The Graduate School and the Research Development Office, in conjunction with faculties, departments and support units at MU, offer a range of training and development opportunities throughout the year for all researchers.

The Research Skills Development Programme (RSDP) aims to assist all MU researchers within the university to acquire the skills and experience necessary to become independent academic researchers and to develop their careers in multiple settings beyond academia.

Details on dates and venues for training can be found on the Research Skills Development Programme web page www.maynoothuniversity.ie/rsdp.

### Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Development &amp; Employability</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Skills &amp; Awareness</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Writing Skills</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics &amp; Integrity</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; Funding</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation &amp; Enterprise</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching &amp; Supervision</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Departmental Modules</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Details &amp; Additional RSDP Training</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Professional Development & Employability

Research Students

**GST1: Professional Development & Employability**

The Graduate School, in partnership with academic and support units at MU, offers research students the opportunity to enhance their understanding of their current professional competence profile and to work in a coherent and structured way to develop their skills over the course of their research programme. This training is offered within the graduate skills module **GST1**, which includes workshops in: *Reflective Writing & Appraisal of Skills; Working with your Supervisor; Developing Resilience; Legal Aspects in Managing your Research; Communicating your Research; Unconscious Bias, Diversity & Inclusion;* and *Considering your Future Career.*

**GST11: Professional Skills - Thesis Completion & Career Development**

On successful completion of this graduate skills module, facilitated by Prof. Rob Kitchin of the MU Department of Geography, final year research students will be prepared for the completion and defence of their thesis and life after their PhD, including career strategy, disseminating their work and applying for scholarships and jobs.

Academic Staff & Postdoctoral Researchers

The following workshops are open to postdocs:

- *Communicating your Research*
- *Unconscious Bias, Diversity & Inclusion*
- *Legal Aspects in Managing Your Research*

In addition, a separate *Legal Aspects in Managing Your Research* workshop will run for academic staff and postdocs in Semester 2.

Academic staff interested in workshops on *Developing Resilience* and *Unconscious Bias, Diversity & Inclusion,* and postdocs interested in *Considering your Future Career,* please contact rsdp@mu.ie.
Research Skills & Awareness

Research Students

GST2: Finding Information for your Research
This graduate skills module is delivered in partnership with MU Library staff and supports research students in developing their skills in the following areas:

- Reflective writing and appraisal of skills;
- The process of finding information for your research;
- Doing literature reviews;
- Reference management software and avoiding plagiarism;
- Measuring and improving your research impact;
- Research data management;
- Publishing in academic journals.

Academic Staff & Postdoctoral Researchers

All workshops are open to academic staff and postdocs. Shorter sessions may also run throughout the academic year.

Please contact Ciarán Quinn, MU Research Support Librarian & Librarian for the Research Institutes, at ciaran.quinn@mu.ie for further information.
Academic Writing Skills

Research Students

**GST3: Academic Writing**
This graduate skills module is designed to provide research students writing a chapter of their PhD thesis with the opportunity to develop their writing processes. This is achieved through the practice of writing and engagement in a writing group.

**MU Writing Centre**
The MU Writing Centre supports research students in free one-to-one appointments with peer/expert tutors. Writing Centre staff also offer individual writing workshops and support writing groups.

If you have any questions about the Writing Centre or if you wish to make an appointment, please email writingcentre@mu.ie.

Academic Staff & Postdoctoral Researchers

Staff interested in further developing their academic writing skills, please contact rsdp@mu.ie.
Ethics & Integrity

Research Students

**GST4: Research Practice & Integrity**
This graduate skills module aims to:

- raise awareness of institutional guidelines concerning research practice and integrity;
- highlight important contemporary considerations for proper and ethical research conduct;
- imbue awareness of issues concerning research misconduct.

**GST4** employs a blended learning approach. Research students attend face-to-face sessions whilst also undertaking the *Epigeum Research Integrity* online course.

**GST15: Ethics & Academic Practice for Research Students**
This graduate skills module provides early career social science researchers with the skill set to contextualise research ethics in a university setting and make a successful ethics application.

**Bioethics Application Workshop**
This workshop will assist staff and students to become more familiar with the process of applying for ethical approval when working with animals.

Academic Staff & Postdoctoral Researchers

Postdocs interested in training within the module **GST4** should contact rsdp@mu.ie.

*Ethics & Academic Practice* workshops are open to postdocs in the social sciences.

