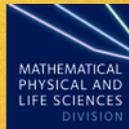




RESEARCH TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MPLS Division Hilary Term 2024



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HOW TO BOOK

Click on the course titles in the online brochure which will take you to the course booking page or visit <http://www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/training> and click on 'Course Programme', which is a list of all upcoming courses sorted by date. Booking details are contained in the individual course pages. Most of our courses are booked via the Cosy booking system, but some may require application forms and / or deposits.

Equality, diversity and inclusion courses are taking place online and bookable via the ED&I training programme: www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/equality-diversity-and-inclusion-in-mpls/mpls-ed-i-training-programme

Our courses this term are a mixture of online and in person. Details will be available on the booking pages.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

We also have a range of self-access online resources for DPhil students and research staff. These cover topics such as orientation to the University, Time Management, working with others, Career Development, and many more. You can access them on our website:

www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/training/resourcesfor-researcher-and-career-developmentMPLS

KEYS

RS: *research staff, post-docs or early career researchers.*

DPhil: *DPhil students or post-graduate researchers.*

All: *All researchers.*



In Person



Online

Disclaimer: some courses may be changed from their advertised setting due to unforeseen circumstances.

Cover: This term's cover is inspired by Sarah Sparrow's Atmospheric Physics research into large scale variability in the atmosphere.

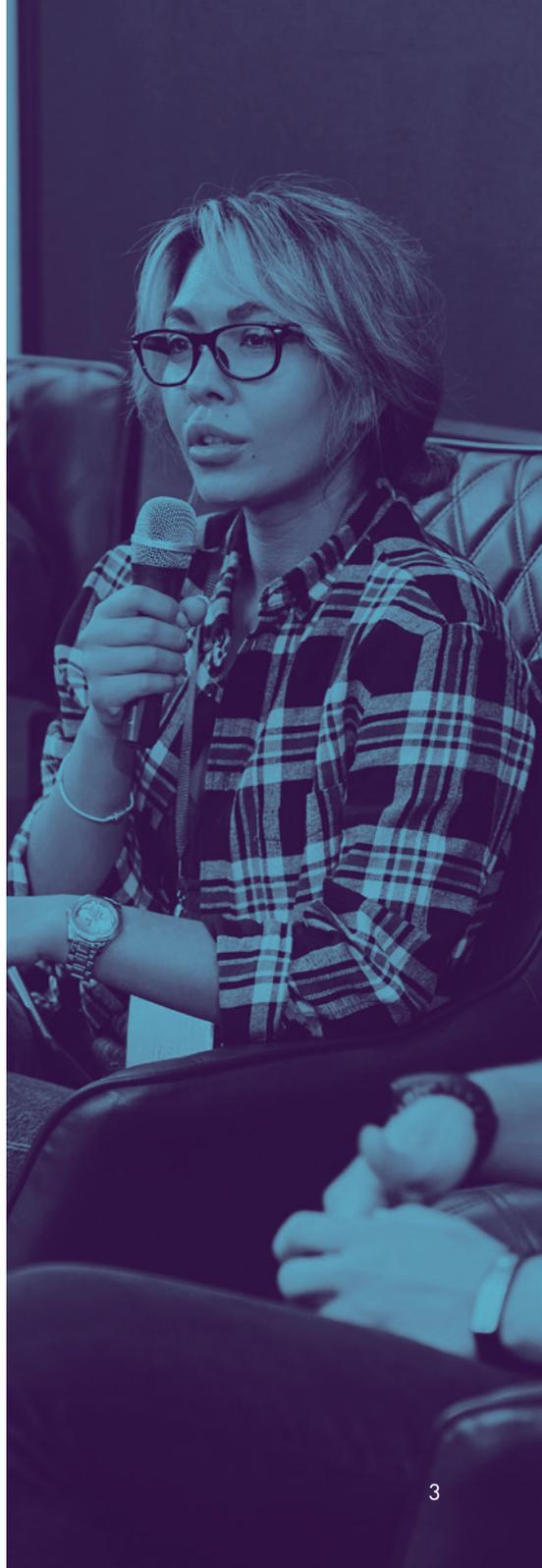
ALL

CONNECTING WITH INDUSTRY

16th January 2024 09.30-16.30

17th January 2024 09.30-16.30

A dynamic and interactive 2 day in-person event aimed at giving researchers a working knowledge of critical business issues that impact commercial organisations. It's designed to provide them with a set of tools and skills to help them be immediately more effective working in, and with, industry.



