University of Kent

RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2022-23

Graduate and Researcher College (GRC)

RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Graduate and Researcher College's Researcher Development Programme (RDP) is designed to equip postgraduate researchers and with a range of transferrable skills, which will improve their effectiveness when conducting research and increase their employability for a variety of careers.

The RDP complements research skills training delivered by academic schools and divisions, and offers over 250 workshops on more than 80 topics. Workshops are run by academics, professional service staff and external consultants, and can vary from 1-to-1 sessions to two-day workshops. Sessions provide the opportunity for researchers to interact with students from different departments, which can have beneficial outcomes for their research and development.

Workshop bookings:
For workshop descriptions and dates of workshops, please use the online booking system: https://grctraining.targetconnect.net

Support and opportunities at Kent

RDP Moodle module

All postgraduate researchers are automatically enrolled onto the Graduate and Researcher College's RDP Moodle module. This includes links to resources, training and guides for all of the domains of the Researcher Development Framework.

https://moodle.kent.ac.uk/2022/course/view.php?id=256

IT Training Moodle module

This module covers topics on Microsoft packages (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Edge, OneNote and outlook) and Teams training.

https://moodle.kent.ac.uk/training/course/view.php?id=670

IS Research support team

The research support team can help with queries related to data management and planning, copyright, Open Access, Open Data, publishing and the Kent Academic Repository.

www.kent.ac.uk/library-it/supporting-your-research

Help with Maths and Stats

The Student Learning Advisory Service (SLAS) offers Maths and Stats clinics if you need support from understanding the basics to more advanced principles.

www.kent.ac.uk/learning/academic-advice/maths.html

UEA Online Training Series

The GRC subscribes to the 'University of East Anglia (UEA) Online Training Series', which offers research and professional skills training in a 'live-taught' online format. Topics covered include academic writing, teaching, qualitative and quantitative research skills and finishing your PhD.

https://bookwhen.com/ueaonlinetraining

Three-Minute Thesis (3MT®)

The Graduate and Researcher College organises Kent's Three Minute Thesis competition, which was developed by the University of Queensland.

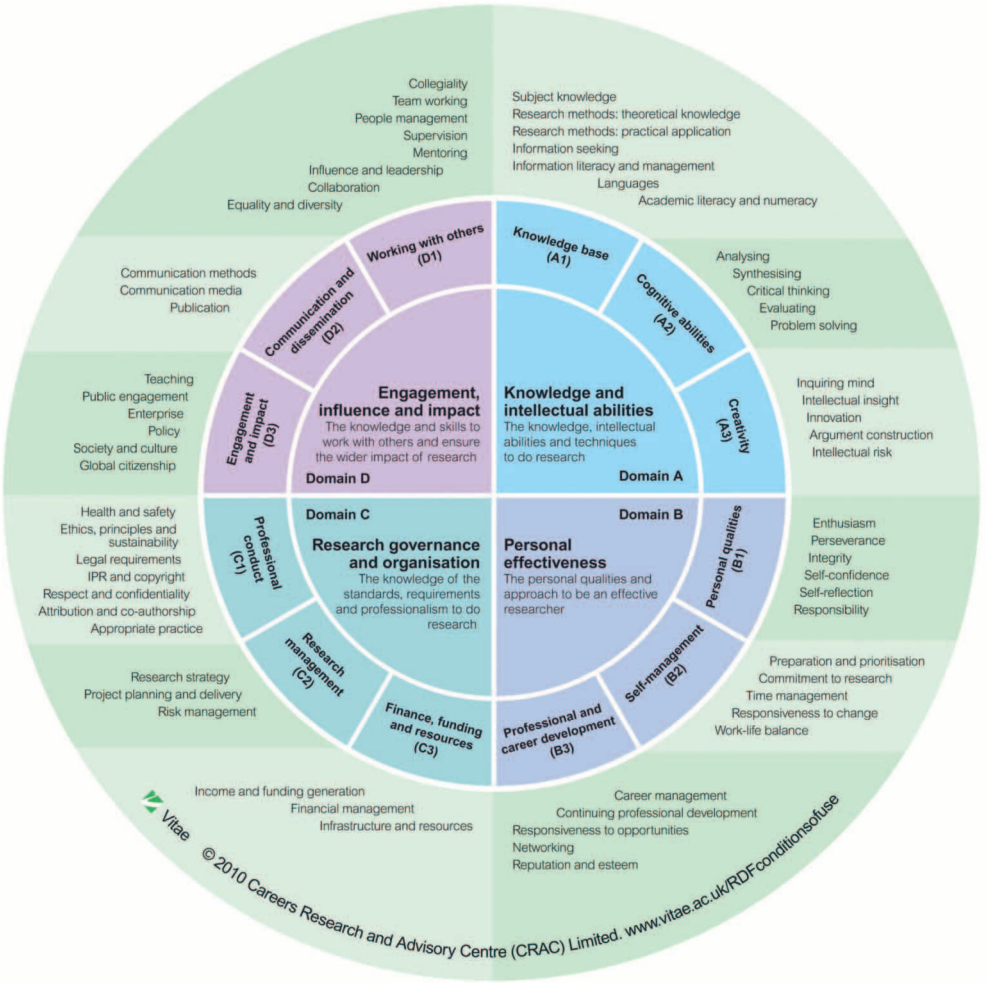
Participating in the competition is a unique opportunity to develop your academic, presentation and research communication skills, and ability to explain your research to a non-specialist audience.

