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University of Kent

RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2019/20

The Graduate School

RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Graduate School's Researcher Development Programme is designed to equip postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers with a range of research and transferable skills. The programme aims to improve their effectiveness when conducting research and increase their employability for a variety of careers by the end of their research project.

The Researcher Development Programme (RDP) offers over 200 workshops, covering more than 70 topics. This varies from one-to-one sessions to 2-day workshops, with some being Faculty specific and others cross-disciplinary. The workshops are run by academic and professional service staff as well as some external consultants. These sessions provide the opportunity for researchers to interact with students from different departments and backgrounds, which can have very beneficial outcomes for their research and development.

The RDP provision complements research skills training delivered by academic schools.

Workshop bookings:
For dates of future workshops and for workshop descriptions please register with our on-line booking system at: https://bloom.kent.ac.uk

Support and opportunities at Kent

Associate Fellowship Scheme (AFS)

The University offers the Associate Fellowship Scheme (AFS) which is a formal qualification intended for Graduate Teaching Assistants.

www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qualifications/pgche

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

Library resources

The library makes available a variety of resources and information for postgraduate researchers.

www.kent.ac.uk/library/students/postgraduate.html

Three-Minute Thesis (3MT®)

The Graduate School organises Kent's Three-Minute Thesis competition. The 3MT®, developed by the University of Queensland, cultivates students' academic, presentation and research communication skills.

www.kent.ac.uk/graduateschool/news/3MT.html

Online resources

All postgraduate researchers are automatically enrolled onto the Graduate School's Moodle module, which includes links to a variety of online resources, training and guides.

IT online learning guides

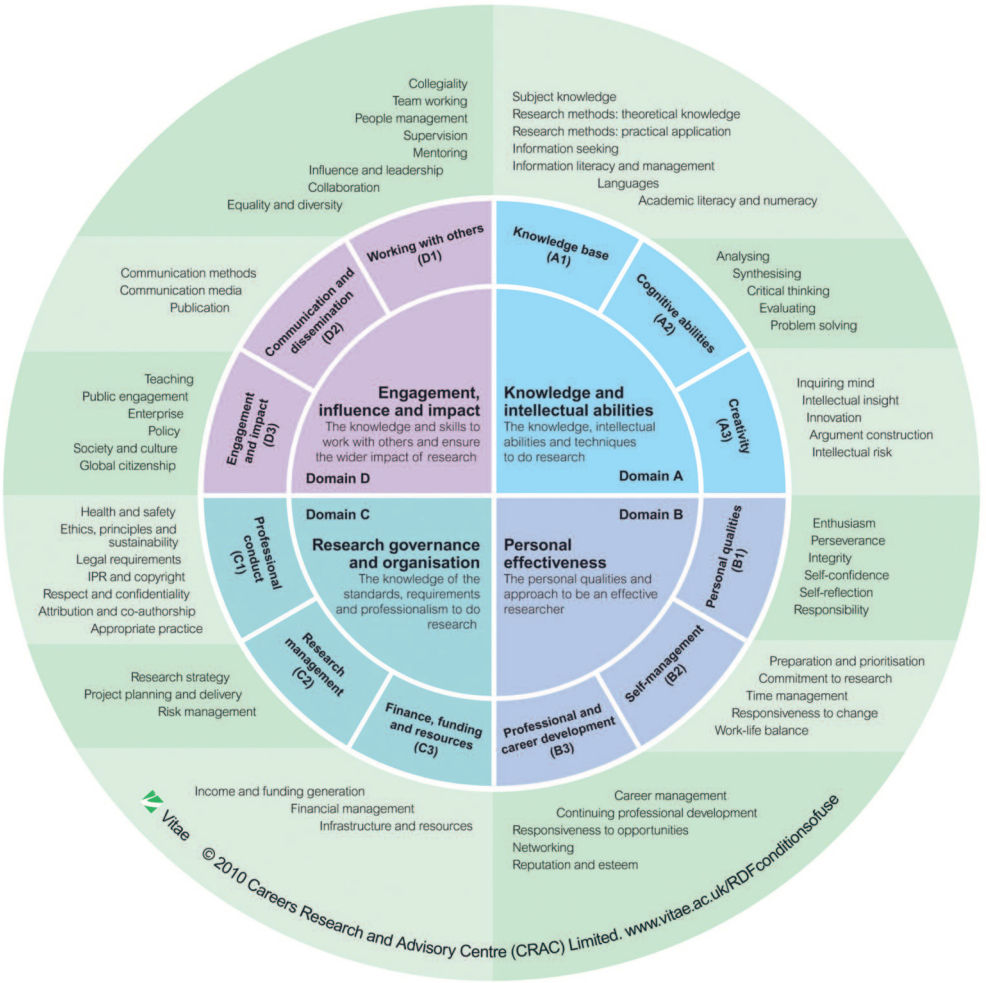
Information Services offer a variety of learning guides that can be used for self-paced learning or reference material. Topics include; ECDL (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Improving Productivity) and more.