ALL

INTERMEDIATE STATISTICS

16th January 2024 09.00-12.00

23rd January 2024 09.00-12.00

30th January 2024 09.00-12.00

6th February 2024 09.00-12.00

13th February 2024 09.00-12.00

20th February 2024 09.00-12.00

27th February 2024 09.00-12.00

5th March 2024 09.00-12.00

This course aims to provide solid foundations to implementing linear regression, three types of Generalised Linear Models, and hierarchical models. These will enable the analysis of continuous, binary, ordinal, count outcomes, mixed effect setups, and longitudinal data analysis.

Pre-requisites.

- Basic Inference
- Hypothesis testing
- Basic linear regression
- Basic graphics
- Interpretation of modelling outputs

ALL

HANDS-ON SCIENCE

18th January 2024 09.30-12.30

Dive into the world of experiential learning with our immersive course, 'Hands-On Science.' This program is designed to equip you with the practical skills and insights needed to effectively communicate your research through engaging desktop activities.

Uncover the art of facilitating interactive science demonstrations that captivate and educate. Learn the pivotal elements of event design and planning specifically tailored for public engagement activities.

By the end of this course, you'll not only have a repertoire of engaging activities at your disposal, but you'll also possess the skills to thoughtfully design, execute, and adapt events that leave lasting impressions.

ALL

CREATING AN INCLUSIVE RESEARCH CULTURE

23rd January 2024 10.00-12.30

How to best create and sustain an inclusive research culture and identify practical steps to make this happen. How to create an environment where we can all feel supported and how we can best support others.

PGRs

YOUR SUCCESSFUL DPHIL

23rd January 2024 11.30-14.30

This session will set you up to make a success of your DPhil. It will familiarise you with University structures, information and resources, and get you thinking about how best to set yourself up now for a successful DPhil. You'll find out about the context of your DPhil and the support available to you; about how to take control, assess your skills and develop them further; how to approach your supervisory relationship; and how to plan and manage your DPhil project.

ALL

GroWISE FUTUREPROOFING YOUR CAREER

24th January 2024 12.00-14.00

Become irreplaceable in the age of AI. By the end of this workshop, you will feel empowered to become the CEO of your career. Our speaker Nikita's cutting-edge Futureproof Formula focuses on equipping you with the durable mindset and skills you need to thrive in a rapidly changing future of work.

ALL

INTRODUCTION TO BAYESIAN STATISTICS

26th January 2024 09.30-17.00

There are some ideas we know are true, and others we know are false. But for those ideas where we cannot be certain whether they are true or false, we need to use the language of probability. Bayesian inference uses probability theory to allow us to update our uncertain beliefs in the light of data.

Bayesian inference is increasingly used across the sciences and so a working knowledge of Bayesian statistics is essential for science researchers. This course aims to provide a core understanding of Bayesian statistics that is grounded in mathematical theory, yet accessible to the less mathematically minded participants.

RS

OPTIMISE YOUR TIME AT OXFORD

24th January 2024 12.00-14.00

Congratulations, you have got a research post at Oxford. But, what next? How do you manage your time at Oxford? This session looks at what being a post-doc means, what the opportunities and constraints are. It will also outline the support available to help you make the most of your time at the University. You will hear from the Careers Service, Equality and Diversity, Research Services, the Oxford Research Staff Society, Public Engagement & Impact, Research Integrity and Enterprise.



ALL

RESEARCH IDEAS WITH ENTERPRISE TOOLS. CREATIVE THINKING

25th January 2024 09.30-13.00

Where do you get your research ideas from? How can you generate new experiments or outlooks? This interactive course will take some great ideation tools and explore how you can use them individually to enhance your research. We will then look at collaborative online tools to generate ideas because in science we rarely work alone.

