

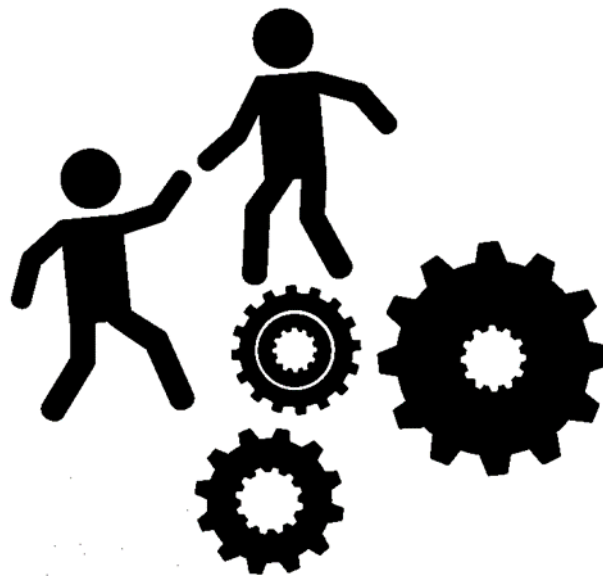


**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

The Graduate School

**Professional Development
and
Researcher Training Programme**

2022 - 23



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Please use the most up-to-date version of this document, which is available on our Researcher Development webpages here: northumbria.ac.uk/PGRResearcherDevelopment

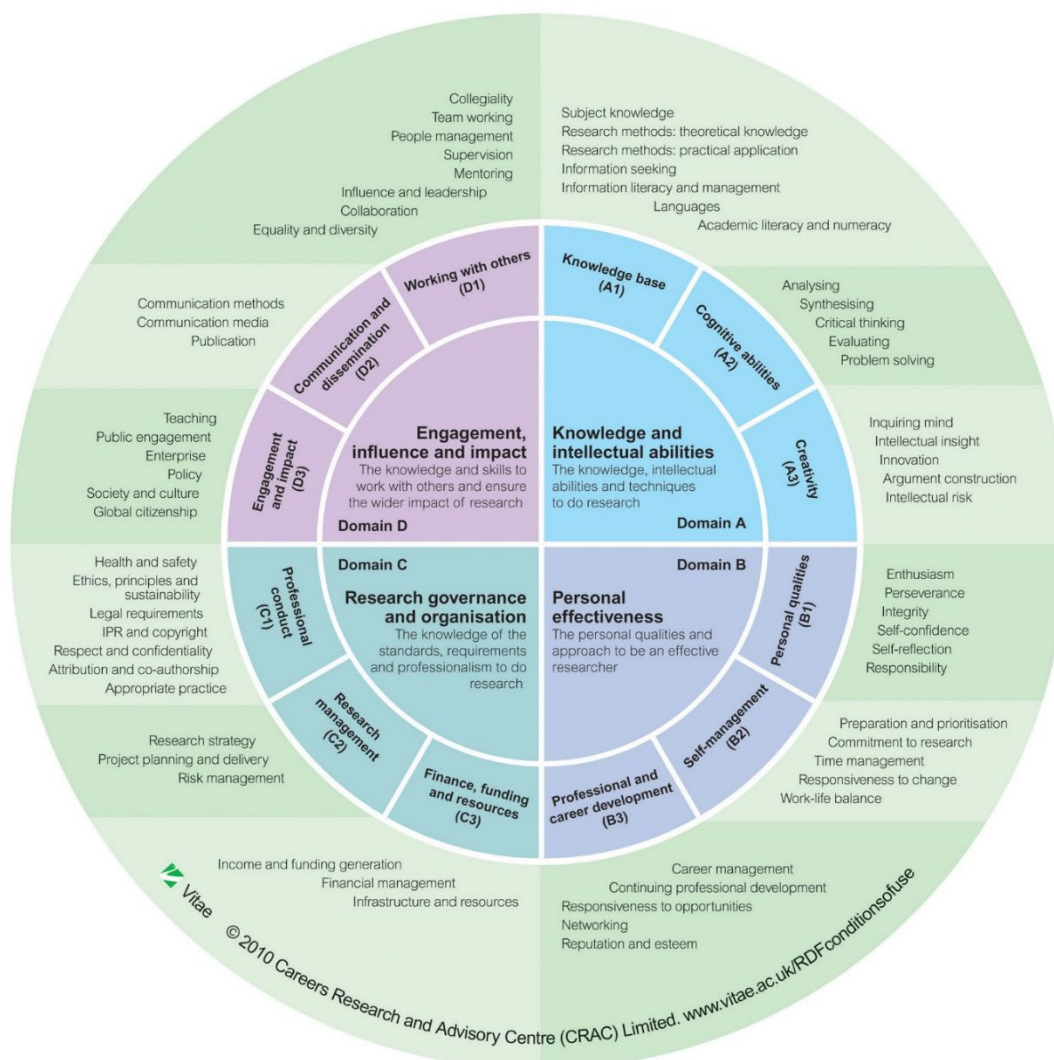
Professional Development and Researcher Training Programme (PDRT) at Northumbria

All postgraduate researchers (PGRs) have access to a **flexible researcher development programme**, organised at University level to provide the skills needed to successfully complete their doctorate. The PDRT is mapped against the *Vitae* Researcher Development Framework and supports PGRs in four key areas:

- Knowledge and intellectual abilities
- Personal effectiveness
- Research governance and organisation
- Engagement, influence and impact

At the end of their doctorates, we aim to have supported PGRs to deepen the research and transferrable skills that will not only make them successful independent researchers, but also widen their options for future employment.

