



Doctoral School researcher  
development training



ROYAL  
HOLLOWAY  
UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON

## Introduction

Royal Holloway provides a range of training opportunities to support personal and professional development throughout your time here. As part of our flagship Researcher development programme, you will be supported to enhance your existing skills and develop new ones and developing new skills to help you succeed in your PhD studies and beyond. This includes helping you directly with your PhD, in research methods, and for employability within and outside academia. Our programme includes training offered within your department, across your school, and across the wider College.



# Researcher development programme

To make the most of your research degree studies, you need to develop a range of skills that not only help with the process of completing the PhD, but that will help the development of your future career, in whatever field that may be. Widely applicable skills training is an important part of the process of preparing yourself for future employment and for using the research knowledge and skills you will have acquired for the benefit of society. Employers look for people with skills that can be applied in a work environment and, when they interview you, will ask you about much more than just the details of your research.

The Researcher development programme is a series of workshops to support you with your development of skills for the PhD and your career, and is open to all postgraduate researchers (PGRs). You can book onto all courses though the [Researcher development programme](#) Moodle site.

Course	Type
From surviving to thriving	Skills for PhD
Ethics at Royal Holloway	Skills for PhD
Ethics and data protection	Skills for PhD
Introduction to Epigeum ethics programmes	Skills for PhD
English Language for international doctoral researchers	Skills for PhD
Fundamentals of academic writing	Skills for PhD
Approaching the thesis	Skills for PhD
Writing the literature review	Skills for PhD
Writing strong methodologies	Skills for PhD
Referencing: the next level	Skills for PhD
RefWorks, or how to make referencing easier	Skills for PhD
Referencing tools: Mendeley	Skills for PhD
Alternative guide to funding - how to get funded for your PhD	Skills for PhD
Navigating the upgrade	Skills for PhD
Demystifying the viva	Skills for PhD
Making the most of your supervisor	Skills for PhD
Getting the most from the researcher/supervisor relationship	Skills for PhD
Bullying and harassment	Skills for PhD
Wellbeing during your PhD	Skills for PhD
Research efficiency	Skills for PhD
Research effectiveness	Skills for PhD
Time management	Skills for PhD
Managing your research publications and research data well	Skills for PhD

Course	Type
Library introduction	Research methods
Advanced search techniques	Research methods
Introduction to SPSS	Research methods
MATLAB	Research methods
Introduction to Nvivo – basics and inputting data	Research methods
Nvivo - interpreting and presenting data	Research methods
DataCamp online courses	Research methods
Qualitative methods – interview types and techniques	Research methods
Qualitative methods - focus groups and ethnographies	Research methods
Qualitative methods - lesser-used methods - diaries, photography studies, and analysis techniques	Research methods
How to write a research proposal	Skills for employability
Applying for grants and funding	Skills for employability
Effective presentation skills	Skills for employability
Career and professional development planning	Skills for employability
Applying for jobs: applications and CVs	Skills for employability
Non-academic CVs and interviews	Skills for employability
HE careers outside academia	Skills for employability
Identifying and leveraging your strengths and skills	Skills for employability
From PhD to Postdoc	Skills for employability
The employable PhD	Skills for employability
The entrepreneurial PhD	Skills for employability
Raising your profile online	Skills for employability
Self-employment and freelancing	Skills for employability
Policy and think tank careers	Skills for employability
Arts and humanities alumni evening	Skills for employability
Science and tech alumni evening	Skills for employability
Communicating complex concepts to a non-expert audience	Skills for employability
Succeeding at assessment centres	Skills for employability
Writing and publishing a scientific research paper	Skills for employability
Writing for publication	Skills for employability
Starting to lead: how to be authentic and effective as a leader	Skills for employability
Women in leadership	Skills for employability
LinkedIn learning courses	Skills for employability

# School of Life Sciences and Environment (LSE)

In LSE our programme of training is designed to equip our postgraduate researchers (PGRs) to succeed in their studies and for their future career aspirations. Our five departments each have individual training programmes that target specific needs of their PGRs (e.g. specialist equipment training, research methods and analyses, career opportunities). We also look to support training needs at the school level where it will be valuable to all; in the past this has included training to support mental health, invitations to departmental seminars and to departmental PGR conventions. Researchers from LSE will be emailed about the training and joining instructions in their schools. All other training can be found on the [Researcher development programme](#) Moodle site.

