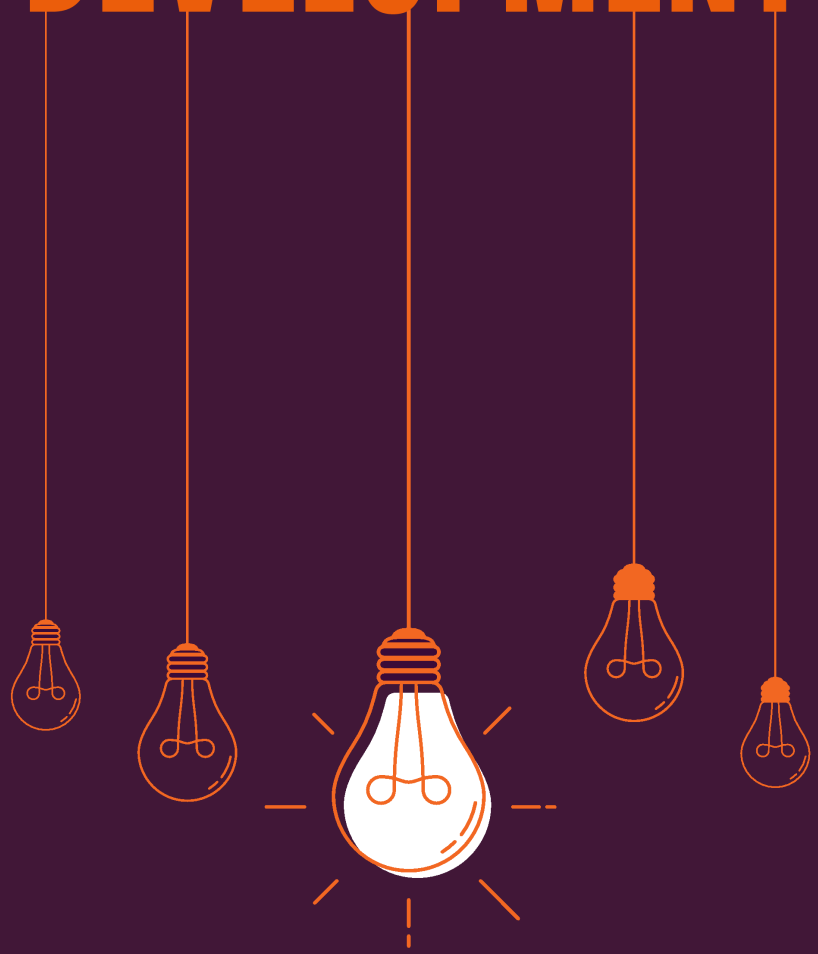
University of York

Building Research and Innovation Capacity

RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT



2024-2025

Professional and career development opportunities to support researchers

Version 1.71

Whether you're at the start of your research career, joining York for an exciting new project, or you're an established member of our research community - the BRIC Team is here to support you, your research, and our whole research community.

The Building Research and Innovation Capacity (BRIC) Team delivers and coordinates a comprehensive programme of professional development, events and skills training, for all Researchers at The University of York. We're also proud to support the wider research community at York, through our work to build a positive Research Culture. Research-enabling and technical staff are also encouraged to join our sessions and use the resources.

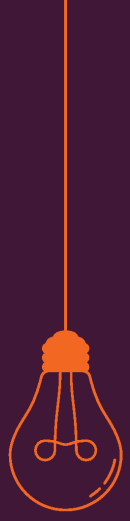
This programme outlines training available specifically for Researchers at York - from the BRIC Team, Professional Support Teams and external facilitators, plus a range of internally and externally created on-demand resources. These on-demand resources, and our provision of sessions at varying lengths across the working week as well as special evening sessions, help to make sure everyone, including distance learners and those with caring responsibilities, can access our researcher development programme. The programme will be updated throughout the academic year, so please check back regularly for any new workshops and resources.

Follow us on LinkedIn for updates on training, events and opportunities. If you're a PGR, you'll also receive updates about professional development opportunities via the YGRS Newsletter, while Research Staff will receive the Research Staff Newsletter (you can subscribe by emailing bric@york.ac.uk).

Have any questions? Please don't hesitate to contact us!

Email - bric@york.ac.uk
Phone - (+44) 01904 325399
LinkedIn - BRIC - Research Culture & Researcher Development at The University of York
Twitter/X - @bric_york

Our training is organised into themes, and indicates the suitable audience, whether it's an in-person or online training session, an event, or a resource. Use the directory on the following pages to explore the themes, or navigate to individual sessions.



For Postgraduate Researchers (PGRs - PhDs, Masters by Research and MPhil), we offer online and in-person training that is bookable via SkillsForge, where you can also access your training record. Your skills training record, along with your Professional Development Plan (PDP), should be discussed as part of your regular supervisor meetings and meetings with your Thesis Advisory Panel (TAP).

For Research Staff (including Postdocs, Research Associates, Fellows, academic, technical and research-enabling staff), we offer online and in-person training bookable via the Learning Management System (LMS). Research Staff should use the Looking Beyond Horizons resources to plan and make informed choices about individual career and professional development needs.

To book your place on a workshop, click on a session title in the Training Directory, which will lead you to the session page. Once on the page, look for 'Book via' and click either the 'SkillsForge' or 'LMS' link, which will then take you to the booking page for that session.

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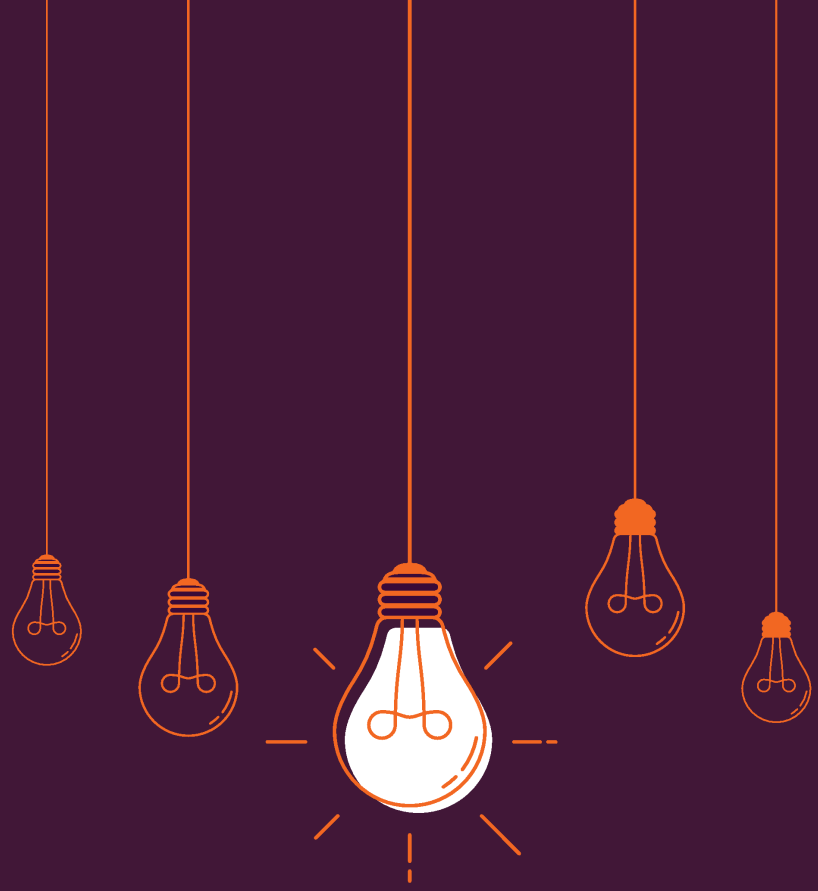
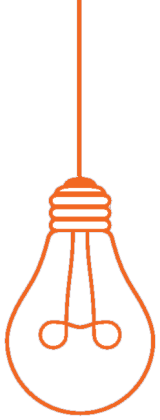


Academic Writing



Briefly About - Journal Publishing Process

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online

Duration: 30 minutes

Session outline

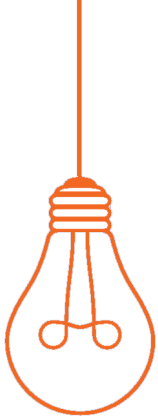
This workshop is for Postgraduate Researchers with little or no knowledge of the journal publishing process.

Join us for a concise, 30-minute session designed to demystify the journal publishing process. This session will provide you with a clear understanding of the steps involved in getting your research published in peer-reviewed journals.

By the end of this session, you will be equipped with the knowledge and confidence to navigate the journal publishing process effectively, increasing your chances of successful publication.

Learning Objectives

- Explore the step-by-step guidance on the submission process, including common requirements and best practices
- Understand the peer review process and how to respond to reviewer comments



Briefly About - Planning Your First Academic Paper

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online

Duration: 30 minutes

Session outline

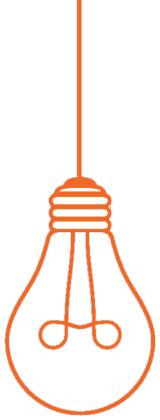
This workshop is for Postgraduate Researchers with little or no knowledge of publishing in peer-reviewed journals.

Join us for a concise, 30-minute session designed to guide you through the essentials of planning your first academic paper. This session will provide you with a clear roadmap for structuring your research, organising your ideas, and setting achievable writing goals.

By the end of this session, you'll have a solid plan in place to confidently start writing your first academic paper, ensuring a smooth and productive writing experience.

Learning Objectives

- Learn to develop a detailed outline to guide your writing process
- Explore effective methods for gathering and organising your sources
- Discover effective ways for drafting, revising, and polishing your paper



Fundamentals of Academic Writing: Laying the Foundation for Clear Writing

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

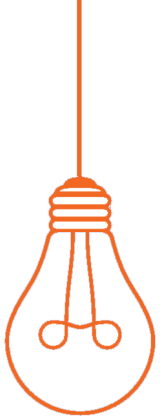
Duration: 3 hours

Session outline

This session is part of a series of 4 interconnected workshops, while it is encouraged to attend all 4 sessions, they can be attended individually.

Module 1 uses participatory activities to explore what is meant by 'logical argument' by:

- Clarifying 'first principles', such as what actually is 'research' and 'academic writing'
- Examining how English 'works' in terms of the 1 Fact and 4 (implicit) Influences that have shaped what constitutes a logical argument
- Showing participants a simple yet fundamental organising principle to create clarity – itself a vital feature for publication – at different structural levels from the sentence to the article or thesis.



Fundamentals of Academic Writing: Strategies for Effective Drafting

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

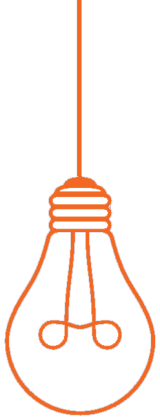
Duration: 3 hours

Session outline

This session is part of a series of 4 interconnected workshops, while it is encouraged to attend all 4 sessions, they can be attended individually.

Module 2 helps participants write more efficiently and effectively by:

- Uncovering the implicitly expected patterns in Introductions, Conclusions and Abstracts, which then become models to help participants write, think, and persuade more effectively and efficiently
- Appropriately exploring participants' feelings about writing to increase effective drafting by reducing possible psychological barriers
- Featuring a 1 hour Writing Work Out, in which participants learn and apply simple writing strategies to help them 'warm-up' and calm anxieties; 'work out' by outlining the large-, medium-, and small-scale structures of their article/thesis; 'cool down' by setting themselves up for the next time they write



Fundamentals of Academic Writing: Strategies for Effective Editing

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

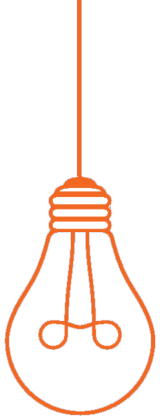
Duration: 3 hours

Session outline

This session is part of a series of 4 interconnected workshops, while it is encouraged to attend all 4 sessions, they can be attended individually.