To view the programme and register for an event please click here: <http://rbscalendar.northumbria.ac.uk/calendar/pdrt>



What is Skills Development?

This programme has been designed specifically to meet the needs of Northumbria's PGR community. It provides a range of opportunities for PGRs throughout the duration of their research degree to continue their personal and professional development.

The programme offers PGRs the opportunity to:

- Enhance their individual personal and professional competencies
- Identify their personal training route
- Help them to a timely and successful completion and to thrive in a competitive job market
- Enhance their time and experience at Northumbria University through an interdisciplinary, cohort model of support

It can be useful to think of skills development at the University as being divided into two distinct areas, 'discipline specific' and 'transferable' (sometimes called 'generic') research skills.

Discipline specific training is normally delivered at Faculty/ Departmental level, whilst Research and Innovation Services focus on transferable skills which are relevant to PGRs in all Faculties, **creating an interdisciplinary environment for research training to take place**. Research and Innovation Services concentrates on delivering **transferable skills** sessions focusing on the **personal and professional development** of researchers and the **processes and procedures** that are involved in completing a research degree. Faculties and academic departments focus on delivering discipline specific training and providing a rich academic environment for PGRs. You will develop your own training programme through a combination of these and any external opportunities such as conferences, workshops and publishing.

What are the training requirements?

At the end of your research degree, you will need to be able to think about your research, write about your research, talk about your research and plan what you are going to do after your research. You must consider which training to attend and when would be best for you to attend during your doctoral journey; attending all the training on offer here will not get you your research degree, you also develop your research skills through discussions with your peers and attendance at research seminars and conferences. By participating in the wider research culture of Northumbria and taking advantage of the networks that exist within your discipline you will be able to exploit more opportunities and develop your career as a researcher.

Compulsory Training Sessions

You must attend these training programmes (timescales indicated):

1. **Faculty Induction** (attendance by project approval submission)
2. **Ethics Training** (to be completed before the start of your active research and by Annual Progression Year One)
3. **Annual Progression: Preparing for the Panel** (attendance by submission of Annual progression Two)
4. **Preparing for the Viva** (attendance before your viva voce, recommended to attend before submission of your thesis)

Planning your Development

There is no set training programme for any PGR. It is your responsibility to access courses and other opportunities as they arise and in fitting with the stage of your research degree. Some training courses are designed to meet different needs at different times of your research degree. You should make sure that your chosen course is correct for your stage and you should not try to complete big chunks of training at the same time.

Assessing your Skills

Before booking onto any training courses you will need to evaluate your training needs with your Principal Supervisor. This should be at least an annual process and will be formally reviewed as part of your annual progression.

English Language Information and Support for International PGR Students

Northumbria University provides information and support here:

<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/international/international-admissions/english-language-requirements/>

This includes access to the **English and Study Skills (including Summer School)**, details of which can be accessed here: <https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/english-and-study-skills-including-summer-school-ft-dofell4/#get-updates>

Tools to help you plan your development

Online Training Needs Analysis

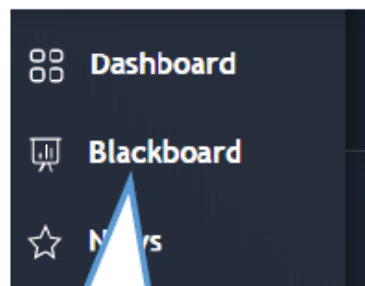
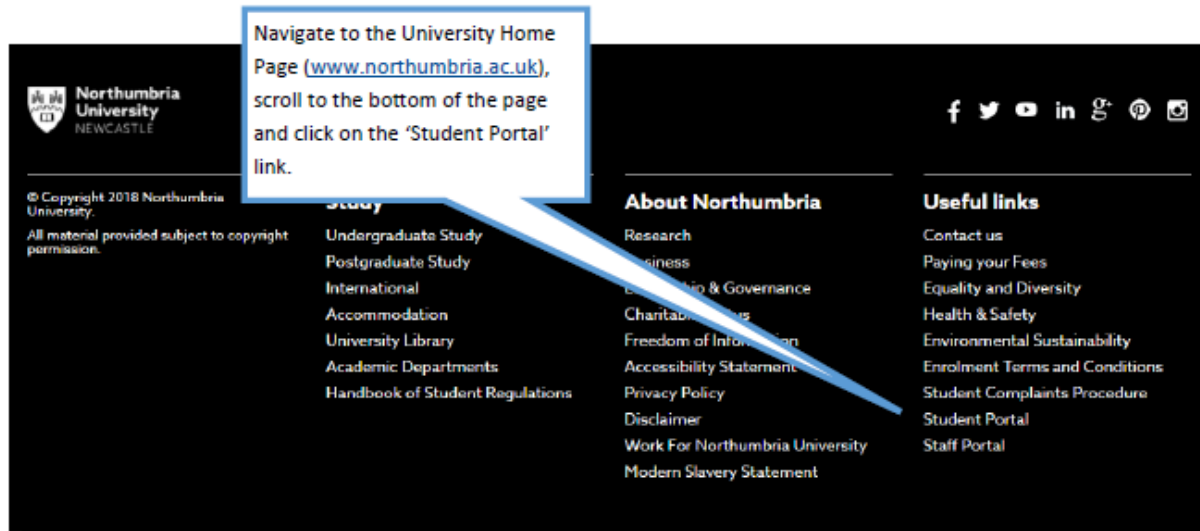
The PDRT helps PGRs progress through their doctorate **by identifying their existing skills and providing opportunities to further develop their skills and experience.** Undertaken annually with the support of their supervisor, and recorded online, this process helps PGRs identify their strengths and areas to develop for the future.