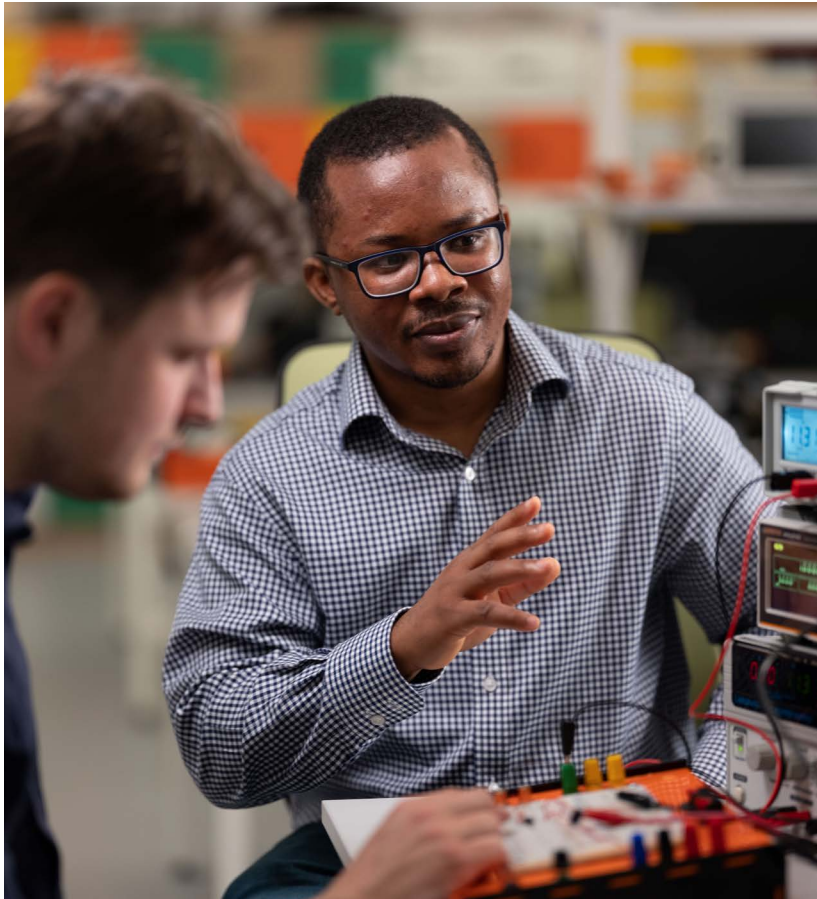
Course	Department	Type
Technical and general training (First Aid, safety in field and lab, quality assurance in research, Intro to the Cluster, GIT)	Biological Sciences Earth Sciences Psychology	Skills for PhD
Communication, networking & knowledge exchange (skills sharing, PGR conference, getting the most out of conferences, enhancing your social media profile, embedding impact)	Earth Sciences Geography Psychology	Skills for PhD Skills for employability
Research methods (ethics, fMRI, eyetracking, experimental design, research integrity)	Biological Sciences Earth Sciences Geography Psychology	Research methods
Statistics and analyses (from t-tests to ANOVA, Correlations and Regression, Multivariate techniques, fMRI analyses, mixed effects models in R, secondary data analysis, bayesian statistics)	Earth Sciences Psychology Biological Sciences	Research methods Skills for employability
Research dissemination (preparing manuscripts, reviewing process, peer review, dealing with reviewer comments, preparing presentations and posters)	Geography Psychology	Skills for PhD Skills for employability
Practicalities of PhD work (preparing for annual reviews & upgrades, thesis formats, preparing for the viva, avoiding plagiarism. research synthesis and literature review, literature retrieval and organising citations, working effectively in teams)	Biological Sciences Geography Psychology	Skills for PhD
Preparing for teaching (InSTIL, Small group teaching, training for markers)	Biological Sciences Psychology	Skills for employability
Attracting funding (grant writing and commercialisation)	Biological Sciences Psychology	Skills for employability
Programming skills for analyses and data visualisation (MATLAB, R)	Biological Sciences Psychology	Research methods Skills for employability

# School of Engineering, Physical and Mathematical Sciences (EPMS)

The training provided for PGR students in EPMS covers both practical skills training and specialist training as well as engagements with external partners. The training programme aims to complement the [Researcher development programme](#) (RDP) offered by the College. Researchers from EPMS will be emailed about the training and joining instructions in their schools. Those researchers who are part of the CDT will receive joining instructions from Claire Hudson. Some SEPnet courses are open to other STEM researchers; see their [website](#) for details.

Course	Department	Type
Mini projects and the PhD journey	ISG	Skills for PhD
Mindful presenting	ISG	Skills for employability
Poster setting	ISG	Skills for PhD
Pixsellar	ISG	Skills for employability
DCMS	ISG	Skills for employability
Cyber innovation session: Crypto Quantique, SureVine & Plexal	ISG	Skills for employability
DCMS & NCSC	ISG	Skills for employability
Orbit RRI	ISG	Skills for employability
Academic writing workshop	ISG	Skills for PhD
Thames Water	ISG	Skills for employability
Thales	ISG	Skills for employability
Orbit & Ariel Reinsurance	ISG	Skills for employability
Network training - week 1 Network training - week 2	ISG	Skills for employability
Github training	ISG	Skills for employability
MasterCard	ISG	Skills for employability
KPMG	ISG	Skills for employability
Plain English	ALL	Skills for PhD
Using LaTeX	ALL	Skills for PhD
How to give a presentation	ALL	Skills for employability
How to write a research paper	ALL	Skills for PhD