Module 3 helps participants make their writing clear by:

- Showing them a range of practical, time-efficient strategies to help them edit their work effectively
- Deepening and embedding participants' understanding of how to write clearly by revisiting the principles in Module 1
- Examining, through practical examples, two fundamental features of academic language – Nominalisations and Hedging – to help participants use them effectively and with confidence



Fundamentals of Academic Writing: Getting the Writing Written

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

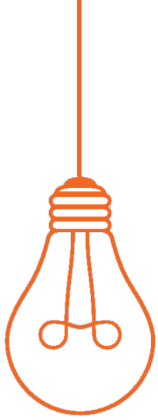
Duration: 3 hours

Session outline

This session is part of a series of 4 interconnected workshops, while it is encouraged to attend all 4 sessions, they can be attended individually.

Module 4 helps participants increase their productivity and decrease their procrastination around writing by covering a range of 'tricks and tips' and topics, including:

- The impacts of multi-tasking on your focus
- Your motivations for doing research, whether at PhD or postdoctoral levels
- Taking a dive into managing your procrastination
- The mechanisms of habit-formation, so that you can turn productive writing actions into consistent effective habits



Making Your Publication Open Access

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

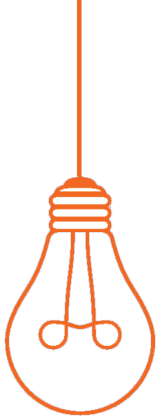
Available: Online

Duration: 1 hour

Session outline

Open access scholarly publications, free for anyone to access online and to reuse, are generally read and cited more than those hidden behind a paywall. Open access can improve the communication of research ideas, make academic research accessible to new audiences, and improve public accountability.

For these reasons funders of research increasingly require that the publications resulting from the research they fund are made as open as possible. This workshop will give an introduction to Open Access to research publications, why it's important, and options for making your publication open.



Open Research at York: the Basics

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

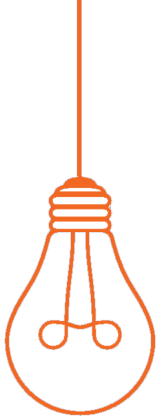
Duration: 1 hour

Session outline

Open research encompasses a broad range of practices which seek to ensure that all aspects of the research cycle are shared and accessible wherever possible. Such practices have received increased recognition and support from research institutions, funders and governments across the world. The University of York is committed to the values, principles and culture of open research (see Open Research at York). It encourages and supports staff and students to explore and engage with open research practices in their work and study, to maximise the possibility of public and academic impact.

This introductory session provides an overview of how open research can be embedded across different disciplines to the benefit of researchers and the wider public. Example projects from York researchers will be shared, including practices such as research pre-registration, preprints, open data and code and open access publication. We will also signpost where further support and guidance can be found at York and elsewhere.

Towards the end of the session time will be given over to questions and answers.



Open Research Essentials

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

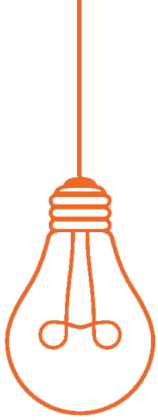
Available: In person

Duration: 1.5 hours

Session outline

Open research encompasses a broad range of practices which seek to ensure that all aspects of the research cycle are shared and accessible wherever possible. This introductory session provides an overview of how open research can be embedded across different disciplines to the benefit of researchers and the wider public. Example projects from York researchers will be shared, including practices such as research pre-registration, preprints, open data and code and open access publication. We will also signpost where further support and guidance can be found at York and elsewhere.

Towards the end of the session time will be given over to questions and answers.



Searching the Literature

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 2 hours

Session outline

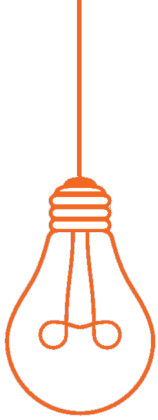
This workshop is designed to help PGRs and research staff to search for scholarly literature with confidence. It is particularly relevant to PhD students collecting scholarly papers for their literature review but the search skills covered can be applied in a range of contexts.

The workshop will look at stages in the literature search process, from an overview of planning a search, through developing an effective research strategy, to obtaining access to the literature identified. There will be opportunities for hands-on experience of using University of York online resources relevant to your subject area and using your own research topic.

There's more advice on literature searching on our Searching for information guide

Learning Objectives

- Know how to plan a search and develop an effective research strategy
- Recognise the range of search tools available and be aware of their strengths and weaknesses
- Be able to conduct an effective search on multiple tools utilising advanced search techniques; Know how to access texts located through a search



Your Research Profile, Reputation and Impact - An Introduction to Bibliometrics

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

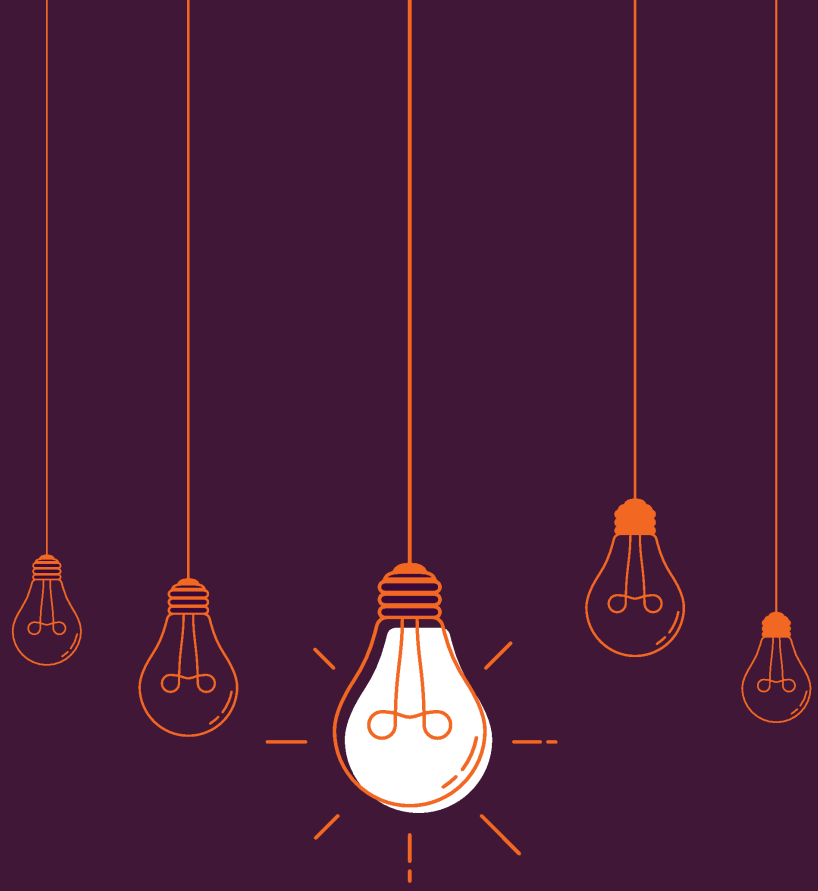
Available: Online

Duration: 1.5 hours

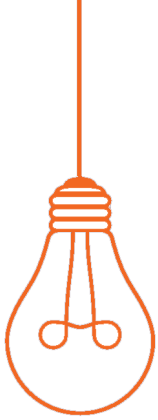
Session outline

This workshop will cover how published research outputs are measured at the article, author and journal level. In the second half, we will move into a more hands-on phase, to give you the opportunity to explore how to improve your research profile and evidence your strengths using bibliometrics.

The remainder of the session will be given over to Questions and Answers.



Employability & Career Development



Advanced Job Application and Interview Skills for Work Experienced Researchers

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

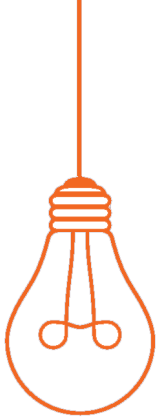
Available: In person

Duration: 1 hour

Session outline

This workshop is intended for postgraduate researchers who already have substantial work experience, but who may be applying for work in a different sector, or returning to professional work after their PhD. We'll cover topics such as: how to effectively position your PhD and prior experience for a new sector; how to tailor applications and interview responses to specific opportunities; how to anticipate and handle challenges in the recruitment process.

This will be an interactive workshop, these objectives form a loose framework that can be adapted and tailored to suit the needs of attendees. Questions, discussion and peer support will be encouraged.



Beyond Academia:
How to Find a Career That Suits You

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

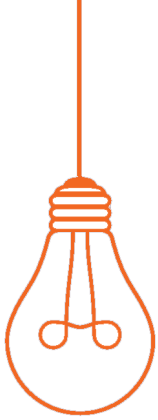
Session outline

Whether you're preparing for your first professional career step, or considering a change of direction, finding a career that aligns with your strengths, motivations and values is important. Beyond academia it isn't always clear what your career options are, so this short session will focus on a range of strategies to help you identify potential career paths. Career planning takes time and you won't go away with all the answers today, but hopefully with some practical actions to undertake that will help you work out your next steps.

This will be an introductory session, so bring your lunch and listen in. There'll be opportunities to ask questions and contribute, but no breakout rooms.

Learning Objectives

- Know how to reflect on your personal values, strengths, motivators and interests and understand how this can inform career choice
- Gain an insight into career pathways for PhD graduates and know how to research those that interest you
- Know how to generate career ideas for yourself if you are finding it difficult to identify careers that would suit you
- Understand the importance of developing a flexible career mindset, recognising that career paths evolve and change over time
- Be able to develop an action plan for ongoing career exploration



Beyond Academia:
Recognising the Value of Your PhD Skills

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

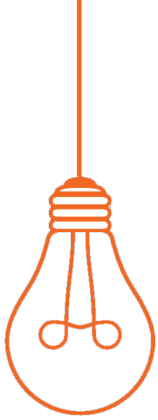
Session outline

This short online session is suitable for postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers who are planning to apply for jobs outside academia and want to understand how their PhD skills and experiences can be effectively communicated to employers across different sectors. We'll be focusing on key points rather than an in-depth exploration of the topic, so bring your lunch and listen in. There'll be opportunities to ask questions and contribute, but no breakout rooms.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the core skills developed during your PhD and related activities and why non-academic employers value them
- Know how to interpret job descriptions and person specifications and translate your academic skills and experience into language that resonates with employers
- Be able to develop a positive career narrative for use in applications, interviews and networking

CV and Application Essentials for Postgraduate Researchers



Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

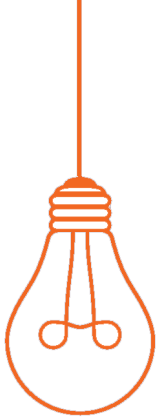
Session outline

This short online session is designed to help postgraduate researchers navigate the job application process, whether you are looking for jobs in academia or other sectors. We'll cover everything from understanding the differences between academic and non-academic CVs, to effectively marketing your skills, to mastering various types of application forms. We'll be focusing on key points rather than an in-depth exploration of the topic, so bring your lunch and listen in. There'll be opportunities to ask questions and contribute, but no breakout rooms.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the key differences between academic and non-academic CVs and applications, including variations in structure, content and focus
- Know how to present your research, work experience and transferable skills in a way that stands out to employers
- Understand how to interpret job descriptions and selection criteria to make sure that your applications match employer expectations
- Know how to avoid common mistakes that can result in rejection and how to address any gaps or weaknesses in your CV
- Know how to find information and support with interview preparation