Researcher Development at Northumbria – eLearning Portal

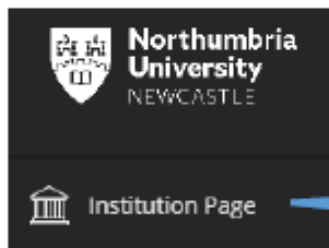
Our eLearning Portal on the University's Blackboard site houses a large selection of online interactive courses, as well as all compulsory training, guidance and videos. To access the content from the Student Portal, follow the guidance below.

How to access Blackboard from the Student Portal



Click on the Blackboard link. You will be redirected to the Blackboard site

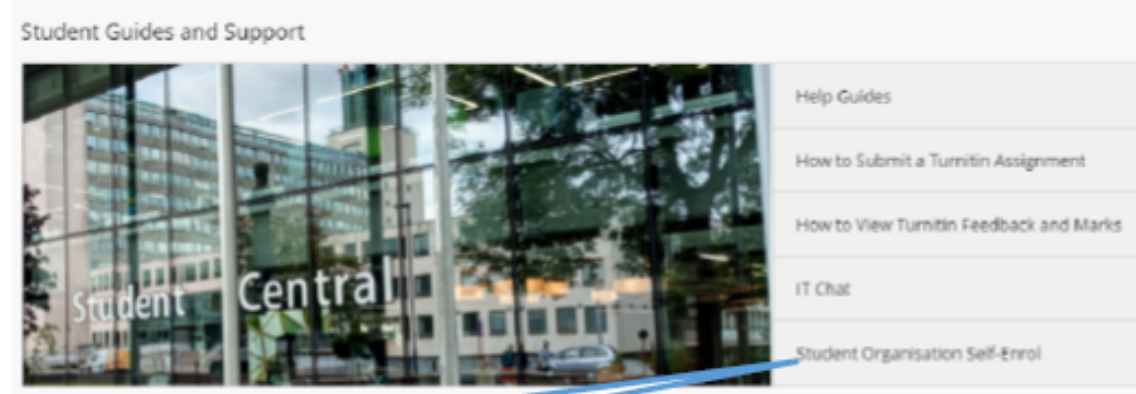
How to self-enrol onto the eLP organisation site



Northumbria University
NEWCASTLE

Institution Page

Access Blackboard and click on the Institution Page tab



Student Guides and Support

Help Guides

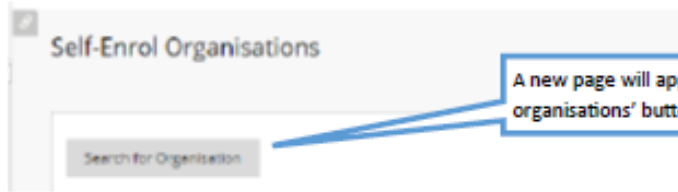
How to Submit a Turnitin Assignment

How to View Turnitin Feedback and Marks

IT Chat

Student Organisation Self-Enrol


Scroll down and choose the 'Student Organisation Self-Enrol' option



Self-Enrol Organisations

Search for Organisation

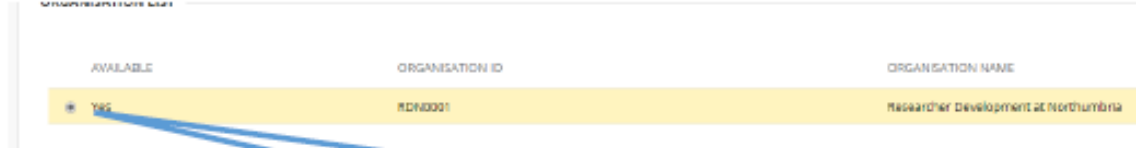
A new page will appear. Click on the 'search for organisations' button



Organisation Search

Search Organisation ID Contains RDN0001 Go

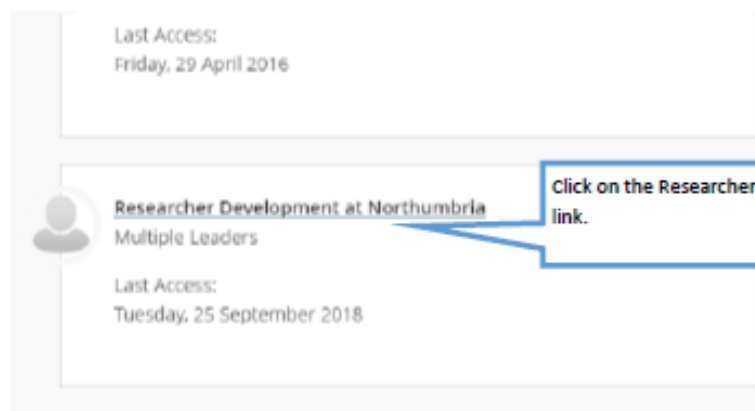
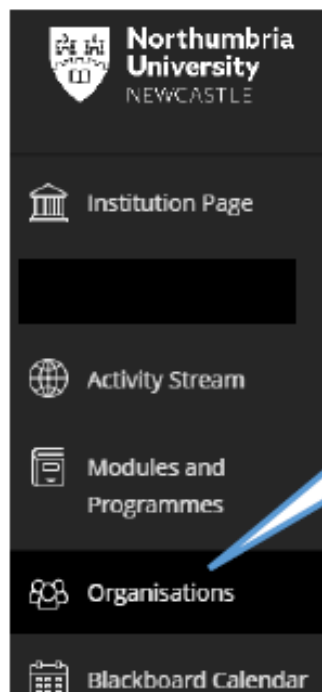
Type in 'RDN0001' into the search criteria and click 'Go'.