www.kent.ac.uk/itservices/training/studenttraining/learning-guides

PG Community Experience Awards

The PG Community Experience Awards allow postgraduates to apply for funding to run events or projects which have an interdisciplinary focus and will enhance the postgraduate experience at Kent. Applying will help to develop skills in bid writing, budget preparation and project delivery.

www.kent.ac.uk/graduateschool/news/pgexperience.html



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.

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	Progressing with your PhD	Finishing your thesis	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔		
	Effective Researcher		Preparing for your Viva		✔	✔	✔	✔					✔	✔	
Information management workshops	Finding and managing your references			✔											
	Keeping up to date with the literature			✔											
		Managing your research data		✔						✔	✔				
	How to write a literature review (online resource)			✔	✔										
	Quality and metrics in publishing			✔											✔
	Using archives and special collections in your research			✔											
Research management, ethics and integrity workshops	Preparing for fieldwork							✔		✔	✔	✔		✔	✔
	The Ethical Researcher									✔					
	Postgraduate funding: considering the alternatives											✔			
	Practical project management for research						✔	✔			✔				
Research methods and data analysis workshops	Introduction to Python			✔	✔										
	LaTeX			✔											
	Introduction to R			✔											
		Advanced R		✔											
	Geographical Information System (GIS)			✔	✔										
	Conducting interviews			✔											
	Qualitative Research (Ethnography)			✔	✔										
	NVivo workshops			✔	✔										
	Introductory statistics and Inferential statistics			✔	✔										
	Longitudinal data analysis			✔	✔										
Communication, engagement and impact workshops	Presentation skills introduction	Presentation skills in practice					✔							✔	✔
		Using the media to publicise your research												✔	✔
	Communicating across cultures												✔	✔	✔
	Public engagement													✔	✔
	Developing your online profile								✔					✔	✔
		Three-minute thesis (3MT®) training					✔							✔	✔
	Producing a research poster (online resource)				✔	✔								✔	✔
Career development workshops		Routes into academia and writing a research grant (Faculty specific workshops)							✔			✔			
		Alternative career pathways for PhD							✔						
			Career planning for after your PhD						✔						
		Writing an academic CV							✔						
Personal effectiveness workshops	Managing academic relationships						✔						✔		
	Networking and personal impact								✔					✔	
	Overcoming imposter syndrome				✔		✔								
	Managing your time effectively							✔							
	Assertiveness						✔	✔					✔		
	Leadership: rising to the challenge						✔						✔		
	Motivating myself and motivating others												✔		
	Teambuilding												✔		
	Negotiation skills					✔							✔		
	Effective reading techniques			✔				✔							
	Rapid reading			✔	✔				✔						
	Overcoming procrastination						✔	✔							
	Myers Briggs						✔							✔	
	1:1 coaching						✔	✔							
Writing and publication workshops	Academic writing			✔										✔	
	1:1 advisory writing tutorial			✔										✔	
		Writing articles in international peer-review journals (Humanities and Social Sciences)		✔		✔								✔	
	Writing and publishing in the Sciences			✔		✔								✔	
	Copyright, open access and your thesis									✔	✔			✔	
	Publishing in peer-reviewed journals									✔				✔	
	Writing abstracts in Humanities and Social Sciences			✔		✔								✔	
		Writing retreats		✔											
Approaches to teaching workshops	Teaching with technology														✔
	Developing your seminar teaching and increasing student engagement														✔
	Troubleshooting teaching												✔		✔
	Practical Planning							✔							✔
	Essay marking and feedback (Humanities)				✔										✔
	Balancing teaching with research and life							✔							✔
Wellbeing workshops	Managing stress						✔	✔							
	Mindfulness						✔	✔							
	'Wellbeing': what does it mean and how can we put it into practice?						✔	✔							
	Yoga 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.

Dr Jo Collins

Postgraduate Development Advisor

Jo leads on the development of new postgraduate training initiatives for the Graduate School and delivers workshops as part of the programme.

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/graduateschool

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