Interview Essentials for Postgraduate Researchers



Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online

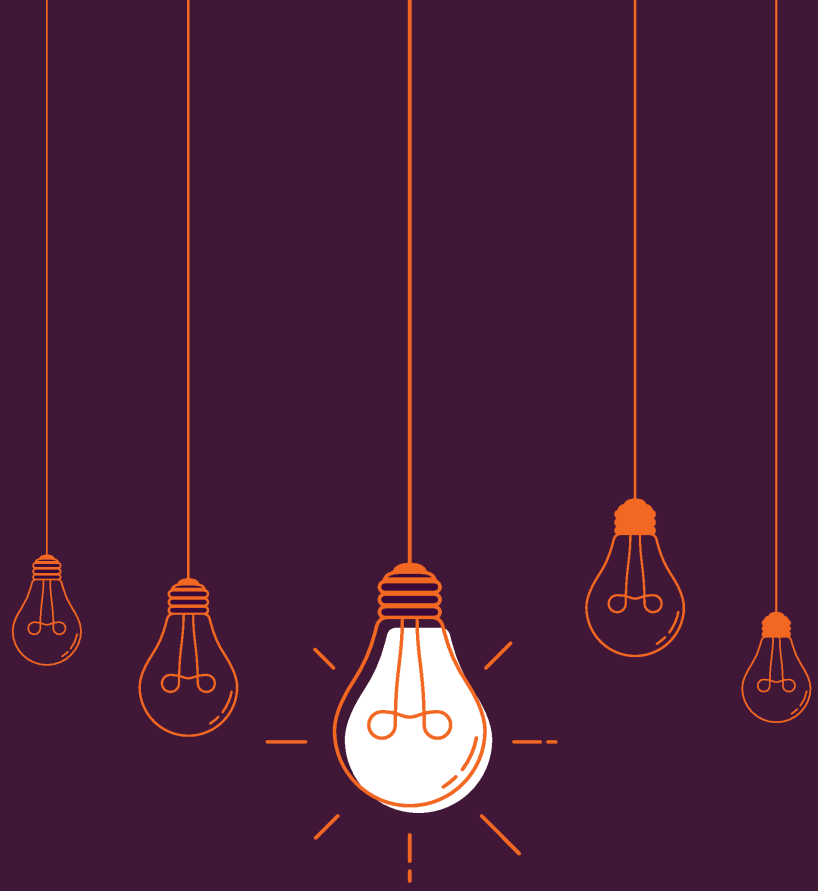
Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

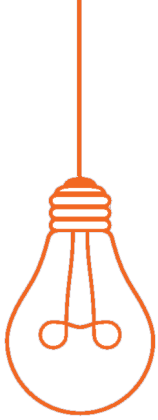
The short online session is designed to help postgraduate researchers prepare for job interviews, whether for academic positions or roles in other sectors. Interviews can be challenging, but with the right preparation, you can present yourself confidently and make a strong impression. In this session, we'll explore the key differences between academic and non-academic interviews, how to effectively communicate your skills and experiences, and what employers look for when deciding who to appoint. You'll also learn tips for handling interviews and delivering a successful presentation if required. We'll be focusing on key points rather than an in-depth exploration of the topic, so bring your lunch and listen in. There'll be opportunities to ask questions and contribute, but no breakout rooms.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the key differences between academic and non-academic interviews
- Know how to research and prepare for interviews so that you can answer common and challenging interview questions with confidence
- Understand how to talk about your research, work experience and transferable skills in a way that is appropriate to the role and organisation you have applied for
- Gain practical tips for handling the interview and associated activities
- Know how to find information and support with interview preparation



Managing Your Data



An Intro to NVivo

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 2 hours

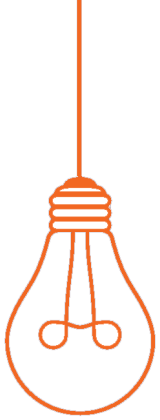
Session outline

NVivo is a qualitative data analysis (QDA) software package. It has been designed for qualitative researchers working with very rich text-based and/or multimedia information, where deep levels of analysis on small or large volumes of data are required. In this introductory session we will cover the basics of importing files into NVivo, data coding and classification principles, and basic data analysis and visualisation.

There's more help on NVivo on our Qualitative data analysis guide

Learning Objectives

- Understand the principles of file metadata and organisation in NVivo
- Know how to code text content in NVivo for effective analysis
- Have an awareness of the basic options for data analysis and visualisation in NVivo



Data Management Plans: Getting Started

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 2 hours

Session outline

Data management plans (DMPs) are becoming an increasingly important aspect of research. Many funding bodies require a DMP to evidence adequate and appropriate provisions for data management and curation in new grant applications. And for postgraduate researchers, the University requires you to work with your supervisor(s) to put in place a DMP by first formal review of progress.

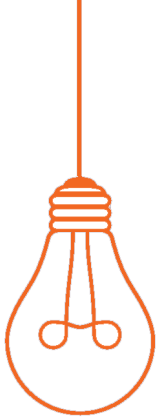
This introductory session provides an overview of the basics of data management planning, the component parts of a plan and best practice guidance, signposting you to data management practical guidance. DMPonline, the tool that we recommend you use to write and update your plan, will be demonstrated in the session.

Towards the end of the session time will be given over to questions and answers.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this session, you will:

- be equipped with the knowledge to get started with data management plans
- be familiar with DMPonline, the tool that we recommend you use to write and update your plan
- know where to find research data management guidance on best practice



Endnote

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 2 hours

Session outline

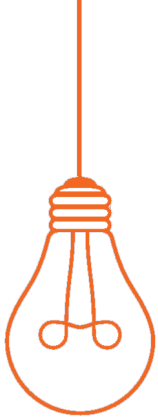
Want to know how to use EndNote to keep track of your reading material, store bibliographic information, and cite material in your written work? EndNote is a reference management application that allows you to create a library of references, search and organise your library, and insert citations into Word (or Google Docs). It is particularly useful for anyone dealing with large amounts of references, such as for an extensive literature review or systematic review.

In this 2 hour long session, you will explore the functionality of EndNote, learn how EndNote desktop and EndNote web/online work, and have a go at using EndNote for managing your references. Before the session, you might want to install EndNote on your computer; see the IT Services EndNote page for information on how to do this.

For more information on reference management applications including EndNote, see our Reference Management Practical Guide

Learning Objectives

- Be aware of how EndNote can be used and how the different components of EndNote work together
- Understand the four major functions of reference management applications and the EndNote features that allow users to perform these functions
- Be able to apply the functions of reference management to using EndNote effectively to manage reading material



Research Data Management: the Basics

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 1 hour

Session outline

All researchers have a responsibility to properly manage the research data they use or create during the course of their research. The management of research data is sufficiently important that many research funders, and the University, have requirements for how it is managed.

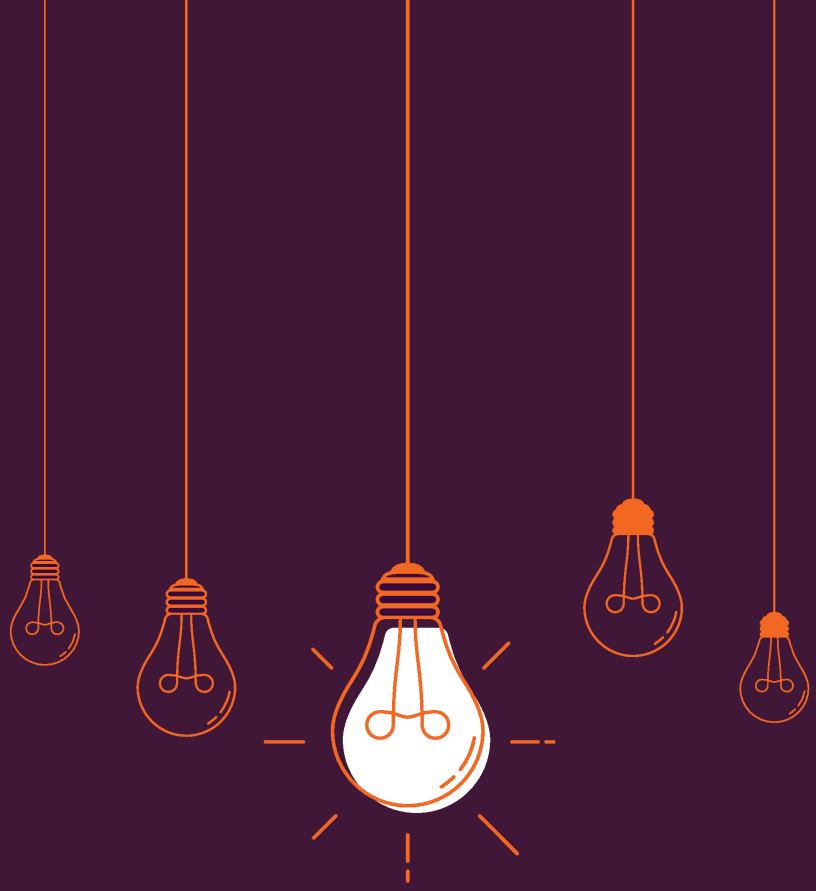
This introductory session is for anyone who needs to know the basics of research data management and the things that should be considered when it comes to managing research data well. The session introduces you to what data management is and its benefits, and will cover: the requirements that exist; why planning is important; best practice guidance, signposting you to guidance on storing, organising and documenting data; key messages on the archiving and sharing of research data. Towards the end of the session time will be given over to questions and answers.

Learning Objectives

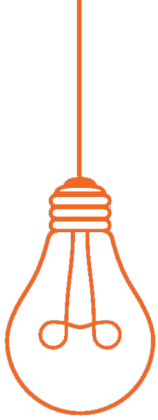
By the end of this session, you will:

- understand the basic principles of research data management and the key role that data management plays in responsible research
- be equipped to start to consider the things you need to do, or to find out about, to manage your research data well
- appreciate the requirements that exist and why planning ahead is important

  know where to find research data management guidance on best practice



Preparing for Your Thesis & Viva



Completing Your Thesis

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online, in person (date TBC in semester 2), evening online session for distance/flexible learners

Duration: 1.5-2 hours

Session outline

This session is suitable for Postgraduate Researchers who are in the final year of their PhD.

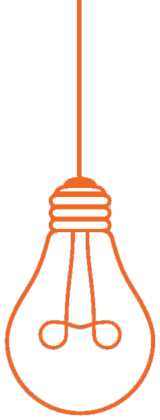
This session is dedicated to the final stages of your PhD journey, guiding you through the essential requirements of your thesis, including formats and contents.

It covers strategic planning for completion, necessary paperwork such as the 'Notification of Intention to Submit,' and the process of selecting examiners. You will gain valuable insights to ensure you complete your thesis on time and meet all necessary requirements.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- prioritise essential activity with the aim of completion
- know the required UoY formats of the thesis
- understand how to be involved in the process of selecting examiners
- know the processes and procedures for the successful completion of a PhD at the University of York



Microsoft Word for Dissertations and Theses

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online

Duration: 2 hours

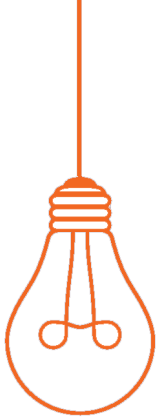
Session outline

When producing an long piece of academic writing such as a dissertation or thesis, you will save time and effort if you take advantage of the most appropriate features in Microsoft Word. In this session we'll explore approaches to using Word that are particularly important when you need to produce material as efficiently as possible to match academic guidelines.

We'll explore the power of using styles to make it easier to add outline headings, tables of contents and to make your document accessible. We'll also look at making the most of the tools available, such as adding automatic page numbers, tables of contents, and captions.