AVAILABLE	ORGANISATION ID	ORGANISATION NAME
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	RDN0001	Researcher Development at Northumbria

Select the organisation by clicking the radio button. The option will now be highlighted in yellow. Click the 'submit' button to proceed. A new page will appear informing you that you have been added to the organisation site.

How to navigate to site once enrolled



Professional Development and Research Training Programme

Compulsory Sessions

Annual Progression: Preparing for the Panel

RDF Domain(s):	Research Management (C2) Self-management (B2) Knowledge base (A1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students in their first and second year
Delivery:	Instructor-led Slides available via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

Each year students undergo annual progression to monitor their progress. For full time students their first and second year AP consists of a panel and report submission. This session covers what is required and how students can use the Panel as preparation for their viva. This course is compulsory – all students should attend.

Aims and Objectives:

- Explore what is required to complete annual progression
- Plan the final year before the Viva voce
- Understand the requirements for a research degree at Northumbria

Faculty Induction

RDF Domain(s):	Research Management (C2) Professional conduct (C1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students in their first year
Delivery:	Instructor-led

The session will provide an overview of what resources and support is available to postgraduate students within the Faculty - as well as what expectations the Faculty will have of them.

Arts, Design and Social Sciences
Business and Law
Engineering and Environment
Health and Life Sciences (City Campus)
Health and Life Sciences (Coach Lane)

Aims and Objectives

- Receive an introduction to the Faculty
- Learn about policies and procedures in both the Faculty and the University
- Meet key staff in the Faculty and other new students

Preparing for the Viva: The end is in sight

RDF Domain(s):	Creativity (A3) Professional conduct (C1) Knowledge base (A1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students in their final year
Delivery:	Instructor-led Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

Don't know your word count limit? Unsure what a viva involves and who will be there? This half day workshop will provide practical advice and information about university procedures around the viva and submitting your thesis. You will have the opportunity to hear from experienced examiners on what viva experiences have been like. It will demystify the process for you so that you feel confident entering the exam room.

Aims and Objectives:

- Gain an understanding of the University procedures involved in submitting their thesis and arranging their viva
- Gain an understanding of what to expect from the viva and how to prepare for it

Research Ethics Training

RDF Domain(s):	Professional conduct (C1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students in their first year
Delivery:	Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This training session is designed to be used as an overview of research ethics and the ethics review procedure to be followed by academic staff and students to ensure that research is carried out to the highest ethical standards. It will cover general principles of research ethics and governance, research ethics approval procedure, and guidance sources.

Aims and Objectives

- understand the principles of Informed Consent
- consider the safety and wellbeing of all participants (including the researcher)
- consider the rights of the research participants and the obligations of the researcher
- consider anonymity, confidentiality, data protection and records management



Professional Development and Research Training Programme

Optional Sessions

3 Minute Thesis® Competition

RDF Domain(s):	Engagement and Impact (D3) Personal Qualities (B1) Knowledge Base (A1) Communication & Dissemination (D2)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students in their second/third year
Delivery:	Instructor-led Information available via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) is an academic competition developed by The University of Queensland (UQ), Australia for research students. Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) celebrates the exciting research conducted by PhD students. The exercise cultivates students' academic, presentation, and research communication skills. The competition supports their capacity to effectively explain their research in three minutes, in a language appropriate to a non-specialist audience.

This session will provide an overview of the requirements of the competition and how you can apply to take part.

Aims and Objectives:

- Developing research communication skills
- Developing public engagement awareness

An Introduction to Academic Publishing

RDF Domain(s):	Communication and Dissemination (D2) Knowledge Base (A1) Self-management (B2) Personal Qualities (B1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

Writing and getting published are staple activities in academic life. The phrase “publish or perish” has become well known. The aim is to help you get your work published – and to do so as successfully as possible. We will focus on journal articles and hear from experienced academic writers and journal editors who can support you in developing a publication plan.

Aims and Objectives:

- Gain a critical understanding of where and how to publish their work
- Develop a publication plan and considered which Journals to publish in
- Understand what processes are involved in getting published? Who does what, when?

An Introduction to Research Impact

RDF Domain(s):	Engagement and Impact (D3)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Instructor-led Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

What is research impact and why is it important? How could you make a difference to society or the economy from your research in the future? From REF to research funding, building your career to making a difference in the world, find out more about research impact.