ALL

RESILIENCE AT WORK. BEING FOR BEGINNERS

30th January 2024 11.00-12.00

1st February 2024 11.00-12.00

6th February 2024 11.00-12.00

8th February 2024 11.00-12.00

13th February 2024 11.00-12.00

15th February 2024 11.00-12.00

Do you sometimes hit a 'low'? Do unwanted thoughts and feelings pop up? Are you feeling worn down or worked up or wondering why you are at Oxford? Intrigued by how to use the mind better? Are you ready to grow? This is a course about three big things.

Awareness. wellness begins with awareness. This course explains how to develop a sense of detachment to observe thoughts and feelings without judgement. You will understand why meditation helps and sample various approaches (don't worry, no chanting 'om!')

Reflection. The course provides a picture of why we have thoughts and how they relate to feelings. We see how to 'follow the story' of a thought and discover the roots of our feelings.

Change. Using a simple framework we gain a practical approach to changing habits of thought, feeling and action, so that awareness and reflection can be translated into change.

ALL

ADVANCED PRESENTATION SKILLS

31st January 2024 09.30-12.30

You will learn how to read a group, deal with difficult situations, use humour, match your presentation to the audience, and make impact. You will learn how to get your message across, so it is remembered. You will learn about timing and when you should deliver key messages. You will develop your self-awareness and understand its role in presenting.

ALL

APPLYING BAYESIAN STATISTICS USING STAN

31st January 2024 09.30-17.00

Stan is a powerful tool for performing inference for systems encountered in the sciences and social sciences and, importantly, it has an active user/ developer community which can help you when you get stuck. In this session, we will introduce users to Stan and show how to perform inference for a variety of models, including discrete parameter models, hierarchical models and differential equations.??

ALL

OPEN SCIENCE

1st February 2024 09.00-17.00

This session will cover common open science practices and introduce participants to the services and tools needed to integrate them into their own research.

ALL

GETTING STARTED IN PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH RESEARCH

1st February 2024 10.00-11.00

Engagement describes the ways in which we can share our research and its value by interacting with wider public audiences, generating mutual benefit.

In this introductory session tailored to those new to engagement, we look at what public engagement is and some of the reasons why you might want to do it. We'll highlight the multitude of different approaches you can take, and provide tips on getting started and where to get support.

PGRs

COMPLETING YOUR DPHIL

2nd February 2024 09.30-12.30

The session will cover:

What makes a good DPhil.

Planning to write up your DPhil. structure, content and what makes good writing.

What the viva will explore.

What the examiners are asked to consider.

Time Management, FAQs and Q&A.

ALL

RESEARCH IDEAS WITH ENTERPRISE TOOLS. EVALUATING YOUR IDEAS

6th February 2024 09.30-13.00

What makes an idea worth exploring with a research grant or as a business? How do we evaluate our own ideas? We will explore enterprise tools for evaluating ideas that can be used in research settings. We will also look at tools which can capture feedback from others in constructive ways that enhance our proposals.



ALL

COACHING SKILLS FOR LEADERS

7th February 2024 09.30-13.00

Coaching is a highly impactful approach to people development and can support individuals to identify goals, gain insights into challenges, consider options and plan actions. Coaching skills are a valuable asset to leaders and managers and can be useful in a range of workplace conversations, such as feedback, delegation and career development reviews. This workshop will introduce key coaching concepts, approaches and skills. We will explore when and how coaching skills can be used to support effective leadership and management practice. Participants will take part in a practice coaching conversation using real-life examples, topics and challenges.

ALL

RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT

7th February 2024 12.30-14.00

Research data is often at the heart of scientific projects, it's what you spend hours in the lab generating or in the field collecting. It forms the basis of your analysis and underpins your arguments in papers and theses. But how often do you consider how you're managing this vital resource? Is your data secure and backed up? How can you demonstrate its integrity if challenged? Could your research make a greater impact by sharing data? What happens to your hard-won data when your project ends? Research Data Management (RDM) considers these questions and more. In this session we introduce RDM and the practical skill of developing Data Management Plans to manage your own data successfully.



RS

GET THAT GRANT!

8th February 2024 14.00-17.00

External research funding is a crucial part of the research profile of universities and is a major issue for academic staff. The key factors in developing successful proposals will be identified as will the requirements of specific research councils. You will hear from an experienced grant winner who will share tips and discuss their approach to grant writing.