Learning Objectives

- Understand how the features of Microsoft Word can make it easier to format and structure a complex document like a dissertation or thesis
- Be aware of why you should use styles in documents for accessibility and ease of formatting
- Be able to use features of Microsoft Word such as styles, page setup, tables of contents, captions, and heading numbering when creating a document



Preparing for Your Viva

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online, in person (date TBC in semester 2), evening online session for distance/flexible learners

Duration: 1.5-2 hours

Session outline

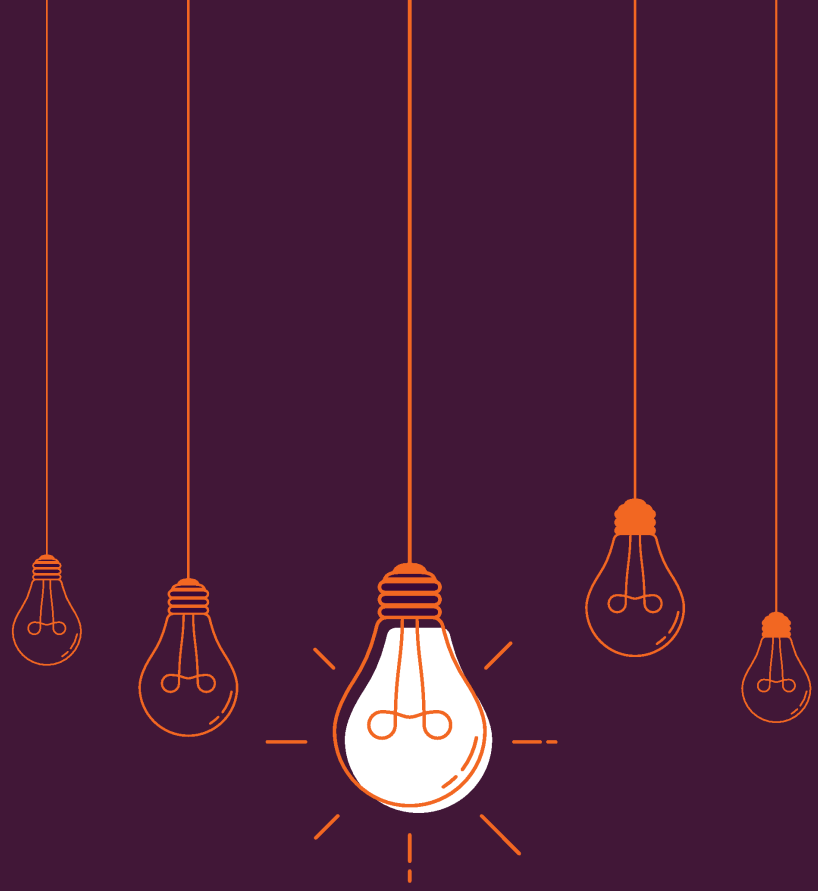
This workshop is for final year PhD Researchers and open to supervisors and research administrators who wish to better understand the process.

This session is designed to help you navigate the viva process with confidence. We will cover the pre-viva period, detailing the requirements for both you and the University, and provide guidance on how to effectively prepare. You will learn about the progression of your viva, including strategies for answering questions effectively and handling challenging queries. The session will culminate in a mini mock viva, offering you a valuable opportunity to practise and refine your skills.

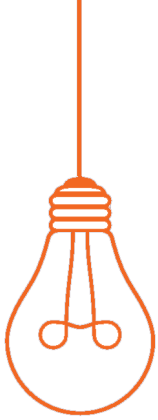
Learning Objectives

By the end of these sessions, participants will be able to:

- know the processes and procedures for the viva examination at the University of York
- consider how to prepare in the lead up to the viva
- anticipate the issues and questions likely to be raised by the viva
- understand how to be effective in answering viva questions
- have participated in mock vivas in the roles of both candidate and examiner



Presenting & Communicating Your Research



Academic Posters - Designing Posters in PowerPoint

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 2 hours

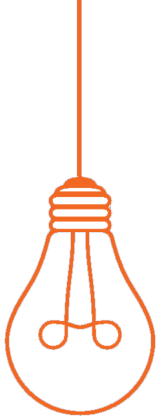
Session outline

Informative posters are a popular way to share research findings and other information at conferences and exhibitions. There are many desktop publishing applications you could use to design posters but in this session we'll demonstrate Microsoft PowerPoint: although intended for presentations, it shares many features with other publishing applications and generally has the advantage of familiarity, making it a popular and effective choice for poster design. In this session we'll look at the design principles behind what makes a successful poster, and how to configure PowerPoint for the creation of both large-format printed posters and virtual poster presentations. We'll look at how to plan your layout, and how to make best use of images and text in your design.

The workshop is accompanied by our Posters with a Powerful Point guide

Learning Objectives

- Understand the conventions of academic poster design
- Be able to configure and use PowerPoint for poster design
- Have an awareness of the aesthetic considerations when designing a poster
- Know how to output a poster for printing



Advanced Oral Presentations: Secrets of Great Presenters

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online

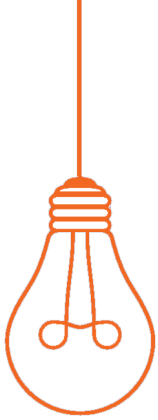
Duration: 2 hours

Session outline

In this short, focused webinar, (where the context is presenting research) we'll discuss:

- Best practice in presenting
- The devices and approaches that help a speaker connect with an audience
- How to develop a presenting style that works for you
- Getting a complex message across to an audience effectively

And we'll also briefly touch on the technological side of things (i.e. PowerPoint and Online Tools)



Briefly About - Writing Lay Summaries

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online

Duration: 30 minutes

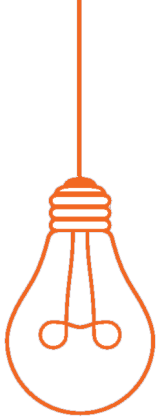
Session outline

Join us for a focused, 30-minute session dedicated to the art of writing lay summaries. This session will equip you with the skills to communicate complex research findings in a clear and accessible manner to non-specialist audiences.

By the end of this session, you will be able to craft concise and engaging lay summaries that effectively convey the significance of your research to a broader audience.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the role of lay summaries in research communication
- Identify the essential components of an effective lay summary
- Analyse examples of successful lay summaries to guide your own writing
- Practice using tools specifically designed to help with writing lay summaries



Connecting with Business and External Organisations

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: Webpage (PGRs & Staff)

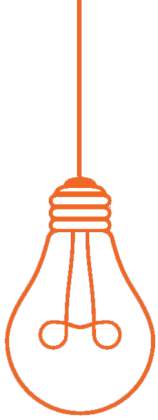
Available: Taster session (online), full course (in person)

Duration: Taster session (1 hour), full course (2 days)

Session outline

Collaborating with non-academic partners such as businesses, NGOs and charities can increase the quality and impact of our research. Connecting with Business and External Organisations is a 2-day course that equips researchers with the skills, tools and confidence to work more effectively with such organisations.

This course is designed for researchers at York who are interested in collaborating with non-academic organisations or already hold such relationships. Topics we will explore include communicating the value of your work, identifying and pursuing opportunities, and strengthening your professional presence.



Creating Artefacts for Public Engagement

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

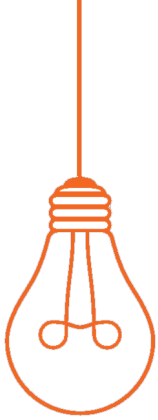
Available: Online

Duration: 2 hours

Session outline

Are you looking for ways to engage the public with your research?

In this workshop, we will explore different kinds of artefacts - digital and physical - that can be created to help communicate your research with various audiences, and the support available at the University of York to help you make these. We will consider audience, formats, design, and practicalities, before looking in more depth at specific areas like posters for public engagement, creating digital artefacts to go on a screen like videos, animations, and simple games, and using 3D modelling and printing to display physical elements of your research in interesting and practical ways. Throughout, we will point towards online resources, further training, and the support available from the Creativity Lab and YorCreate in the Library for researchers wanting to make artefacts relating to their research.



Designing Presentations in PowerPoint and Google Slides

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 2 hours

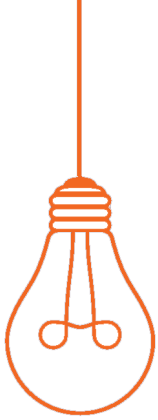
Session outline

How can you create presentation slides that are memorable and impactful while also being accessible? PowerPoint and Google Slides include many under-exploited features that can help you create more effective presentations (as well as other resources). This session explores the principles of designing presentations, including templates, animation, accessibility principles, and working with media. We'll also look at presentation features in these tools that can help you as you convey your material to an audience.

For more help on designing presentation slides, take a look at our Presentations guide

Learning Objectives

- Understand and be able to apply principles of effective presentation slide design in PowerPoint and Google Slides
- Be aware of accessibility considerations when designing and delivering a presentation
- Understand the anatomy of a slide and the different approaches to manipulating its appearance
- Be able to consider how to prioritise content and how best to use slides to support that content



How to Engage a Public Audience with Academia

Audience: PGRs, Staff

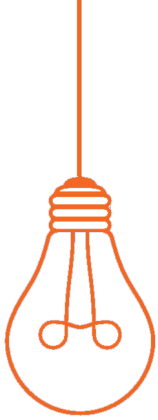
Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 1 hour

Session outline

In this workshop we will examine and use a simple framework for producing talks to share your research with the public. Using a few basic principles we will look at how effective outreach and public communication can be performed with an opportunity to apply these ideas to your own academic activities.



Visualising Data:
Guide to Effective Data Visualisation

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: In person

Duration: 1.5 hours

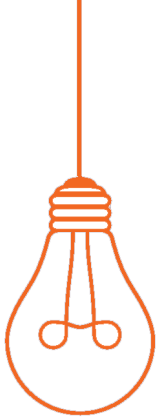
Session outline

Effective data visualisation is essential for communicating research successfully – but creating visuals that are both accurate and engaging can be challenging. This interactive session introduces a practical, literature-informed framework to enable you to turn data into compelling graphics.

We'll explore how to choose the right visualisation type, direct your audience's attention, and reduce cognitive load. The focus is on visual design principles – not technical specifics. This session is open to all postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers, regardless of discipline, data type, or software tools used – prior attendance at previous workshops is not required.

Learning objectives

- Use a detailed visualisation framework for creating effective graphics from data.
- Recognise and correct common design flaws in real-world examples that hinder visual understanding.
- Apply principles to improve the clarity and effectiveness of your own data visualisations.



Visualising Data:
Optimising for Posters and Presentations

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: In person

Duration: 1.5 hours

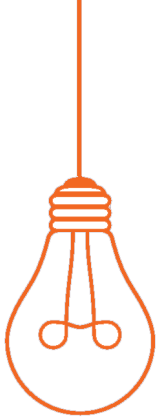
Session outline

Academic posters and presentations require more than just great data – they demand visuals that capture attention, guide understanding, and support your narrative in real time. This interactive session focuses on the important role of data visualisation in research talks and posters.

We'll explore how to leverage data visualisation to support live explanations. You'll learn a framework for optimising visualisations with limited attention spans in mind, and techniques to make your graphical content more engaging, accessible, and memorable. This session is open to all postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers, regardless of discipline, data type, or software tools used – prior attendance at previous workshops is not required.

Learning objectives

- Apply a framework to optimise data visualisations for live formats (posters and presentations).
- Recognise features that support narrative flow, highlight key points, and reduce cognitive load for audiences in real-world examples.
- Identify how to adapt your existing graphics for talks and posters to improve clarity, engagement, and accessibility.