Aims and Objectives

- Explain what research impact is and why it is important in higher education
- Access resources to further develop your knowledge of research impact
- Develop your own ideas about how to create impact from your research

An introduction to Research Management for Postgraduate Researchers

RDF Domain(s):	Self-management (B2) Research Management (C2) Professional Conduct (C1) Cognitive Abilities (A2)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This session will introduce students to concepts that will allow them to effectively apply project management through the setting of research goals, intermediate milestones and prioritisation of activities. The session will also cover the life-cycle of the research process from the initial idea for a research problem through to completion and the viva.

Aims and Objectives:

- Explore how a project management approach can be effective in helping them take charge of their doctorate
- Identify areas of risk in doctoral projects
- Develop a project plan for their doctorate and use University milestones to measure progress

An Introduction to Research Posters

RDF Domain(s):	Communication and Dissemination (D2) Creativity (A3)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

Learn more about the layout and design of winning posters and how to create one of your own using design specific tools.

Aims and Objectives:

- Learn how to effectively design a poster
- Explore how to best use a poster at a conference

Bounce – Real Resilience for Researchers

RDF Domain(s):	Personal Qualities (B1) Self-management (B2) Cognitive Abilities (A2) Working with others (D1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students in their second year
Delivery:	Instructor-led

It's tricky enough to adjust to change and challenge at the best of times, and the need for real resilience is heightened by the challenge we all currently face. In this interactive, online workshop, you'll learn and practice fundamentals of resilience, so you can respond effectively, even to times like these.

Aims and Objectives:

- To find helpful perspectives on inevitable ups and downs
- About resilience, from your experiences
- Models for personal bounce and problem solving
- Proven methods to address difficulty and motivate yourself to engage and persevere
- From working with others and providing mutual support

Broadening your Horizons: Careers outside Academia

RDF Domain(s):	Professional and Career Development (B3) Personal Qualities (B1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Instructor-led Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This workshop will look at careers outside of academia and explore how you can develop your transferable skills to market yourself outside of academia.

You will be encouraged to consider and understand how you can use your research and skills within a commercial setting and how to pursue this aim.

Aims and Objectives:

- Develop skills to search for jobs outside of academia
- Consider transferable skills developed through the doctorate
- Understand how to make it happen

Careers in Academia

RDF Domain(s):	Professional and Career Development (B3) Knowledge Base (A1) Personal Qualities (B1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Instructor-led Slides available via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This webinar will offer PGRs an insight into academic careers covering post-doc awards, lecturing and research posts.

You will hear from current academics about their experiences and have the opportunity to ask questions and learn from each other.

Aims and Objectives:

- Understand what life is like as an early career researcher
- Explore how to market yourself in academia
- Consider whether academia is for you and how to progress

CVs, Applications and Interviews

RDF Domain(s):	Professional and Career Development (B3) Personal Qualities (B1) Communication & Dissemination (D2)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Instructor-led Slides available via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This session, led by Graduate Futures (Careers), will look at how you can perfect your CV and applications and improve your interview technique. You will understand how to successfully apply for roles both within and outside academia – from initial application to job offer.

Aims and Objectives:

- CVs – content and presentation of business and academic CVs
- Applications – how to match skills to job descriptions
- Interviews – what to expect/styles
- Learn how to perform your best at interview

Developing and Running a Research Event or Conference

RDF Domain(s):	Working with Others (D1) Cognitive Abilities (A2) Personal Qualities (B1) Finance, funding & resources (C3)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This programme seeks to support PGRs who wish to run a research event of their own. Be it a conference, symposium or seminar, this session will help you navigate how to run an event from start to finish. It will explore avenues for funding as well as hearing from researchers who have organised their own events.

Aims and Objectives:

- Knowledge of support available at Northumbria for running a conference
- Develop an idea for an event of their own
- Explore funding opportunities for PGR events

Developing your Academic Writing

RDF Domain(s):	Knowledge Base (A1) Self-management (B2) Personal Qualities (B1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

Developing your writing skills as early as possible during your PhD will make the writing up process much easier. This may be the first time that you have written anything that is intended to result in a published academic paper, or the size of a thesis. This can be daunting, so honing your writing skills is crucial.

It sounds simple but the more you write, the better you will become at it. This is a hands on session so you will be expected to write!

Aims and Objectives:

- Examine some of the barriers to writing
- Develop your time management skills to develop a writing plan
- Use a number of techniques to develop your writing style
- Complete exercises to develop your academic writing

Early Intervention: Career Planning for Postgraduate Researchers

RDF Domain(s):	Professional and Career Development (B3)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at the beginning of their doctorate
Delivery:	Instructor-led Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This webinar will enable post-doctoral students to consider their **individual career journey** and set career goals from the beginning of their doctorate. Whether you are just starting out or about to complete your PhD studies it is important to understand how you will use the skills and experience gained so far.

We will explore ways to determine personal skills and goals, explore the additional skills and experience you gain through postdoctoral study, and learn how to bridge any gaps, so you can develop an exciting career plan.

Aims and Objectives:

- Explore how to use the Researcher Development Framework to understand and plan your transferable skills
- Consider how your PhD can support future career goals – both within an academic setting and in a commercial environment

- Find out how to explore different career options - and know where to find further resources
- Set SMART goals to be achieved throughout your research period
- Understand where to gain support whilst at NU

How to be an Effective Researcher

RDF Domain(s): **Self-management (B2)**
Personal Qualities (B1)

Who the session is for: **Postgraduate research students in their first year**

Delivery: **Instructor-led**

A one-day workshop for postgraduate researchers in the first year of their doctorate drawing on the experience of their first few months. The course approaches the PhD as a project and engages with students to address issues of planning, time and resource management, problem solving and creativity. The supervisor and student relationship is also tackled, focusing on assertiveness and communication skills. This is a workshop focused training session and is only suitable for those who enjoy this kind of experiential learning.