ALL

TELLING STORIES THAT MATTER. COMMUNICATING YOUR RESEARCH THROUGH STORY

8th February 2024 10.00-16.00

Discover what elements of storytelling and narrative can be used to enhance a profession in the sciences in this interactive session. Craft compelling and moving stories from your experiences as a scientist using these key story elements. character, conflict, structure, metaphor and description. You'll have the opportunity to apply these storytelling and narrative skills by telling a sort story in small groups. Robert Holtom is a professional storyteller and consultant who has worked with a range of organisations to help them refine and hone their stories for a variety of audiences.

ALL

SHAPING RESEARCH CULTURE

14th February 2024 10.00-15.00

Join this in-person workshop, facilitated by Natacha Wilson, to explore the skills and mindsets needed to thrive in research and positively influence your environment. The way we work and interact, with our peers and wider networks, has a huge influence on research outputs and outcomes. Our day-to-day practices directly influence how we, and our colleagues, work in this shared ecosystem.

A powerful workshop for researchers wanting to increase their impact and energy at a strategic time. This workshop aims to provide you with a priority of core skills and mindsets to help you thrive in research and positively influence your working environment. You will also be able to share your lived experience with peers and participate in focused discussions.

ALL

PODCAST YOUR SCIENCE

15th February 2024 09.30-16.30

From inception to publication; this practical session delivered by Emily Elias, journalist and producer of the Oxford Sparks podcast series, is a whirlwind tour through the basics of how to share your research in an engaging manner through podcasting. The session will introduce approaches to podcasting, present inspiration from a range of different podcast styles, and take you step-by-step through the basic technical skills of recording, editing and publishing audio files; you'll have the chance to develop an idea and have a go recording it with support and feedback during the day.

You may also be interested in 'Interviewing for podcasts' on page 16.

ALL

TIME MANAGEMENT

20th February 2024 09.30-12.00

An essential skill for researchers. Issues covered will include work- life balance, planning, prioritising, the need to differentiate between importance and urgency, and using a range of strategies and time- saving ideas.

RS

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION ONLINE WITH KINGS COLLEGE LONDON

21st February 2024 09.00-12.30

22nd February 2024 09.00-12.30

23rd February 2024 09.00-12.30

28th February 2024 09.00-12.30

1st March 2024 09.00-12.30

2nd March 2024 09.00-12.30

6th March 2024 09.00-12.30

7th March 2024 09.00-12.30

8th March 2024 09.00-12.30

Leadership in Action provides the opportunity to practise leadership skills in a safe environment. It is action-based with a minimal amount of theoretical input. During the course participants undertake different activities in groups, with each person having the opportunity to lead an activity.

King's College London have updated the original in person course to run online over 9 half days, and makes places available to a range of institutions including Oxford. This means that you will have the opportunity to meet and work with researchers from other institutions and disciplines.

While there are some input sessions each day, most of the course consists of group activities. You will be supported in your learning by experienced coaches who will offer insights into how you operate in a leadership role. You will also work in a coaching partnership with a course colleague to gain more personal insights and practice your coaching skills.



RS

GET THAT JOB

22nd February 2024 09.30-13.00

An interactive workshop for researchers on making successful job applications. Topics will include presenting your CV, how to approach employers, writing covering letters and interview skills.

ALL

RESEARCH IDEAS WITH ENTERPRISE TOOLS: RESEARCH PROJECT PLANNING

22nd February 2024 13.30-17.00

Bringing all aspects of your research project together for presentation, dissemination or applying for funding can be really tricky. How do you know you have everything? In this interactive course we will explore the Business Model Canvas (our enterprise tool) and then use the Research Model Canvas to chart out the next steps for our research plans.

ALL

PUTTING STORIES TO WORK

22nd February 2024 10.00-13.00

This session builds on the introductory workshop (Telling Stories that Matter, p.xx) and introduces new elements of great storytelling including metaphor, clarity and message. This highly interactive workshop will be based around an example of writing an explainer or news article for the wider, non-specialist public website.

It is highly recommended that you will have already attended the introductory workshop, or equivalent introductory workshops on storytelling. Brief reading material will be provided to ensure you are up to date with the fundamentals of storytelling that are the basis of this workshop.

