

Research and Innovation: Researcher Development – opportunities for academic year 2025-26

The [Researcher Development Concordat](#) recommends that researchers engage in a minimum of 10 days professional development per year. Researcher Development (RD) means any activity that contributes to a researcher's ongoing learning and growth (all career stages) and might include attending a training course or workshop, coaching or mentoring, completing online learning, being part of an action learning set, accessing a learning resource, undertaking some reflection or joining a writing retreat.

Research and Innovation coordinate a varied programme of [RD](#) activities specifically for researchers (complementing the [People & OD](#) offer that is available to all university staff). This is planned around five core learning and development themes (your research practice, your research identity, your research career, your research leadership, and your research impact):



These core themes are enhanced by wraparound personal development support and opportunities (including coaching & mentoring and reflective practice), alongside a range of self-service development resources – including access to [Prosper](#), a career development designed portal specifically for postdocs and Early Career Researchers (ECRs).

Our activities are also mapped against the [Vitae Researcher Development Framework](#), helping researchers to review and manage their professional and career development.

To **find out more** about RD, **book a place** on a session or **access resources** to support each theme, please visit:

<https://staff.hud.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/traininganddevelopment/>

If you have any queries about researcher development and our Research and Innovation training provision, or planning for your development as a researcher, please contact [Alison Monkhouse](#) (Academic Researcher Development Manager).

Autumn term (Sept-Dec 2025)

| Date | | Researcher development opportunities | Theme | Vitae RDF |
|---------------------------------------|-------|--|---------------------|-------------------------|
| On demand (self-directed learning) | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Trusted Research and Advanced Trusted Research (online learning – both available via Learn-Upon) Introduction to Research Integrity (UKRIO online course) | Practice | 1.9, 3.3, 3.5 |
| September 2025 | 15-19 | Squiggly Careers Skills Sprint x AI (a five day 'Skills Sprint' run by Amazing If , focusing on 5 core career development skills) Sign up (and contact Alison Monkhouse to be added to internal Teams channel for researchers taking part in the Sprint) | Career / wraparound | 1.1, 1.4, 2.4 |
| | 18 | National Postdoctoral Conference for ECRs 10.00-16.30 (British Academy, London) | Wraparound | 1.1, 5.6 |
| | 29 | Reflections for Researchers : 14.00-15.00 (a monthly online session for guided reflection) | Wraparound | 1.1, 1.4, 1.7 |
| | | Join the British Academy Early Career Researcher Network (for ECRs working in the humanities and social sciences) | Career / wraparound | 1.1 |
| October 2025 | 2 | Understanding impact 10.00-11.00 (on campus – venue TBC) | Impact | 3.2, |
| | 7 | The development-focused researcher: 14.00-15.00 (online) | Career / wraparound | 1.1, 5.6 |
| | 9 | Introduction to open research 14:00-15:00 (online) | Practice | 3.4 |
| | 15 | How to engage with policy makers 13.30-15.00 (online introductory session delivered by IfG Academy) | Impact | 1.2, 1.5, 4.3 |
| | 18 | <i>ESRC Festival of Social Sciences (18 Oct – 8 Nov) – opportunities to attend UoH events running as part of the festival</i> | Wraparound | 1.4, 5.6 |
| | 21 | What is Knowledge Exchange and why is it important? 10.00-11.00 (online introductory session) | Impact | 4.3 |
| | 29 | Reflections for Researchers : 10.00-11.00 (a monthly online session for guided reflection) | Wraparound | 1.1, 1.4, 1.7 |
| | 29 | Research Funding Ready A): Aligning your research ideas and the funding landscape 13.30-15.30 (on campus – BL1/01) | Practice | 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 2.6, 3.1 |
| November 2025 | 30 | Introduction to Pure 13:00-14:00 (online) | Practice | 3.4, 4.2 |
| | -- | <i>Pathways to progression</i> : mentoring for academic promotion – express your interest | Career | 1.1 |
| | 5 | Policy engagement workshop: 9.30-13.30 (on campus workshop delivered by IfG Academy - BL1/01) | Impact | 1.2, 4.3 |
| | 6 | Picture This: your research career A creative workshop to support career reflections 14.00-16.00 (on campus – BL1/01) | Career | 1.1, 1.4, 2.6 |
| | 10 | Researcher Writing Hour : 14.00-15.00 - a session to support Academic Writing Month (online) | Wraparound | 1.3, 1.8 |
| | 11 | Developing your researcher identity – personal branding for ECRs 13.30-15.00 (on campus – Enterprise Hub, BIC2/19) | Impact | 4.1, 5.6 |
| | 12 | Research Funding Ready B): Building a research narrative and persuasive proposal writing 13.30-15.30 (on campus – BL1/01) | Practice | 1.1, 1.2, 2.5, 3.1 |
| | 13 | Open access requirements for funded researchers 14:00-15:00 (online) | Practice | 3.4 |
| | 18 | Design Thinking for researchers : innovative solutions to real-world challenges 9.30-16.30 (on campus - BL1/01 - Skillfluence) | Impact | 1.4, 1.5, 2.5, 2.6 |
| | 19 | Researcher Writing Hour : 15.00-16.00 - a session to support Academic Writing Month (on campus – BL1/01) | Wraparound | 1.3, 1.8 |