Visualising Data:
Refining for Reports and Publications

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: In person

Duration: 1.5 hours

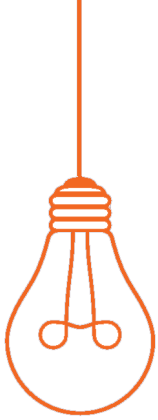
Session outline

Data visualisations for academic reports and publications must be precise, accessible, and aligned with the writing – conveying your message clearly without excessive explanation. The final session in the 'Visualising Data: Academic Mastery' series focuses on preparing publication-ready graphics that meet the expectations of peer-reviewed journals and academic readers.

We'll explore how to refine figures for static formats, ensuring clarity, consistency, and accessibility. You'll learn a practical framework for simplifying complex data visualisations without losing nuance, and how to align your graphics with journal guidelines and reader expectations. This session is open to all postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers, regardless of discipline, data type, or software tools used – prior attendance at previous workshops is not required.

Learning objectives

- Apply a framework to refine visualisations for static formats (reports and publications).
- Assess real-world examples of graphics and recognise how to improve clarity and consistency while preserving communicative value.
- Identify opportunities to adapt your existing graphics for publications and reports.



Visualising Data: Strategy for Successful Research Communication

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: In person

Duration: 1.5 hours

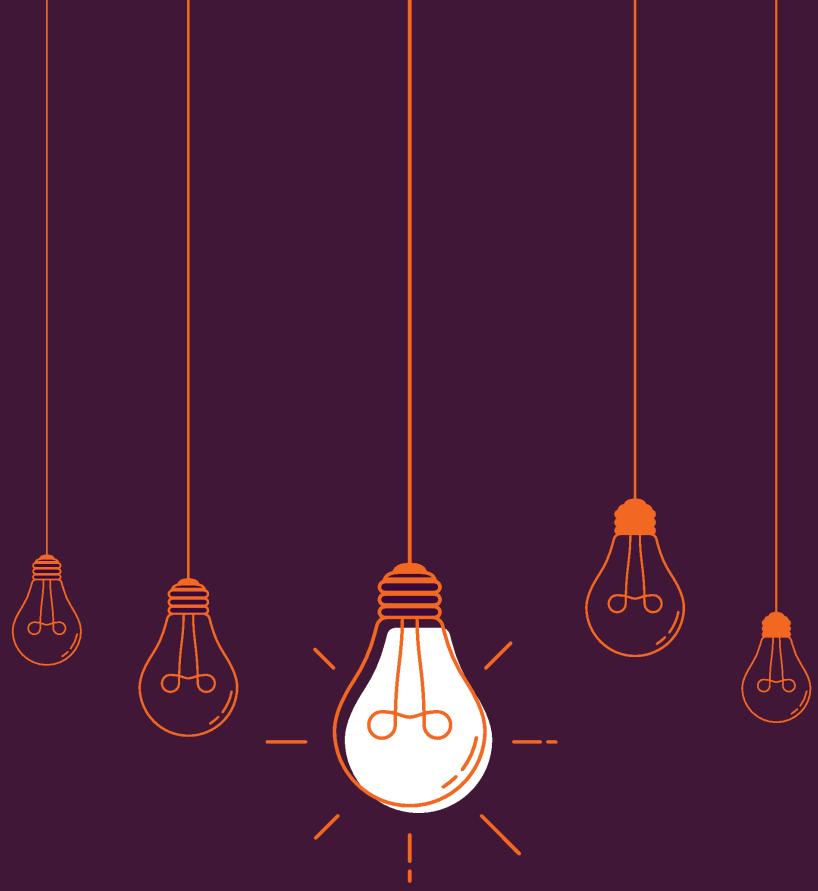
Session outline

The visual display of data is one of the most powerful tools for communicating research – but it's often overlooked and rarely approached with a clear strategy in mind. This interactive session is the first in the 'Visualising Data' series and lays the foundation for the workshops that follow.

We'll explore why successful research communication matters and introduce a practical, literature-informed framework for planning data visualisations. The session is open to all postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers, regardless of discipline, data type, or software tools used.

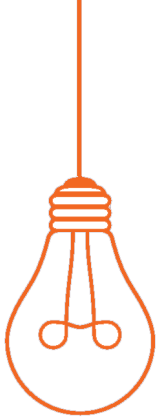
Learning objectives

- Apply a high-level communication framework to help you plan purposeful data visualisations.
- Assess real-world examples of data visualisations and recognise how to fix common research communication mistakes.
- Identify opportunities in your own research where more intentional visualisation can improve clarity and impact.



Supporting & Managing Your Research

Additional IT and Digital Skills Training



The Digital Inclusion, Skills, & Creativity (DISC) Team run a number of additional IT and Digital Skills training workshops, covering a wide variety of topics that can be broadly applied to research and research-adjacent work. These sessions are open to PGRs and Staff, and can be accessed via the respective hyperlinks below.

Creating Accessible Documents: PGRs, Staff

Creating Accessible Presentations: PGRs, Staff

Creating Google Sites: PGRs, Staff

Creating Surveys with Qualtrics - Beyond the Basics: PGRs, Staff

Creating Surveys with Qualtrics - Getting Started: PGRs, Staff

Essential Spreadsheets: PGRs, Staff

Google Forms - Getting Started: PGRs, Staff

Google Workspace Essentials: PGRs, Staff

Image Editing, Infographics, and Communicating Information Visually: All bookings

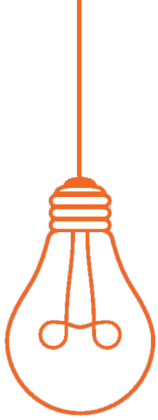
Introduction to Coding: PGRs, Staff

Introduction to Programming with Python: PGRs, Staff

Looker Studio - Getting Started: PGRs, Staff

Working with PDFs: PGRs, Staff

An Introduction to Using Generative AI Tools for Researchers



Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: In person

Duration: 2 hours

Session outline

Want to know more about the generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools people keep talking about? Interested in if generative AI tools might be used, or not, as part of your research process, and what this might mean for research in the future?

In this introductory session, we will explore some of the concepts and myths behind generative AI tools like ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot, and Google Gemini. We will look at what these tools can actually do and what they aren't so good at, and discuss some of the benefits and issues when using these tools as part of the research process.

You do not need any knowledge of artificial intelligence to attend this session.

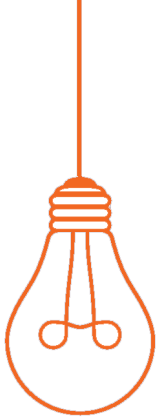
This session is not going to cover:

- building your own generative AI tools
- writing code for machine learning

For more about generative AI tools see our Digital Creativity: AI generation guide

Learning Objectives

- Be aware of what artificial intelligence (AI) and generative AI is and what it isn't
- Be aware of different generative AI tools and services and understand which are available to researchers at York
- Understand some of the ways that generative AI tools might be used as part of the research process and be able to critically evaluate the effectiveness of these tools for research
- Be able to consider some of the ethical and practical concerns around generative AI, particularly relating to how it might be used in academic research



Briefly About - Copyright

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online

Duration: 30 minutes

Session outline

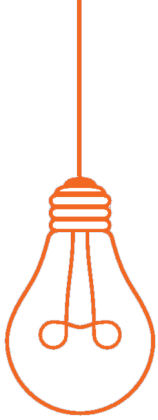
This workshop is for Postgraduate Researchers with little or no knowledge of copyright and licensing considerations for academic research.

Join us for a concise, 30-minute session which will introduce the fundamentals of copyright, including how your thesis and other research outputs are protected and can be licensed for reuse. This session will also address important considerations when it comes to incorporating other people's copyrighted material in your work and preparing for publication.

By the end of this session, you will have a clearer understanding of how copyright is defined in the context of your work, and how it works alongside wider developments in open research.

Learning Objectives

- Learn basic definitions of copyright and the exceptions provided in UK law
- Understand how the University's copyright regulations and policies apply to Postgraduate Researchers
- Discover how open licences such as Creative Commons enable wider reuse of copyrighted material



Briefly About - Research Project Management

Audience: Staff

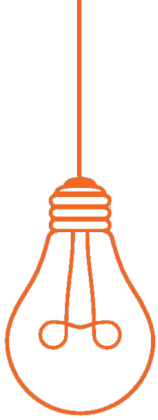
Book via: LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

There is a wealth of information about Project Management, but very little that is specific to managing research projects. In this introductory session, we will focus on practical approaches that are tailored for the University's research environment and systems. Topics will include project planning, monitoring and reporting, budget management and day to day running. This session is aimed at researchers who are new to managing research grants and teams, and don't have dedicated research support.



Copyright and Licensing: the Basics

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

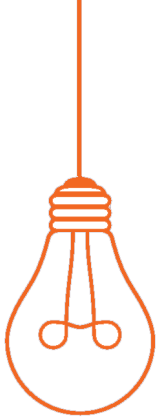
Duration: 1 hour

Session outline

Copyright legislation and licensing frameworks can be complex, but are essential when it comes to protecting rightsholders/creators and enabling others to reuse material fairly under certain circumstances. It is important for researchers to consider copyright issues throughout the research cycle, whether you are incorporating someone else's work or preparing to make your own material publicly available.

This introductory session covers the fundamentals of copyright and licensing for research, exploring the legal terms, exceptions and licences such as Creative Commons which are most relevant to staff and students preparing material for a thesis or publication. Case studies from York researchers will be shared and we will signpost where further support and guidance can be found.

Towards the end of the session time will be given over to questions and answers.



Framing Your Research Question

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online, in person

Duration: 2 hours

Session outline

In this session we'll consider how to come up with a workable research question with regards to the available literature: is there enough information to provide a suitable background? What limits will you need to set? We'll consider which literature will help you contextualise your research and inform your literature search.

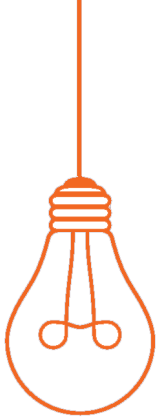
We'll explore how to scope a range of different sources, including academic, government and organisational literature. By the end of the session you should be able to understand which literature will help you contextualise your research question, access a range of information sources provided by the University Library, set limits on search queries, and conduct scoping searches on a range of resources.

For more advice on framing your research question, take a look at our Framing your research guide

Learning Objectives

- Understand which literature will help you contextualise your research question
- Be able to access a range of information sources
- Be able to conduct scoping searches on a range of resources

How Can Your Work Make a Difference? Introduction to Research Impact and Knowledge Exchange



Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), Google Form (online session) **

Available: In person / online

Duration: 1.5 hours / 30 minutes

Session outline

Impact outside of academia is an increasingly important aspect of research. Several different areas, including the economy, the environment, and societal health and wellbeing, can be positively impacted by academic research. Many researchers are motivated by the possibility of making a difference to the wider world, and research funders are placing a greater emphasis on plans for impact and knowledge exchange. Knowledge exchange involves working towards impacts by engaging non-academic partners with research, such as by collaborating with industry, creating start-up companies, or engaging with the government or public.

This in-person session will introduce the essentials of research impact and knowledge exchange, and explore the question that's really important: how can my research make a difference? Attendees will have the opportunity to reflect on stakeholder groups that may have an interest in their research and impact goals related to their own work.

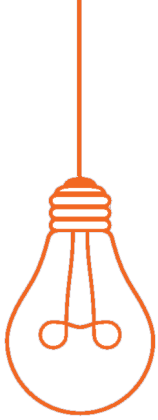
A guest speaker will discuss their first-hand experiences of achieving impact from their research, with time for attendees to ask questions. We will also signpost towards further support available at the university.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this session, participants will:

- Understand what is meant by research impact
- Understand key types of knowledge exchange
- Begin considering impact goals in their own work

**This session is available in different formats for different audiences, with different runtimes. The online seminar is available to PGRs and Staff.