ALL

INTERVIEWING FOR PODCASTS 🎙️

26th February 2024 09.30-12.30

You are behind the mic, ready to record your first podcast ... but wait! What do you ask?

This interactive session helps you navigate the world of podcast interviews. The session will cover preparing for interviews, creating a question line, finding your authentic voice and active listening.

Participants will be paired up and asked to conduct short interviews with a fellow participant which will be recorded over Zoom. As a group we'll listen back to them and workshop the interviews for constructive feedback.

This course is aimed at anyone looking at working on interviewing skills as a presenter but is also useful to those asked to be a guest on a podcast.

Attendance on the 'Podcast Your Science' session might be useful but is not a requirement to attend this session.

ALL

SUPPORTING DISABLED STAFF 🗑️

26th February 2024 10.00-12.30

We will identify a range of ways in which we can all support our disabled staff, including those with non-visible disabilities. The session will be led by and informed by people with lived experience.

ALL

ENGAGING WITH CONTROVERSIAL AND SENSITIVE TOPICS

26th February 2024 13.00-15.30

Engaging audiences with our research can sometimes mean addressing controversial or sensitive themes. In this interactive online session, Science Communicator Hana Ayooob will take us through the importance of engaging with these topics, aiming to equip researchers with the skills and knowledge to engage confidently in an empathetic and effective way. This session is relevant to scientists across the sciences, and will explore topics ranging from the use of animals in research, to nuclear power, and topics arising from your research area.

ALL

GroWISE RARE LEADERSHIP

27th February 2024 12.30-14.00

Leverage your strengths. Are you ready to accelerate your strengths and develop your leadership skills? Get on board for a transformative journey, attainable through a unique interactive microlearning framework with Creo EdTech platform and culminating in an Interactive Masterclass on the above date led by Coach Catherine Gray.

ALL

SCIENTIFIC WRITING. CORE SKILLS

28th February 2024 09.00-17.00

This one-day course provides a sound grounding in the core skills needed to produce accurate and effective scientific writing. The course will include.

- critique of readability in relevant papers;
- use of tenses in academic papers;
- writing with impact;
- concise writing;
- grammar and proofreading;
- scientific table and chart technique

ALL

IDEAS TO ACTION. EFFECTIVE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH RESEARCH

29th February 2024 13.00-16.00

Ready to bring your engagement idea to life? This 3-hour session is tailored to those looking to explore evidence-based strategies for designing activities/events, apply for PER funding, or get practical tips for organising an activity.

RS

PROJECT MANAGEMENT THE ESSENTIALS

5th March 2024 09.30-16.00

The focus of the day will be to provide a practical 'project management toolbox' that you can use in your daily work. During the course you will have the opportunity to manage a project. You will be able to apply the techniques you learn to a project that you bring along. Topics covered. project initiation, managing stakeholders and risk, time estimation, planning.

DPhil

YOU AND YOUR SUPERVISOR

5th March 2024 10.00-13.00

The supervisory relationship is key to the success of your DPhil and we know that positive and effective relationships contribute to the timely completion of the doctorate. As with many things, the more you put into the relationship with your supervisor, the more you will benefit from it. There is much you can do to be proactive and play an active role in the relationship.



ALL

ANTI-RACIST ALLYSHIP

11th March 2024 10.00-12.30

We will look at what it means to be an Anti-Racist Ally, by considering the role that power, privilege (especially white privilege), and white fragility have and to feel confident using bystander interventions when needed.



ALL

VIRTUAL PODCASTING HELP-DESK MORNING

14th March 2024 *All day half hour slots available*

Book a half hour session of individual coaching and feedback on your podcasting work, from technical tips to journalistic insight in to editing and identifying stories. Contact training@mpls.ox.ac.uk to book your slot.

PGRs

VIVA PREPARATION AND PRACTICE

14th March 2024 10.00-13.00

This participative workshop provides doctoral students in the third year and above with information about the viva, guidance on planning a pro-active approach to it, and opportunities to practice. The course will look at the rules and expectations of the viva exam and identify and practise practical ways to prepare.