Aims and Objectives

- Enhance your effectiveness as a postgraduate researcher
- Build upon understanding, skills and confidence in communication, problem solving, planning, leadership and assertiveness
- Have a greater self-awareness of learning and working styles

Introduction to Open Research at Northumbria

RDF Domain(s): **Knowledge Base (A1)**
Cognitive Abilities (A2)
Research Management (C2)

Who the session is for: **Postgraduate research students at any stage**

Delivery: **Instructor-led**

This session will introduce you to some key principles and practices of Open Research, which aims to increase transparency in the research process, and make the outputs of research free to access and use.

We'll look at support for Open Research at Northumbria, including what is required of researchers, and what you can choose to do to make your research more open.

Aims and Objectives

- Introduce key principles of Open Research
- Develop knowledge of support for open access publishing, including the repository and OA funds
- Develop knowledge of support for open data, including the Figshare platform and research data management
- Develop knowledge of responsible use of metrics and transparency in how research is assessed
- Provide information on how to register for, and use, ORCID

Networking and Making the Most of Conferences

RDF Domain(s):	Communication and Dissemination (C2) Working with others (D1) Personal Qualities (B1) Knowledge Base (A1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This event prepares PGRs for their first conference experience. The session seeks to develop your networking, presentation and communication skills. This session will get you ready for those academic conferences that are vital for your CV.

Aims and Objectives:

- Explore the benefits of attending an academic conference
- Develop a conference strategy
- Develop their networking and communicating skills

Pitch Perfect: Delivering better Presentations

RDF Domain(s):	Communication and Dissemination (D2) Personal Qualities (B1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

Delivering presentations, whether at seminars, conferences or through teaching is part of academic life. This session will introduce students to basic techniques to deliver engaging presentations. It will look at voice techniques and how to hone your personal style as well as the content of presentations.

Aims and Objectives:

- Explore what makes a good presentation
- Consider your personal presentation style
- Plan your next presentation



Postgraduate Researcher Introduction to Teaching

RDF Domain(s):	Cognitive abilities (A2) Professional and career development (B3) Working with others (D1) Engagement and Impact (D3)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students who wish to teach in higher education (not demonstrating) This course is a formal pre-requisite for University support towards HEA Fellowship
Delivery:	Instructor-led

*The programme is aimed at Postgraduate research students who are looking to add to their skills portfolio and strengthen their educational understanding and the pedagogical principles which underpin teaching and learning, in general and specifically within Higher Education. This programme is open to those who wish to apply for fellowship of the Higher Education Academy, are looking for part time lecturing opportunities within the University or have an interest in teaching in the future. There is a separate course for this who wish to be a demonstrator. This course includes two compulsory days in which you learn skills and techniques invaluable in an educational setting, plus a third optional day where you can put into practice the skills learned.

Aims and Objectives:

- Develop your knowledge and understanding of a range of learning and teaching issues relating to current practices in education
- The nature of pedagogy its central role in professional development as an academic
- You will be encouraged to make links between theory and practice by reflecting on your observations and experiences as student and teacher. Your learning will be set within the context of contemporary issues and drivers within university teaching in the UK

- You will develop a thorough understanding of how approaches to assessment are central to the process of Learning and Teaching and you will learn about the range of formative and summative strategies which can help to ensure your teaching is effective.
- This programme will allow you to reflect on your own educational experiences and the extent to which you would like to reproduce or redress these in your own practice

**This description is subject to change depending on the facilitator*

Practical Demonstrating

RDF Domain(s):	Professional Conduct (C1) Working with others (D1) Knowledge Base (A1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate Research Students who are supporting Undergraduate Students undertaking lab work.
Delivery:	Instructor-led Slides available via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This course will consider the role and responsibilities of being a laboratory demonstrator. The course is specifically aimed at those wanting to act in this role or have some experience of being a laboratory demonstrator.

Aims and Objectives:

- Consider the roles and responsibilities of being a demonstrator
- Understand health and safety guidelines relevant to this role

Project Approval: Getting Started

RDF Domain(s):	Research Management (C2) Self-management (B2) Knowledge base (A1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students in their first year, prior to Project Approval submission
Delivery:	Instructor-led Slides available via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

At the beginning of their course, students undergo Project Approval to monitor their progress using an online task within e-vision. This session covers a demonstration of the online submission system, to guide students who are approaching their Project Approval submission date on how to upload their work, and an opportunity to ask any questions on the functions of the online system.

Aims and Objectives

- Explore what is required to complete the online submission of Project Approval
- Understand the requirements for a research degree at Northumbria

Research Philosophies and Paradigms

RDF Domain(s): Cognitive Abilities (A2)
Who the session is for: Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery: Instructor-led

These sessions will present the philosophy of research, including alternative epistemological positions to provide researchers with a context for theory construction. The workshop will allow attendees to develop a critical understanding of the disciplines and methods upon which they will be drawing including the validity and scope of knowledge and appropriate alternative approaches to research.