Introduction to Intellectual Property and Research Commercialisation

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

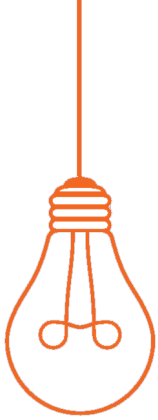
This course provides a brief overview of what Intellectual Property (IP) is and most importantly, how it can be used to benefit your research.

Coming away from the session, you will understand how IP and commercialisation processes can be used to increase your research impact, develop new funding opportunities, and strengthen your grant applications.

The course will also highlight common mistakes researchers make with IP and how these mistakes can be avoided in the future.

The Commercialisation Team at the University of York are here to support researchers by helping to turn research ideas into products and services that have societal benefit. That does not mean every product or service needs to be sold necessarily.

In this talk we will show you what we can do to help support your research and what that support looks like.



Managing Sensitive Research Data

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 1.5 hours

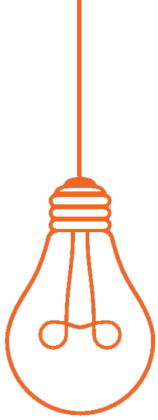
Session outline

If you work with sensitive research data you will need to ensure that you manage this research data securely and adhere to any relevant legislation, contractual or ethical obligations in order to protect it.

This awareness raising session outlines some of the key principles to bear in mind when working with sensitive research data. Starting with planning for the management of sensitive data, to storing, collecting, archiving, sharing and protecting the sensitive data you may encounter as part of your work.

Learning Objectives

- Develop an understanding of considerations specific to working with sensitive research data, and why planning ahead is important
- Learn about the University's processes for working with sensitive research data
- Start to consider the things you need to do when data archiving and sharing is planned.



Managing Your PhD/Research Project

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online, in person (date TBC in semester 2)

Duration: 1.5-2 hours

Session outline

This session is suitable for Postgraduate Researchers who are new to managing large-scale research projects.

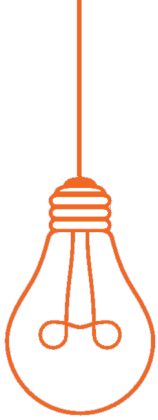
Whether you're about to embark on a new project or simply want to strengthen your project management skills, this training will provide you with the essential tools and knowledge.

In this session, you will gain a comprehensive understanding of the project life cycle, from initiation to completion. You will learn how to define clear objectives, plan and schedule effectively, manage resources, identify and mitigate risks, and monitor and evaluate progress.

During this workshop you will be expected to take part in interactive activities to help you develop the essential skills needed to manage your research projects successfully.

Learning Objectives

- Explore how a project management approach can be effective in helping you take charge of your PhD
- Become familiar with basic project management techniques and investigated how they can be applied to your own PhD research
- Begin to develop a project plan for your PhD
- Discuss how to manage and communicate with various stakeholders



Policy Masterclass

Audience: PGRs, Staff

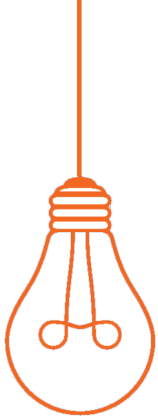
Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 3.5 hours

Session outline

The York Policy Engine (TYPE) is organizing a Policy Masterclass led by the UK Open Innovation Team. This online event, guided by experienced senior government policy advisors, offers insights into how government actually works, offering realistic advice on the most effective ways of contributing to policy. Open to all staff and Postgraduate Researchers seeking a foundational understanding of how policy works and how you can influence it.



Responsible Research & Ethics

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs) , LMS (Staff)

Available: Online, in person

Duration: 2 hours

Session outline

All those engaged with research are expected to maintain the highest standards of research integrity, from initial conception and conduct of the research through to dissemination and application.

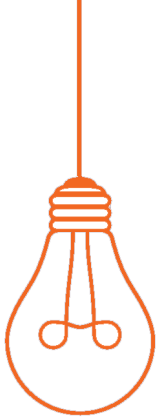
During this highly interactive session you will be encouraged to consider and discuss real case scenarios and case studies based on a variety of ethical dilemmas and challenges faced by researchers in different fields. These discussions will help you develop a deeper understanding of the principles of research integrity and the importance of ethical decision-making in your work.

We will talk about the Trusted Research initiative and how it aims to help researchers manage the risks presented by international research activities and to ensure that the research is undertaken in compliance with UK law.

In addition, this session will provide guidance on managing research data and advice on undertaking Data Protection compliant research.

Learning Objectives

- Apply the University guidelines and procedures relating to ethics and integrity including the process for ethical approval at York to your research
- Engage with debates and discussion about research integrity scenarios
- Identify common ethical issues that might arise in relation to research
- Recognise your obligations under the Data Protection Act and where to get additional support and guidance



What Goes Into a Grant?

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online

Duration: 1.5 hours

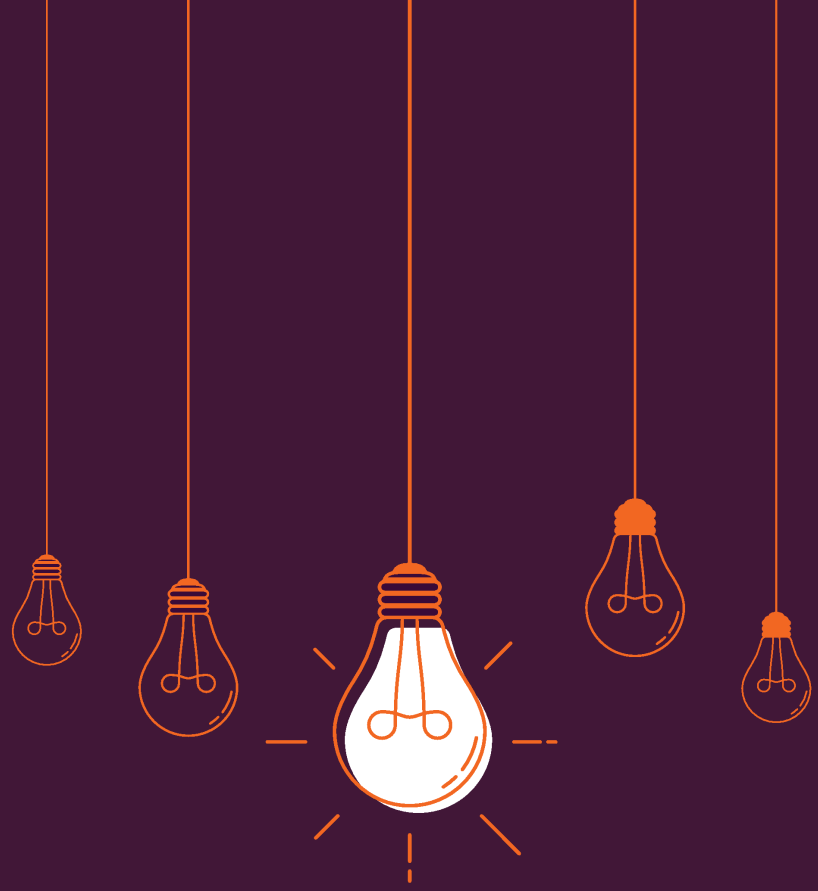
Session outline

This workshop is suitable for Postgraduate Researchers (PGRs) with little or no experience of developing funding applications.

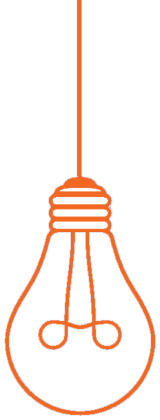
In this session, you will gain a fundamental understanding of the grant application process. We will explore the structure and components of a typical grant application, providing you with a clear picture of what is expected. You will learn about the average time required to develop a funding proposal, from initial concept to submission, and the key stages involved

Learning Objectives

- Recognise the wide range of potential sources of research funding
- Consider what project you might wish to focus on, why you should do it and why now
- Understand the key elements of proposal writing and signpost to sources of support



Wellbeing



Exploring Resilience and Work-Life Balance

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 2 hours

Session outline

This session, tailored to the research environment, and led by a former academic researcher Steve Hutchinson, will focus on the 'Inner Game' of being a researcher. We'll examine the beliefs that help and limit our capabilities, and specifically we'll focus on:

- Confidence building, and dealing with 'Imposterness'
- Building personal resilience for handling rejection and criticism
- Personal wellbeing and work-life balance

Learning Objectives

- To understand 'Imposter Syndrome' and recognise it in yourself
- To develop resilience and build self-confidence for handling rejection and criticism
- To explore your work-life balance and how it could be improved

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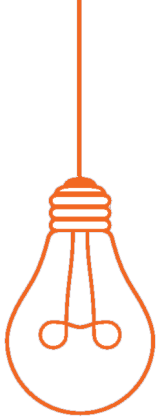


Getting Started With Your Research Degree

Audience: PGRs

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs)

Available: Online

Duration: 2 hours

Session outline

This session is suitable for Postgraduate Researchers who are at the beginning of their Research Degree and want to find out where to start with their research and professional development.

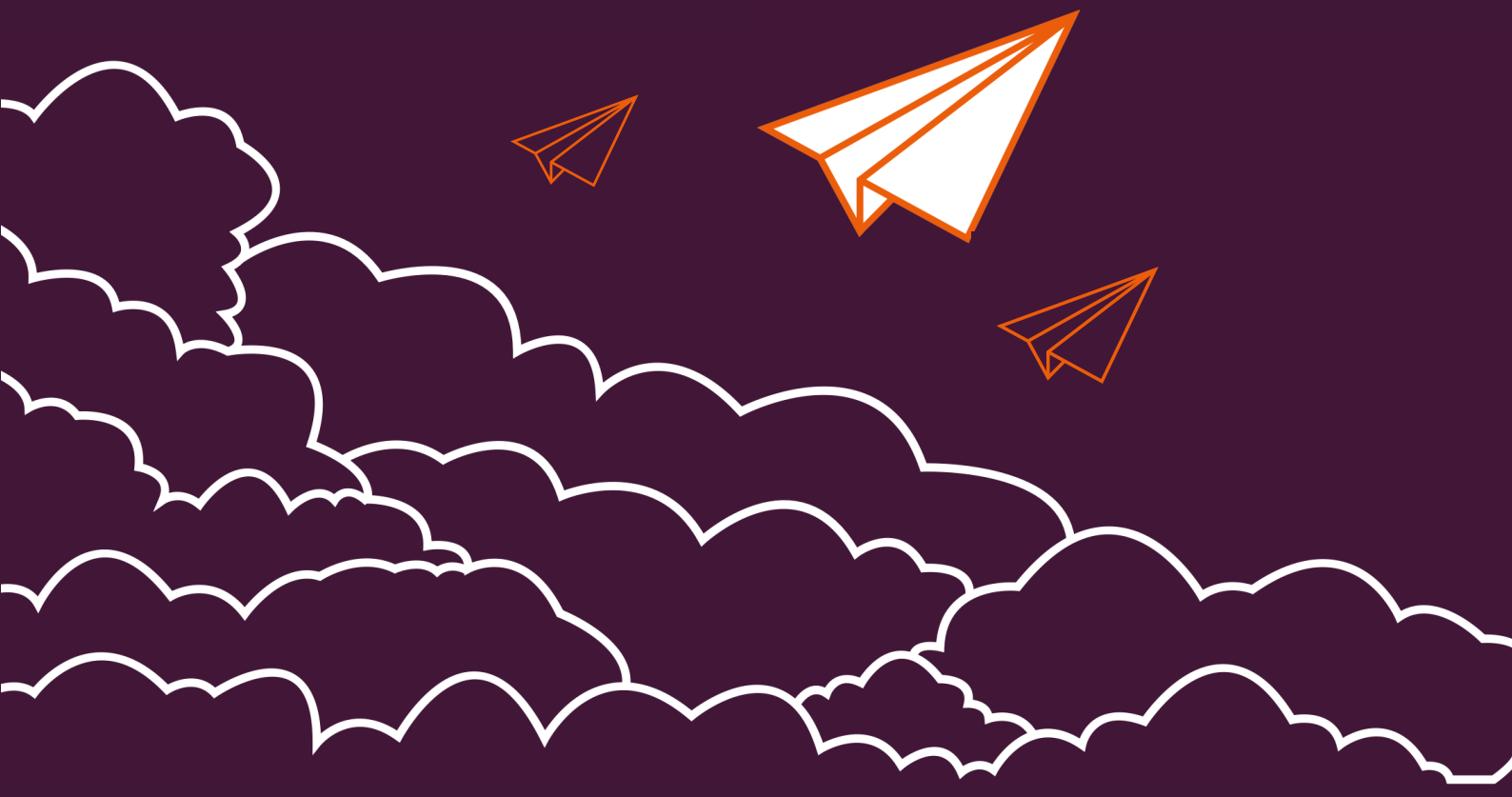
During the workshop we will explore how to effectively plan your PhD, manage your professional network and how to overcome common challenges.