Course	Department	Type
How to complete your PhD and have a successful viva	ALL	Skills for PhD
Fast and fun results: functional programming for mathematicians	ALL	Research methods
Matlab for scientific computing	ALL	Research methods
Personal impact training	ISG	Skills for Employability
Github training	ISG	Skills for Employability
Orbit foundations course training	ISG	Research methods
GRADnet (run by SEPNET)	Physics and Mathematics. If places are available they are open to other STEM	Skills for PhD Skills for Employability Research methods



## Humanities

We aim to provide high-quality training, with a focus on developing skills for the Humanities, that complements the College's [Researcher development programme](#). Our training focuses both on developing skills for the PhD and on equipping you with the skills and experience to enable you to thrive post-PhD. It supports the development of an interdisciplinary PGR community across the Humanities, encouraging you to share insights, experiences, and methodologies. It also draws on the knowledge and experience of staff and PGRs across the school, in Classics, English, History and Languages, Literatures and Cultures. Researchers from Humanities will be emailed about the training and joining instructions in their schools.

Course	Open to students out of department	Type
Finding your feet in your first year	No	Skills for PhD
Research: goals, targets, questions	No	Skills for PhD
Presenting at conferences	No	Skills for employability
Preparing for annual review and upgrade	No	Skills for PhD
How not to write a review	No	Skills for employability
How to get published	No	Skills for employability
Applying for academic jobs	No	Skills for employability
Preparing for viva	No	Skills for PhD
Looking after your mental health in the research process	Open to both PDA and HUMS schools	Skills for PhD
Introduction to Library and Information Services	Open to both PDA and HUMS schools	Research methods
Communicating with different audiences	Open to both PDA and HUMS schools	Skills for employability
Developing networks	Open to both PDA and HUMS schools	Skills for employability
The job market: thinking internationally	Open to both PDA and HUMS schools	Skills for employability
Employability workshop	Open to both PDA and HUMS schools	Skills for employability



## School of Performing and Digital Arts (PDA)

We aim to provide opportunities for postgraduate researchers (PGRs) in the School of Performing and Digital Arts to work together in a shared experience of research training, promoting greater collegiality and sense of community. Our high-quality training complements the College's [Researcher development programme](#) but is focused more on arts and humanities disciplines. It encourages the sharing of research insights and methodologies, promotes interdisciplinary enquiry, and enhance your employability, and also draws on the knowledge and experience of staff and PGRs across the school, in Drama, Theatre and Dance, Media Arts, and Music. Researchers from PDA will be emailed about the training and joining instructions in their schools.

Course	Open to students out of department	Type
Critical reading and preparing a literature survey	No	Skills for PhD
Working with archives	Yes	Research methods
Practice-based research: questions and methodology	No	Skills for PhD
Preparing for upgrade and annual review	No	Skills for PhD
Writing a journal article	Yes	Skills for employability



## School of Law and Social Sciences (LSS)

The PhD training programme at LSS is designed to help you succeed in both your doctoral studies and future career. Each of our departments offers discipline-specific training that targets specific needs (e.g., advanced research methods, specialist software skills, data analysis, professional development, career opportunities). To further broaden your knowledge, you are encouraged to take methods courses at the PGT level from other departments within the school. The training programme is flexible and topics covered are adjusted yearly in response to students' needs and demands. Researchers from LSS will be emailed about the training and joining instructions in their schools. All other training can be found on the [Researcher development programme](#).

Course	Department	Open to students out of department	Type
Academic research skills (approaching academic research, refining research proposal, writing workshop - part of PR9000)	PIRP	No	Skills for PhD
Employability skills (attending conferences, applying for academic jobs, building an online profile, getting published)	PIRP	No	Skills for employability
Wellbeing session	PIRP	Yes	Skills for PhD
Academic research skills (working with your supervisor, time management and writing process, mental health for PhD students)	Law, Criminology & Social work	No	Skills for PhD
Employability skills (applying for academic jobs, publishing, social media for researchers)	Law, Criminology & Social work	No except social media	Skills for employability
Discipline specific research methods - advanced PhD courses in Economics (Microeconomics, Econometrics, Macroeconomics)	Economics	No	Research methods
Presentation skills	Economics	Yes	Skills for employability

# School of Business and Management (SBM)

Our training programme aims to ensure that all students have a basic grounding in qualitative and quantitative methodologies, given that Business and Management Studies is a very multidisciplinary area. Researchers from SBM will be emailed about the training and joining instructions in their Schools to modules MN6035, MN6015 and MN 6025. These modules are only available to researchers in SB; please contact Helen Bacci for queries. All other training can be found on the [Researcher development programme](#) Moodle site.

Course	School	Department	Type
Research philosophy and methodology of social science	SBM	ALL	Skills for PhD
Methods and techniques of qualitative data gathering and analysis	SBM	ALL	Skills for PhD
Quantitative techniques and basic statistical methods.	SBM	ALL	Skills for PhD



**Royal Holloway, University of London**  
Egham, Surrey, TW20 0EX  
+44 (0)1784 434455  
[royalholloway.ac.uk](http://royalholloway.ac.uk)