This course aims to help you settle in by sharing essential information, tips and advice and giving you an opportunity to interact with other students at the same stage. Find out more here:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/postgraduate/doctoral/courses/getting-started-postgraduate-research>

Global Research, Ethics and Integrity:

The Global Research Ethics and Integrity online course is a joint project of members of Universitas 21, which seeks to engage postgraduate students in considerations of ethical issues in a global context. To find out more, visit:

<https://greim.iad.ed.ac.uk/>

Research Ethics and Integrity

Research ethics and integrity underpins excellent research, and is at the heart of what constitutes good research practice. It means conducting research in such a way that allows others to have confidence and trust in the methods and the findings of the research, leading to improved research quality. All researchers share the responsibility with their institutions to uphold research ethics and integrity, and it is important to educate yourself on your responsibilities and best practice in order to enhance your research.

For more information on training, guidance and support, go to the IAD research ethics and integrity webpages:

www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/postgraduate/doctoral/courses/online-courses/research-ethics

Online Guides

We have a number of online downloadable guides, including: The Writing Process: Getting Started, Designing Effective Slides and Preparing for the Viva. To find out more, visit:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/postgraduate/doctoral/advice-support/online-resources>

Writing Support

In addition to our core programme workshops, additional writing support is also available to researchers

Researcher Writing Hour

A session to provide you with a quiet space and time to work on your chosen writing projects. These sessions take place online.

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/research-roles/writing-support-for-researchers>

Writing Retreats

The aim of a structured writing retreat is to use dedicated writing time to progress writing projects in a supportive environment. Example projects include, book chapters, journal articles, research proposals and reports. These half day sessions are held both online and in person

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/research-roles/writing-support-for-researchers>

Graduate Writing Centre

The department of English Language Education (ELE) offers one-to-one academic writing tutorials for all postgraduate students. These online one-to-one sessions are approximately 45 minutes long and are designed to give you the opportunity to discuss specific areas of academic writing with an English for Academic Purposes expert. For more information see: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/english-language-teaching/in-session-courses/graduate-writing-centre>



WriteFest

Writefest is an annual event, running in November each year, with the aim of bringing people together to raise awareness, support and celebrate academic writing. For more information see:

www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/research-roles/writing-support-for-researchers/writefest





Three Minute Thesis

The Doctoral College

The Doctoral College was founded in January 2020 by the University Executive. Its aim is to provide a coordinating structure, which brings together the Colleges, Graduate Schools, Institutes, Doctoral Training Centres and professional services to ensure the best support and training for all postgraduate researchers and supervisors across the University.

The Doctoral College is neither a Graduate School nor a professional service. It does not take over the day to day administration of PGR degrees. Its key role is to coordinate doctoral education in a horizontal fashion across the University, in order to facilitate communication of opportunities, training and support, sharing of best practice, and to inform policy making as well as supporting quality assurance and enhancement. It reports to the Senate Education Committee, which is the governing body for postgraduate research degrees.

The Doctoral College runs an annual welcome event for new postgraduate researchers and bi-annual PGR Town hall sessions. You can find out more about the Doctoral College on the webpages and the Doctoral College Twitter feed.

Doctoral Webpage – <https://www.ed.ac.uk/doctoral-college>

Twitter - [@UoE_Doc](https://twitter.com/UoE_Doc)

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition is a research communication competition developed by the University of Queensland. The competition requires doctoral researchers to compete to effectively explain their research to a non-specialist audience in three minutes with one slide. The competition enables participants to share their research and develop their presentation skills, as well as competing for a prize fund and the chance to compete in the Universitas 21 and Coimbra competitions.

3MT has been running since 2013 at the University of Edinburgh and is held annually. The competition starts with School Level Heats, which normally take place in March, winners then move on to College Level Heats, normally in April. Three winners from each College then compete in the University final, which takes place in June.