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| November 2025 | 20 | Introduction to responsible metrics and research assessment 14:00-15:00 (online) | Practice | 3.5 |
| | 25 | Reflections for Researchers : 15.00-16.00 (a monthly online session for guided reflection) | Wraparound | 1.1, 1.4, 1.7 |
| | 26 | Research Funding Ready C): Costing with confidence and submitting your application 13.30-15.30 (on campus – BL1/01) | Practice | 1.3, 1.8, 3.1 |
| December 2025 | 3-5 | <i>Winter Research Festival – inc. Researcher Development Day 5 Dec – info / support from across R&I and wider (drop-in)</i> | Wraparound | 1.1, 1.4, 5.1, 5.6 |
| | 9 | Scopus, ORCID, Web of Science and more: managing your scholarly profiles for maximum visibility 14:00-15:00 (online) | Practice | 3.4, 4.2 |
| | 10 | Showcasing your contributions with a Narrative CV: 14.00-16.00 (on campus - BL1/01) | Identity / career | 1.1, 3.1, 5.1 |
| | 11 | Reflections for Researchers : 11.00-12.00 (a monthly online session for guided reflection) | Wraparound | 1.1, 1.4, 1.7 |

Visit the [Research and Innovation training and development pages](#) to book a place on any of our available courses (via the drop-down menu at the top). For a 1-1 conversation to support a specific development need, or to explore your needs further, please complete this [request form](#) and someone will be in touch.

Reflections for Researchers (monthly sessions)

These monthly sessions (online) are designed to create time and space for some individual reflection, guided by a series of prompts provided, and working alongside a small group of other Huddersfield Researchers in a supportive environment. All welcome to join, whether it's for a single session or you'd like to attend regularly.

Researcher Writing Hour (November)

Join us during Academic Writing Month for some dedicated time to focus on a writing project or goal. These sessions provide you with an hour of focused time to progress any writing you might be working on, whether it's a research paper, book chapter, funding application or anything else. See what you can achieve!

Research Funding Ready (series of 3 sessions)

This new 'Research Funding Ready' series will take you from vision to submission, developing your research idea or question into a funding proposal you are ready to submit. The three sessions focus on A) Aligning your research ideas and the funding landscape, B) Building a research narrative and persuasive proposal writing and C) Costing with confidence and submitting your application. All sessions will also provide an opportunity for a 1-1 discussion with a Research Development Manager.

How to engage with policy makers (15 October 2025)

This online session, delivered by the [Institute for Government \(IfG\) Academy](#), will provide an overall introduction to the government and policy landscape, the use of evidence in policy making and different routes to policy engagement for researchers. It is suitable for researchers of all levels and disciplines and designed to encourage thinking about how your research could have a wider impact on policy and society.

Design Thinking for Researchers (18 November 2025)

Solving problems creatively.

Are you stuck on a complex research problem? Do you need fresh ways to think about the challenge? You're not alone. Many researchers find themselves cycling through the same problem-solving methods, hoping for a breakthrough that doesn't come.

Intro to Design Thinking offers a structured way to get unstuck. This workshop introduces a powerful human-centred problem-solving framework and toolset, to develop and implement innovative solutions through empathy and collaboration.

This creative problem-solving approach helps you reframe challenges from new angles, generate ideas systematically, and test solutions ensuring that research is usable and relevant to real-world applications. You'll learn practical tools to define problems more clearly, ask better questions, and collaborate with others to unlock perspectives you might never reach alone.

During this full day in-person, workshop, you will:

- Understand Design Thinking principles and how they apply to your research.
- Map out who's affected by your work and what they need.
- Turn complex problems into clear, actionable questions you can tackle.
- Generate lots of ideas quickly and prioritise using proven creative techniques.
- Build simple prototypes to test your ideas before investing too much time.

Ideal when you're feeling stuck, need to approach familiar problems differently, or want to tackle complex challenges with more confidence and creativity.

"Amazing delivery, very engaging, insightful and extremely useful information that has given me so much confidence to be able to digest and deliver on any project. This course has helped me overcome the challenges I currently have with my research questions - I feel so elated." (Previous workshop participant)

This workshop will be delivered by [Skillfluence](#).