ALL

HOW TO PEER REVIEW JOURNAL PAPERS

20th March 2023 14.00-17.00

The ability to review manuscripts should be a core skill of every research scientist. This course will explain how the system works, and what is expected of reviewers. By participating in exercises and discussions the attendees will learn how to review manuscripts quickly and effectively. This course is designed for science postdocs and researchers at an early stage of their career who have little or no experience of reviewing manuscripts for journals.

Scan the QR for the latest
on all courses



MPLS HILARY TERM TRAINING TIMETABLE

EVENT	TIME	DATE
Intermediate Statistics	09.00-12.00	16/1
Connecting with industry	09.30-16.30	16/1
Connecting with industry	09.30-16.30	17/1
Hands-on Science	09.30-12.30	18/1
Creating an inclusive research culture	10.00-12.30	23/1
Intermediate Statistics	09.00-12.00	23/1
Your successful Dphil	11.30-14.30	23/1
Introduction to Bayesian Statistics	09.30-17.00	24/1
GroWISE Futureproofing your career	12.00-14.00	24/1
Optimise your time at Oxford	12.00-14.00	26/1
Research ideas with enterprise tools: Creative Thinking	09.30-13.00	25/1
Intermediate Statistics	09.00-12.00	30/1
Resilience at Work: Being for Beginners	11.00-12.00	30/1
Advanced Presentation Skills	09.30-12.30	31/1
Applying Bayesian Statistics using Stan	09.30-17.00	31/1
Open Science	09.00-17.00	1/2
Getting Started with Public Engagement with Research	10.00-11.00	1/2
Resilience at Work: Being for Beginners	11.00-12.00	1/2
Completing your DPhil	09.30-12.30	2/2
Intermediate Statistics	09.00-12.00	6/2
Research ideas with enterprise tools: Evaluating your ideas	09.30-13.00	6/2
Resilience at Work: Being for Beginners	11.00-12.00	6/2
Coaching Skills for Leaders	09.30-13.00	7/2
Research Data Management	12.30-14.00	7/2
Get that grant	14.00-17.00	8/2
Resilience at Work: Being for Beginners	11.00-12.00	8/2
Telling stories that matter: communicating your research through story	10.00-16.00	8/2
Intermediate Statistics	09.00-12.00	13/2
Resilience at Work: Being for Beginners	11.00-12.00	13/2
Shaping Research Culture	10.00-15.00	14/2
Podcast your science	09.30-16.30	15/2
Resilience at Work: Being for Beginners	11.00-12.00	15/2
Intermediate Statistics	09.00-12.00	20/2
Time Management	09.30-12.00	20/2
Leadership in Action online with King's College London	09.00-12.30	21/2
Leadership in Action online with King's College London	09.00-12.30	22/2
Get that Job	09.30-13.00	22/2
Research ideas with enterprise tools: Research Project Planning	13.30-17.00	22/2
Putting Stories to Work	10.00-13.00	22/2
Leadership in Action online with King's College London	09.00-12.30	23/2
Interviewing for podcasts	09.30-12.30	26/2
Supporting disabled staff	10.00-12.30	26/2
Engaging with Controversial and Sensitive Topics	13.00-15.30	26/2
Intermediate Statistics	09.00-12.00	27/2
GroWISE Rare Leadership	12.30-14.00	27/2
Scientific Writing: core skills	09.00-17.00	28/2
Leadership in Action online with King's College London	09.00-12.30	28/2
Ideas to Action: Effective Public Engagement with Research	13.00-16.00	29/2
Leadership in Action online with King's College London	09.00-12.30	1/3
Leadership in Action online with King's College London	09.00-12.30	2/3
Intermediate Statistics	09.00-12.00	5/3
Project Management: the essentials	09.30-16.00	5/3
You and your Supervisor	10.00-13.00	5/3
Leadership in Action online with King's College London	09.00-12.30	6/3
Leadership in Action online with King's College London	09.00-12.30	7/3
Leadership in Action online with King's College London	09.00-12.30	8/3
Anti-racist Allyship	10.00-12.30	11/3
Virtual Podcasting Help-desk	All Day	14/3
Viva practice and preparation	10.00-13.00	14/3
How to Peer review journal papers	14.00-17.00	20/3