A Three Minute Thesis Information Session runs in November for anyone interested in taking part in the competition. Support is also available to help participants prepare their presentation, including a '3 Minute Thesis Competition Preparation Workshop' and 'Peer Practice Sessions' The University finalists are then offered specialist training in presentation and voice coaching. The final is also live web-streamed and recorded and you can view previous competitions on the IAD webpages

For more information see: www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/postgraduate/doctoral/3mt



Support for Teaching

The IAD supports teaching and marking at all levels across the University, including tutors and demonstrators. We offer orientation courses for new or relatively new teachers, further development courses for more experienced teachers, and support for teaching accreditation.

Tutors and Demonstrators workshops and online resources

These workshops and online resources include Orientation workshops and resources for new or relatively new tutors and demonstrators, who will be teaching soon or who have already started teaching, as well as Enhanced Development workshops and resources for more experienced teachers who are interested in developing their teaching beyond basic orientation

www.ed.ac.uk/iad/tutors-demonstrators

Teaching Accreditation

The IAD have several accredited programmes and routes to gaining teaching accreditation, including the Introduction to Academic Practice (IntroAP), which is aimed at tutors and demonstrators who want to gain accreditation for their teaching experience and become Associate Fellows of the Higher Education Academy (now part of Advance HE). The IntroAP course is for current teaching staff at Edinburgh University who have at least two semesters of recent teaching experience at higher education institutions

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/learning-teaching/staff/tutors-demonstrators/accreditation>

Further Support with Teaching

The IAD provide a range of further resources, workshops and teaching support, and there are videos available explaining what we offer on our webpages

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/learning-teaching/teaching-support>

For further details and to find out more: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/learning-teaching>

To contact us and to find relevant networks: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/learning-teaching/connect>

Other relevant information and resources

Code of Practice

The Code of Practice for Supervisors and Research Students can be found here:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/students/code-of-practice>

PhD Planner

This guide includes quick tips from other doctoral researchers, plus quick checklists suitable to different stages of your PhD:

<https://edin.ac/3qfk9Vt>

Edinburgh Research Office

ERO work alongside researchers to grow ideas into fundable proposals. They also work with research leaders to develop research strategies

Find out more at:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/research-office>

Careers Service

The Careers Service provides support, advice and information on careers and personal development. Find out more at:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/careers/students>

English Language Education

The English Language Education provides a wide range of Academic and Specialist English courses for international students and teachers. Find out more at:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/english-language-teaching>

Information Services

Learning Technology and Research Support. Find out more here:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services>

The Chaplaincy

The Chaplaincy is a safe and welcoming space for people of all faiths and none. More information here:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/chaplaincy>

Edinburgh Innovations

Edinburgh Innovations lead the University's activities in industry engagement and business development, enterprise support and the identification, management and commercialisation of University intellectual property

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/edinburgh-innovations>

Disability and Learning Support Service

DLSS provide study focused support to students with disabilities, mental and physical health issues and those with neurodiverse conditions. Find out more at:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-disability-service>

The Student's Association

Edinburgh University Student Association works to support Postgraduate Students improve their university experience. Find out more at:

<https://www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/activities/postgraduate>

The Advice Place

The Advice Place is a professional, impartial and inclusive service for all students at the University of Edinburgh. Our service is free, independent and confidential. Find out more at:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/students/health-wellbeing/wellbeing-services/theadviceplace>

Edinburgh Global

Edinburgh Global has a comprehensive range of services on offer to postgraduate students through the International Student Advisory Service. Find out more here:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/global>

Sport and Exercise

The University of Edinburgh's sport and exercise facilities are ranked among the very best in the UK. Find out more here:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/sport-exercise>

Student Counselling Service

The Student Counselling Service support the mental health of all students at the University. Find out more at:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-counselling>

Photography

Images → Allan Bovill / Mihaela Bodlovic / Paul Dodds / Guthrie Aerial
Photography

Contact Details

If you would like to find out more about the workshops and resources offered by the IAD, or provide feedback on any of our services please visit our website

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Email: iad.phd@ed.ac.uk

Twitter: [@iad4phd](https://twitter.com/iad4phd)

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