Aims and Objectives:

- Discuss the nature of knowledge and originality
- Consider different philosophical paradigms appropriate to their research
- Discuss with other research students the nature of research and the epistemologies that underpin it

Unconscious Bias

RDF Domain(s): Professional Conduct (C1)
Working with Others (D1)
Personal Effectiveness (B1)
Who the session is for: Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery: Instructor-led

This workshop will help you to understand and begin to minimise the potentially harmful effects of unconscious bias. Using thought-provoking activities and discussion, you will gain a better understanding of unconscious bias, how it affects you, your relationships and your decisions at work.

Aims and Objectives

- Understand what unconscious bias is
- Explore some of the effects of unconscious bias
- Develop an awareness of how the effects of unconscious bias can be reduced

University and College Union (UCU) Information Session

RDF Domain(s):	Professional Conduct (C1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Instructor-led

This session will introduce students to UCU, which is the body that represents the interests of academic and postgraduate educators across the nation.

Aims and Objectives

- how UCU can work for you,
- how it can protect you
- how you can make a difference in the workplace.
-

Using Networking and LinkedIn to Develop your Career

RDF Domain(s):	Professional and Career Development (B3) Creativity (A3) Communication & Dissemination (D2)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Instructor-led Slides available via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

In this workshop we will explore the benefits and challenges of networking. In this digital age it is essential to ensure that your “personal brand” meets your professional aims and objectives.

LinkedIn is the world’s largest professional network. This session will include tips on how to secure valuable networking, shadowing and work experience opportunities during your research and will provide you with strategies to get ahead of the competition in recruitment processes by using LinkedIn.

Aims and Objectives

- To understand professional networking and how to develop a personal brand
- Explore LinkedIn to ensure effective use
- Learn how to create and use an effective profile
- Consider and develop a professional networking plan – to use throughout your studies and beyond

Writing up and Submitting

RDF Domain(s):	Creativity (A3) Self-management (B2) Professional Conduct (C1) Research Management (C2)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This session looks at the process of writing up your thesis and includes tasks to improve your writing practice. It will also look at the process of submitting your thesis for examination. This session will use Prof Vernon Trafford's approach to thesis writing and will look at ways you can develop your analytical arguments.

Aims and Objectives:

- Explore the process of nomination of examiners
- Gain knowledge of the thesis/ portfolio submission process
- Audit your thesis
- Ask questions on the submission process

Writing with Confidence

RDF Domain(s):	Knowledge Base (A1) Self-management (B2) Personal Qualities (B1)
Who the session is for:	Postgraduate research students at any stage
Delivery:	Online – via the Researcher Development eLearning Portal

This session will look at strategies for developing your writing style and confidence in academic writing. The training is focused on practical writing interventions so you can practice your writing skills, develop your academic vocabulary and develop a writing timetable. This training also explores a thesis framework to write too and some of the barriers that may stop us from writing.

Aims and Objectives:

- Develop their academic writing style and vocabulary
- Develop a personal writing timetable
- Develop a writing framework for their thesis
- Explore some of the barriers to writing

PDRT Housekeeping

How to register for an event

To register for an event visit the online booking system here:

<http://rbscalendar.northumbria.ac.uk/calendar/pdrt>

If you are no longer able to attend a session remember to cancel your booking via the online booking system. You must cancel at least 48 hours ahead of the scheduled programme. If you fail to attend an email will be sent to your supervisor notifying them of your absence.

If you fail to attend more than three training sessions any further bookings you have made will be cancelled. You will also forfeit the opportunity to apply for a conference bursary which is normally offered on a competitive basis.

Communications

You must check your University email account regularly – we recommend at least once a week – as **the programme is subject to change and additions throughout the year.**

Etiquette

The programme is delivered by a mixture of internal staff and external providers. Many staff volunteer their time to ensure a rigorous support system is in place for research students. As such please ensure that you show them courtesy by being prompt, arriving at least five minutes before the start of the programme.

Research and Innovation Services will prohibit the award of conference bursaries to students who repeatedly fail to attend Researcher Development Training they have booked onto. Students who book onto but fail to attend 3 training sessions will have their applications rejected.

Opportunities for Involvement

New Provision

Have you identified an area of training that you feel should be provided but is currently unavailable? If so please contact gs.graduateschool@northumbria.ac.uk to help us develop training in the future.

Develop your Facilitation Skills

Many of the sessions benefit from, or are based around current experiences of PGRs. If you would like to contribute, and develop your tutoring and leadership skills, then please contact gs.graduateschool@northumbria.ac.uk

Postgraduate Research Groups

Sometimes the best training comes from talking to other researchers. We can help you facilitate a research group. If you have an idea for a Group then please contact gs.graduateschool@northumbria.ac.uk

Other Resources

University Library

The University Library has a wide range of resources and help to support you at every stage of your research, as postgraduate research students, early career researchers and academic staff. The Library provides detailed training online and face-to-face throughout the academic year as part of their Researcher Development Programme. For more information visit: <http://library.northumbria.ac.uk/info-researchers/res-dev>



Faculty and Departmental Training

Training also takes place within each Faculty; this is usually specific and may be closely linked to your area of research. Speak to your supervisor to see what training is available.

Northumbria Students Union

NSU is here to have a positive impact on all students but we know that all students are different; you come from different cultures, countries and backgrounds but the one thing you do all have in common is studying at Northumbria. It is important that your voice is heard amongst the crowd which is why we support student representatives to Speak Up on the issues that matter to you.