https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/graduateschoolnews/kent-competition

PhD Mentoring scheme

The PhD Mentoring scheme aims to foster peer-peer support by bringing postgraduates together into mentoring pairs as well as train postgraduates in mentoring skills.

https://moodle.kent.ac.uk/2022/course/view.php?id=100



Researcher Development Framework (RDF)

Our RDP workshops are mapped to the Vitae RDF, which is a professional development framework describing the knowledge, behaviours and attributes required of successful researchers.

We are always keen to receive suggestions from students for additional workshops and will do our best to provide these if there is sufficient demand.

Researcher Development Assessment (RDA)

The RDA is a tool which enables all research students to consider their existing portfolio of skills, as well as the skills they need to develop while undertaking their doctoral research and for their future careers.

Students can complete their RDA form on our online booking system, once they have enrolled onto the Researcher Development pathway.

Special requirements

Should you require any assistance to engage with the workshops please contact skills@kent.ac.uk and we will do our best to accommodate.

Mapping to Vitae's Researcher Development Framework

	Early stage	Mid stage	Late stage	Knowledge base (A1)	Cognitive abilities (A2)	Creativity (A3)	Personal qualities (B1)	Self-management (B2)	Professional and career development (B3)	Professional conduct (C1)	Research management (C2)	Finance, funding and resources (C3)	Working with others (D1)	Communication and dissemination (D2)	Engagement and Impact (D3)
Milestone workshops	Kickstart your PhD	2nd year PhD skills	Preparing for your viva	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔		
Information management workshops	Doing a data management plan			✔						✔	✔				
	Finding and managing your references			✔											
	How to write a literature review (online resource)			✔	✔										
	Keeping up to date with the literature			✔											
	Using archives and special collections			✔											
	Various LaTeX workshops			✔											
Research Management, ethics and integrity workshops	Copyright, Open Access and your thesis			✔						✔				✔	
	GDPR and research ethics									✔					
	Postgraduate funding: considering the alternatives											✔			
	Practical project management						✔	✔			✔				
	Preparing for fieldwork							✔			✔				
Research methods and data analysis workshops	Analysing qualitative data (UEA online series)			✔	✔										
	Conducting interviews			✔											
	Geographic Information System (GIS)			✔	✔										
	Introduction to scale development (UEA online series)			✔	✔										
		Introduction to structural equation modelling (UEA online series)		✔	✔										
	NVivo (UEA online series)			✔	✔										
	Using systematic review methods in the social sciences			✔											
	Various Python workshops			✔	✔										
	Various R workshops			✔											
	Various statistics workshops			✔	✔										
Communication, engagement and impact workshops	Cross cultural communication												✔	✔	✔
	Getting the most out of your supervisory relationship						✔	✔					✔	✔	
	Presentation skills introduction	Presentation skills in practice						✔						✔	✔
	Producing a research poster				✔	✔								✔	✔
	Public engagement													✔	✔
		Using the media to publicise your research												✔	✔
Career development workshops		1:1 Career coaching							✔						
		Academic and non academic CVs							✔						
			Career planning for after your PhD						✔						
		Non academic careers							✔						
		Routes into academia and writing a research grant							✔			✔			
Personal effectiveness workshops	Effective decision making				✔	✔		✔							
	Leadership						✔								
	Negotaition skills					✔							✔		
	Networking naturally								✔					✔	
	Overcoming imposter syndrome				✔		✔								
	Teambuilding												✔		
	Time management							✔							
	Rapid reading			✔	✔				✔						
Writing and publication workshops	Abstracts			✔		✔								✔	
	Academic writing			✔										✔	
	Advisory 1:1 writing tutorial			✔										✔	
		Getting Published in the Sciences												✔	
		Quality Papers								✔				✔	
		Scientific writing: structure, language & style		✔				✔							
	Shut up and write			✔											
		Writing articles in international peer-reviewed journals (Humanities and Social Sciences)		✔		✔								✔	
Approaches to teaching workshops	Assessment, feedback and module design (UEA online series)				✔										✔
	Developing as a teacher														✔
	Introduction to University teaching				✔								✔		✔
	Preparing and delivering seminars (UEA online series)			✔			✔	✔					✔		✔
	Troubleshooting teaching												✔		✔
Wellbeing workshops	Introduction to mindfulness						✔	✔							
	Managing stress						✔	✔							
	The Healthy Researcher						✔	✔							
	Yoga and writing retreats							✔							

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CONTACT

Carla O'Mara

Postgraduate Development Officer

Carla is responsible for co-ordinating and enhancing the operation of the Researcher Development Programme and the on-line booking system.

Enquiries about the programme should be directed to skills@kent.ac.uk in the first instance.

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Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NF www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-researcher-college

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