We will also talk about development opportunities you can engage with – but how can you choose the right things for you? And how do you make sure you don't miss out? Come along to this session to explore what's on offer and how to make the most of your time at York.

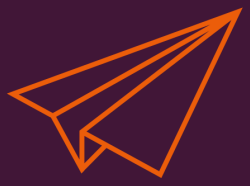
Learning Objectives

- Understand what a Research Degree is and what's involved in managing your study
- Understand the role of your Supervisor and how to establish a productive relationship with them
- Learn how to overcome common challenges encountered during a research degree programme
- Identify resources and support services available for you
- Explore a variety of professional development opportunities during your time at York

York Fellowship Launchpad



The Fellowship Launchpad is for aspiring Research Fellows - including PGRs, Postdocs, Research Associates, Teaching Fellows & Lecturers. We offer a range of workshops to inform & support you through applying for an Early Career Fellowship.



Our EXPLORE sessions are concise online workshops, which will introduce you to key fellowship topics. The series as a whole aims to build a strong foundational knowledge which you can apply to your fellowship application. However each session is designed as a standalone event, meaning you can pick and choose particular areas of focus if you prefer. These sessions are ideal for those considering a fellowship as a next career step, as well as anyone looking to refresh their fellowships knowledge.

Our NAVIGATE sessions are funder-focused online workshops, which will introduce you to major funders and their fellowship schemes. Each session will cover a particular funder/scheme, and also look at internal selection processes at York. NAVIGATE workshops are also available to external applicants (who can book a place by emailing bric@york.ac.uk).

You can also book a **30 minute 1:1 DROP-IN appointment** to receive advice on funders or schemes, request help with an application, or ask any other questions.

Contact us with any general Fellowship enquiries at fellowships@york.ac.uk

NAVIGATE: Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 1.5 hours

Session outline

This event is part of York's Fellowship Launchpad: NAVIGATE workshops, funder-focused online workshops introducing aspiring research fellows to major funders and their fellowship schemes. At this event we explore the Leverhulme Trust and their Early Career Fellowship Scheme.

Learning Objectives

- Gain insight into the Leverhulme Trust and what they value as a funder
- Explore the Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship Scheme including its aims and eligibility criteria
- Learn about the selection and evaluation processes for this fellowship scheme

EXPLORE: Research Funding (and Why it Matters to You!)

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

What are the benefits of bringing in external research income? Why is it important to you and the institution? How much does research cost?

Aspiring research fellows are invited to explore the topic of research funding, consider funder rules and how that might impact your decision making.

This event is part of York's Fellowship Launchpad: EXPLORE series, a series of nine short online sessions (45 minutes) introducing aspiring research fellows to key fellowship topics. The series is sequential helping you to build a strong foundational knowledge from which to start your fellowship application. Other topics include 'Finding a Fellowship Mentor', Choosing the Right Scheme for your Research' and 'Developing a Fellowship Application: Step by Step'.

Learning Objectives

- Discover the benefits of generating research income for the individual and the institution
- Explore the Full Economic Costing (FEC) methodology
- Consider how choice of funder can affect research income
- Consider compliance & governance requirements of funding and how to get help with this

EXPLORE: What is an Early Career Fellowship?

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

What is an Early Career Fellowship? What is the difference between a fellowship and a project grant? What are the main components of a successful fellowship application?

Aspiring research fellows are invited to explore the topic of early career fellowships and how they support awardees to develop their research and career trajectory.

This event is part of York's Fellowship Launchpad: EXPLORE series, a series of nine short online sessions (45 minutes) introducing aspiring research fellows to key fellowship topics. The series is sequential helping you to build a strong foundational knowledge from which to start your fellowship application. Other topics include 'Finding a Fellowship Mentor', Choosing the Right Scheme for your Research' and 'Developing a Fellowship Application: Step by Step'.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the key differences between a research fellowship and a grant
- Explore the benefits of an early career fellowship

  Discover the main components of a successful fellowship application

EXPLORE: Choosing the Right Scheme for Your Research

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

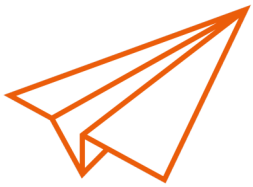
Is this funder the right fit for me and my research? Am I likely to be competitive at my career stage? Am I eligible?

Aspiring research fellows are invited to consider what to look out for when comparing and contrasting early career fellowship schemes.

This event is part of York's Fellowship Launchpad: EXPLORE series, a series of nine short online sessions (45 minutes) introducing aspiring research fellows to key fellowship topics. The series is sequential helping you to build a strong foundational knowledge from which to start your fellowship application. Other topics include 'Research Funding (and why it matters to you!)', 'Finding a Fellowship Mentor', and 'Developing a Fellowship Application: Step by Step'.

Learning Objectives

- Consider how to identify suitable fellowship schemes
- Reflect on the importance of eligibility, evaluation and timing in your decision-making



EXPLORE: Finding a Fellowship Mentor

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

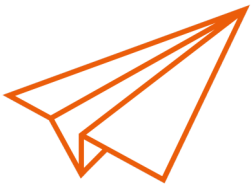
What is a Fellowship Mentor? What should I be looking for in a fellowship mentor and how will we work together?

Aspiring research fellows are invited to consider what role a fellowship mentor plays in fellowship applications and awards.

This event is part of York's Fellowship Launchpad: EXPLORE series, a series of nine short online sessions (45 minutes) introducing aspiring research fellows to key fellowship topics. The series is sequential helping you to build a strong foundational knowledge from which to start your fellowship application. Other topics include 'Research Funding (and why it matters to you!)', Choosing the Right Scheme for your Research', and 'Developing a Fellowship Application: Step by Step'.

Learning Objectives

- Discover what a fellowship mentor is and how they support aspiring and current fellows
- Consider strategies for making connections with potential fellowship mentors



EXPLORE: Developing a Fellowship Application: Step by Step

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

You've found a fellowship scheme that offers a great fit for you and your research, you're working with a fellowship mentor and you think it's the right time in your career to apply. What are the next steps?

Aspiring research fellows are invited to explore fellowship application writing step by step, including timelines for development and feedback and top tips for writing.

This event is part of York's Fellowship Launchpad: EXPLORE series, a series of nine short online sessions (45 minutes) introducing aspiring research fellows to key fellowship topics. The series is sequential helping you to build a strong foundational knowledge from which to start your fellowship application. Other topics include 'Research Funding (and why it matters to you!)', Choosing the Right Scheme for your Research', and 'Identifying your professional development needs in Fellowship proposals'.

Learning Objectives

- Gain a greater understanding of fellowship writing
- Explore the different stages of fellowship proposal development from idea to submission

NAVIGATE: UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 1.5 hours

Session outline

This event is part of York's Fellowship Launchpad: NAVIGATE workshops, funder-focused online workshops introducing aspiring research fellows to major funders and their fellowship schemes. At this event we will explore UKRI's Future Leaders Fellowship Scheme round 10.

Learning Objectives

- Explore the Future Leaders Fellowship Scheme including its aims and eligibility criteria
- Learn about the internal selection and evaluation processes for this fellowship scheme

EXPLORE: Identifying Your Professional Development Needs in Fellowship Proposals

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

What are my professional development needs? What learning and development opportunities are available to me?

Aspiring research fellows are invited to think carefully about their specific professional development needs and explore how they will address them over the course of the fellowship timeline.

This event is part of York's Fellowship Launchpad: EXPLORE series, a series of nine short online sessions (45 minutes) introducing aspiring research fellows to key fellowship topics. The series is sequential helping you to build a strong foundational knowledge from which to start your fellowship application. Other topics include 'Research Funding (and why it matters to you!)', Choosing the Right Scheme for your Research', and 'Developing a Fellowship Application: Step by Step'.

Learning Objectives

- Learn about the role of the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers and Vitae Researcher Development framework in identifying professional development needs
- Consider approaches to addressing your professional development needs within your fellowship proposal

EXPLORE: Writing a Lay Summary Within a Fellowship Application

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

Aspiring research fellows are invited to explore the importance of lay summaries within fellowship applications and top tips on how to distil your carefully thought-out proposal into a short and compelling pitch.

This event is part of York's Fellowship Launchpad: EXPLORE series, a series of nine short online sessions (45 minutes) introducing aspiring research fellows to key fellowship topics. The series is sequential helping you to build a strong foundational knowledge from which to start your fellowship application. Other topics include 'Choosing the Right Scheme for your Research', 'Getting Started with your Narrative CV' and 'Developing a Fellowship Application: Step by Step'.

Learning Objectives

- Learn about lay summaries and why they matter to funders
- Reflect on what makes a great lay summary

EXPLORE: Getting Started with Your Narrative CV

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

Aspiring research fellows are invited to explore the narrative CV format (R4RI) and top tips for getting started with your own narrative CV.

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Learning Objectives

- Learn about narrative CVs and why they matter to funders
- Discover the differences between an academic CV and narrative CV
- Identify ways of getting started with your own narrative CV

EXPLORE: Planning for Impact in Fellowship Applications

Audience: PGRs, Staff

Book via: SkillsForge (PGRs), LMS (Staff)

Available: Online

Duration: 45 minutes

Session outline

Making a difference outside of academia is an increasingly important aspect of research. Several different areas, including the economy, the environment and health and wellbeing, can be positively impacted by academic research. Many researchers are motivated by the possibility of positively impacting the wider world, and research funders are placing a greater emphasis on plans for impact.

This session will explore what research impact is and its relevance to fellowship funding. Aspiring research fellows are invited to consider how impact may fit into their fellowship applications, and how they might embed impact-related activities throughout the duration of the fellowship.