Each department has a PGR Representative who sits on Faculty and University wide committees. To find out more about representation in your department please visit:

<http://www.mynsu.co.uk/speakup/reps/>

PGR Society

The Northumbria PGR Society is a newly established society for PhD, MPhil and ProfDoc students studying at Northumbria. The aim of the society is to bring together PGR students from all backgrounds and across all disciplines for social events, academic seminars and trips around the region. For more information and how to join the society visit their website:

<https://www.mynsu.co.uk/getinvolved/society/pgsoc/>

Student Support and Wellbeing

Student Support and Wellbeing encompasses specialist teams which offer free, impartial and confidential advice on the following:

- Disability and dyslexia support
- Counselling and mental health support
- Financial support
- Welfare and health support
- International student support
- * Chaplaincy and faith advice

For more information, please visit Student Support web pages:

<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/support-for-students/>

Careers Service

We're here for you whatever stage you're at with your study or career plans. We want you to achieve your ambitions and will support your journey, helping you plan a route towards your goals.

- Get 1-1 support
Visit the Careers Drop-in each weekday 10.00am - 4.00pm in the Careers Zone.
- Find job opportunities
Get your graduate job search off the ground with access to hundreds of opportunities.
- Get ahead with tools for success
Enjoy exclusive access to employer videos, practice psychometric tests and discover other useful materials. Go to the eLearning Portal and click the careers tab on the top menu.
- Meet employers on campus
Introduce yourself to potential employers at events on campus throughout the year. Go to careers events below to see our full programme:
<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/planning-your-career/careers-and-employment/>

Graduate School Bursary Schemes

There are currently two bursary schemes available to postgraduate research students (i.e. those registered for an MPhil, PhD or Professional Doctorate including Graduate Tutors and staff registered as research degree students).

- Postgraduate Conference Bursary Scheme
- Postgraduate Research Events Support Scheme

Vitae and the Researcher Development Framework

Vitae is a national organisation which champions professional and career development for researchers. Vitae's website and courses provide excellent resources to help research degree students assess and develop their personal effectiveness, networking and team

working, communication and career management skills. The PDRT is mapped against the *Vitae* Researcher Development Framework and supports PGRs in four key areas:

- Knowledge and intellectual abilities
- Personal effectiveness
- Research governance and organisation
- Engagement, influence and impact

At the end of their doctorates, we aim to have supported PGRs to deepen the research and transferrable skills that will not only make them successful independent researchers, but also widen their options for future employment.

The University is a member of Vitae so all researchers are advised to join by visiting the Vitae website and setting up an account www.vitae.ac.uk





Researcher Development Personal Planner

Complete this self-evaluation annually to support your Professional Researcher Development and Training Programme selection.

Indicate your skill level against each of Vitae's Researcher Development Framework domains and use the results to plan your professional development.



Example

		C	Current phase				
		T	Target phase				
Domain A: Knowledge and intellectual abilities			1	2	3	4	5
1 Knowledge base	Subject knowledge	C	C	C	T	T	
	Research methods: theoretical knowledge	C	C	T	T		

Indicate your current skill level and where you would like it to be in one year.

Use these spaces to reflect on your current situation and plan which session(s) and other actions will help you achieve your target

RDF Researcher Profile

Name:

Current situation and background:

Career aim:

		C	Current phase				
Domain A: Knowledge and intellectual abilities		T	Target phase				
		1	2	3	4	5	
1 Knowledge base	Subject knowledge						
	Research methods: theoretical knowledge						
	Research methods: practical application						
	Information seeking						
	Information literacy and management						
	Languages						
	Academic literacy and numeracy						
2 Cognitive abilities	Analysing						
	Synthesising						
	Critical thinking						
	Evaluating						
	Problem solving						
3 Creativity	Inquiring mind						
	Intellectual insight						
	Innovation						
	Argument construction						
	Intellectual risk						

RDF Reflections

		C	Current phase				
Domain B: Personal effectiveness		T	Target phase				
		1	2	3	4	5	
1 Personal qualities	Enthusiasm						
	Perseverance						
	Integrity						
	Self-confidence						
	Self-reflection						
	Responsibility						
2 Self-management	Preparation and prioritisation						
	Commitment to research						
	Time management						
	Responsiveness to change						
	Work-life balance						
3 Professional and career development	Career management						
	Continuing professional development						
	Responsiveness to opportunities						
	Networking						
	Reputation and esteem						

RDF Reflections

		C	Current phase				
Domain C: Research organisation and governance		T	Target phase				
		1	2	3	4	5	
1 Professional conduct	Health and safety						
	Ethics and principles						
	Legal requirements						
	IPR and copyright						
	Respect and confidentiality						
	Attribution and co-authorship						
	Appropriate practice						
2 Research management	Research strategy						
	Project planning and delivery						
	Risk management						
3 Finance, funding and resources	Income and funding generation						
	Financial management						
	Infrastructure and resources						

RDF Reflections

		C	Current phase				
Domain D: Engagement, influence and impact		T	Target phase				
		1	2	3	4	5	
1 Working with others	Collegiality						
	Team working						
	People management						
	Supervision						
	Mentoring						
	Influence and leadership						
	Collaboration						
	Equality and diversity						
2 Communication and dissemination	Communication methods						
	Communication media						
	Publication						
3 Engagement and impact	Teaching						
	Public engagement						
	Enterprise						
	Policy						
	Society and culture						
	Global citizenship						