The *Bioethics Application Workshop* is open to staff and postdocs working with animals.

The *Epigeum Research Integrity* online course is available to all MU staff, postdocs and research students. For further information on this course, please contact rsdp@mu.ie.
Grants & Funding

Research Students

GST8: Grant Management & Compliance
This graduate skills module supports IRC scholars in managing their grant and complying with the terms and conditions of their funding. Students will attend information sessions and budgeting and procurement workshops to support them in complying with their funding over the course of their funding period.

GST13: Research Funding Application
This module will provide research students with the skill set to apply for a research award. GST13 is designed to assist research students in:

- the process of identifying postgraduate research award opportunities;
- determining eligibility;
- understanding guidelines for submission;
- developing a coherent and fundable proposal;
- submitting an application in a timely manner.

Academic Staff & Postdoctoral Researchers

The Research Development Office runs information sessions throughout the year on various funding calls.

Details of these sessions will be sent by email to all academic staff members.
Innovation & Enterprise

Research Students

GST5: Creative Thinking & Problem Solving
This graduate skills module will afford research students the opportunity to learn about, and experiment with, topics such as models of creativity and problem solving, design thinking and the Six Step Problem Solving Model.

GST6: Social Entrepreneurship - Making a Real Difference
GST6 offers research students an insight into the nature of social entrepreneurship and its application in various organisational settings.

GST10: Innovation & Research Commercialisation
This graduate skills module aims to equip research students with the skills required to commercialise the outcome of their research, interact effectively within teams and with industry and to improve their ability to innovate and act with an entrepreneurial mindset.

Academic Staff & Postdoctoral Researchers

All Innovation & Enterprise training opportunities are open to academic staff and postdocs.
Teaching & Supervision

Research Students

CTL1: Professional Certificate in Teaching & Learning: Tutors & Demonstrators
The Centre for Teaching & Learning offers research students this graduate skills module with the aim of:

- Introducing students to basic pedagogical and teaching and learning theory and practice in higher education in Ireland, as well as practical approaches to classroom management.

- Instilling confidence and a developmental and reflective approach to support of student learning in their roles as tutors, demonstrators and teaching assistants.

Participants will get the opportunity to engage in cross-disciplinary discussions and activities and apply their learning to their own current and future tutor/demonstrator/teaching contexts.

Research students who wish to take CTL1 should contact Margaret Keane in the MU Centre for Teaching & Learning at margaret.keane@mu.ie.

Academic Staff & Postdoctoral Researchers

Supporting Supervisors for Research Students
The Graduate School coordinates supervisory training workshops for the benefit of academic staff to refresh their supervisory skills and their understanding of policy, as well as to engage in dialogue about best supervision practices with peers.

Academic staff who wish to take part in supervisory training should contact Marie Murphy in the Graduate School at marie.murphy@mu.ie

Staff interested in taking the Postgraduate Certificate and/or Diploma in Higher Education Teaching, Learning and Assessment, please contact margaret.keane@mu.ie.

Postdocs interested in taking a workshop on teaching & learning, please contact rsdp@mu.ie.
Departmental Modules

Research Students

Flexibly-defined modules are delivered to research students by their department and they may be considered transferable or subject specific. The flexibly-defined modules available are:

- FM801: Conference Presentation
- FM802: Work-Based Placement
- FM803: Research-Based Placement
- FM804: Engaging with the Community: Research, Practice & Reflection
- FM805: Outreach & Communication
- FM806: Advanced Communication Skills (Conference Presentation)
- FM807: Winter/Summer School/Short Course
- FM808: Seminar Series
- FM809: Advanced Communication Skills (Publication)

Individual programmes may not offer all of the flexibly-defined modules listed above. Research students should contact their supervisor for specific details.

Academic Staff & Postdoctoral Researchers

Postdocs interested in availing of this training, please contact rsdp@mu.ie.
Contact Details & Additional RSDP Training

For any queries relating to current or potential training within the RSDP, please contact rsdp@mu.ie.

Please visit the RSDP web page, www.maynoothuniversity.ie/rsdp, for further information relating to training schedules. Academic staff and postdocs can register for training sessions via this web page, and additional training will also be visible there.

Research students can get further information about graduate skills modules via MU Course Finder at www.maynoothuniversity.ie/current-students.

Research students should register for graduate skills modules via their Student Web Portal at https://studentwebauth.maynoothuniversity.ie/live/.