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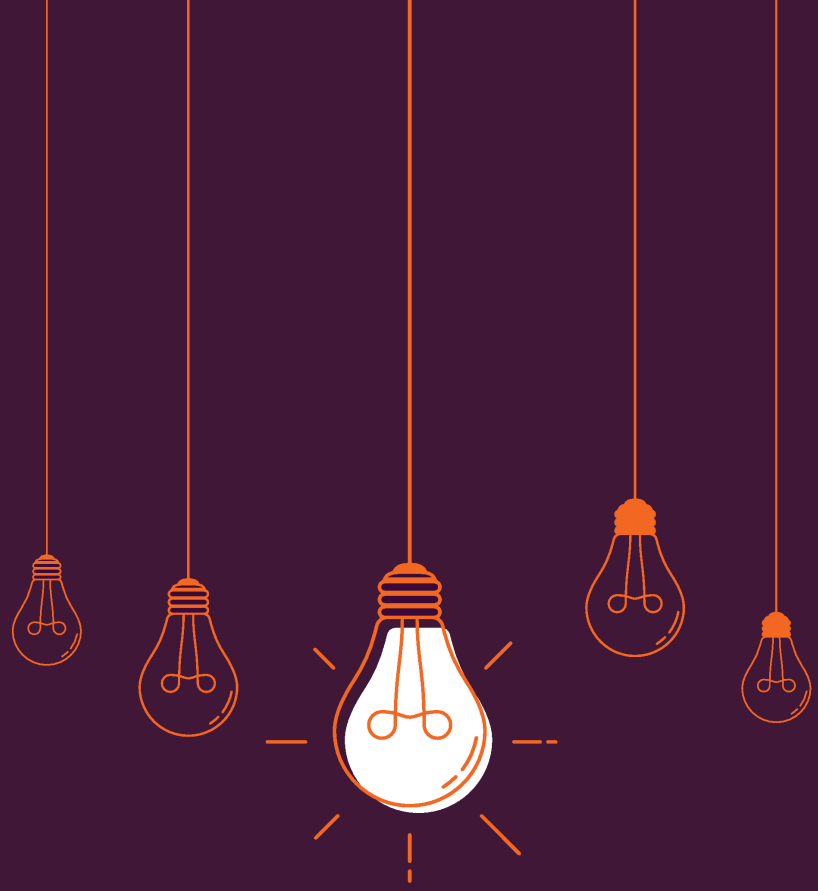
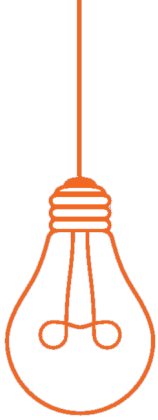
Learning Objectives

- Gain understanding of research impact and why it matters to funders
- Explore factors to consider when planning for impact in fellowship applications



Internal Resources



Academic Writing Centre

The Writing Centre offers advice and guidance on academic writing, critical thinking and analysis skills, developing effective study habits and communication skills. PGRs can book a virtual appointment to receive personalised support

BRIC Researcher Resources

The BRIC Team has compiled a comprehensive collection of resources from both current and past workshops within the training programme. You can access on-demand content such as slides and worksheets to supplement the workshops. This Google Site will be updated throughout the year.

Careers and Placements

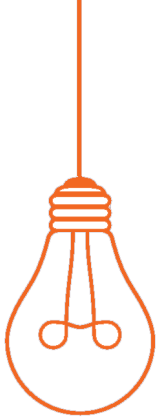
The Careers Team offers support to current students and alumni at York, to help you identify and develop your skills, choose the right career, and apply for jobs. The team also has online resources, offers individual appointments, and advertises local jobs. Visit the Careers webpages to learn more

Maths Skills Centre

The Maths Skills Centre offers advice and guidance on maths topics, statistical concepts and analysis, and preparing for numerical reasoning tests. Book a virtual appointment to receive personalised support, or browse the available workshops

eResources Guide

Access the Library's specialist databases, search engines and online archives, on- and off-campus. Explore the eResources Guide



Planning your Professional Development

To help you make informed decisions about your professional development, we've created resources to help you plan your professional development. PGRs should follow the Professional Development Plan webpage; while the Looking Beyond Horizons resources are available for Staff.

Practical Guides

Specialised, in depth Skills Guides including Bibliometrics, Open Research, Systematic Research, Research Data Management, Open Access Publishing and Creative Commons for Researchers.

Skills Guides

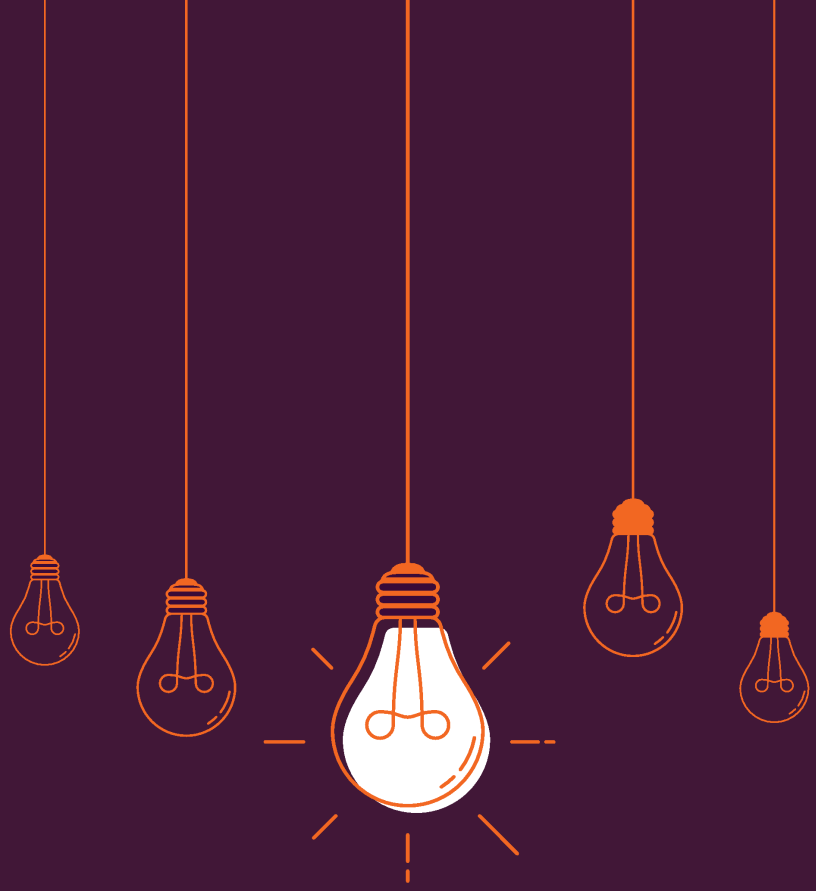
Find videos, interactive tutorials, workbooks and links to specific help for developing your digital information searching and academic skills. Organised into three themes; Find and research; Organise and analyse; Create and communicate. View the range of Skills Guides, and upcoming Skills Training events.

Subject Guides

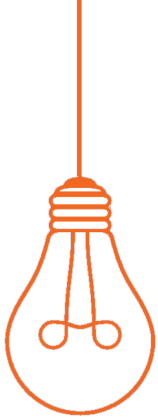
Select your subject to book an appointment with your Faculty Librarian, discover books, journals and other resources and get help to improve the academic skills required for your subject. Learn more about the support available for your subject

The Anti-Racist Research Toolkit

The Anti-Racist research toolkit connects scholars and practitioners across disciplines, and provides the building blocks for developing new understandings of research processes and practices through an anti-racist lens. It is a key resource for those committed to producing research that is ethically driven and places social justice at its heart. Learn more about the Anti-Racist toolkit



External Resources

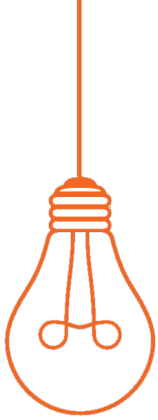


FutureLearn Career Management for Early Career Academic Researchers

This massive open online course (MOOC) includes articles, videos and reflective exercises to help researchers explore various career options, both within and outside academia, and build confidence in job applications and interviews. To access the course you will need to register for a free account on FutureLearn and enrol in the course. You will have 4 weeks of free access so choose a time when you will be able to complete it within this period.

Prosper Portal

The Prosper Portal offers a wealth of tools and resources to help postdoctoral researchers explore various career pathways, both within and beyond academia. The portal is structured around three key themes: Reflect, Explore, and Act. These themes guide users through identifying their strengths and interests, exploring different career options, and taking actionable steps towards their career goals. Watch our introductory session to help you get started with Prosper

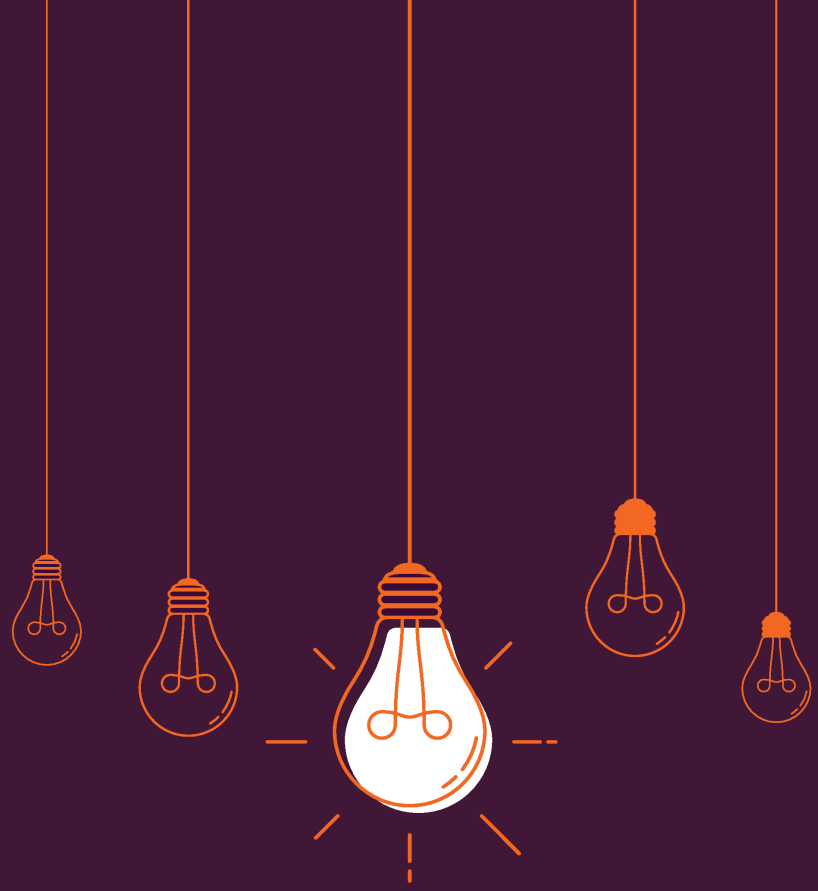


Vitae

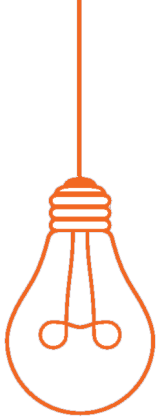
Vitae is an organisation dedicated to supporting the professional development of researchers. York is a Vitae member: after registering with your University email address you will be able to access a variety of resources and tools to help you enhance your skills, plan your career, and connect with others. Vitae resources include the Researcher Development Framework which outlines the knowledge, behaviours and attributes of successful researchers.

White Rose University Consortium

The White Rose University Consortium is a strategic partnership between the Universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York, aimed at promoting collaboration and knowledge sharing. We recommend joining their newsletter to keep up to date with upcoming training and networking events and funding opportunities.



Events



Celebrating Spaces: Connecting Researchers

An internal open day that aims to bring together all of the University of York's research and research-enabling staff to showcase, explore, and enjoy both the wide range of research carried out at our institution and the unique and often unknown spaces that facilitate that research. Learn more about Celebrating Spaces.

PhD Spotlight

The PhD Spotlight competition challenges postgraduate researchers to engage the public with their original and cutting edge research, through the medium of an interactive display/experience. Created by the York Graduate Research School (YGRS) in 2015, PhD Spotlight originally began as a poster competition, and has since evolved to allow for greater creativity and range of mediums.

Three Minute Thesis (3MT)

3MT® competitions challenge participants to explain their research effectively and concisely to a non-specialist audience in three minutes, helping to develop their presentation and research communication skills.

Communicating to different audiences helps demonstrate the contribution that research makes to wider society and the economy. The University of York 3MT® is a chance for our PGRs to engage and enthuse an audience about their research.