



Humanities Researcher Development and Training Newsletter Hilary 2024 | Second Week

We hope you enjoy reading about some of your [Researcher Development and Training Programme](#) opportunities.

We offer a comprehensive programme of events, opportunities, workshops and resources to support and develop Humanities researchers at all stages of their career from postgraduate level upwards. Some of these opportunities are bespoke and developed in-house; others are provided through external partners, student support services or in partnership with faculties. Most workshops and events are free, or require a £20 refundable deposit. They are open to Master's and DPhil students and postdoctoral researchers (including teaching-only and college-only appointments). All times given are GMT.

This newsletter is sent once a week during term-time to all current MSt, MPhil and DPhil students in the Humanities Division. To unsubscribe, send a blank email to humanitiestrainingnewsletter-unsubscribe@maillist.admin.ox.ac.uk.

[You can see a list of all our events here \(under the 'events' tab\).](#)

Current Issues in Arts & Heritage: Apps for engagement

Wednesday 24 January 2024, 11am - 12.30pm

Online

What makes a good heritage engagement app? What makes an app a good vehicle for engaging with academic work about heritage sites and spaces? In this session, we will hear from two academics who have developed successful heritage engagement apps. What collaborative efforts made these apps possible? What skills did they need to have/develop? What unexpected challenges and opportunities did the app projects bring?

Speakers: Professor Fabrizio Nevola, Chair in Art History and Visual Culture, University of Exeter and Sara Polak, Visiting Research Fellow, Oxford Internet Institute

[More information and booking >>](#)

Storytelling for Researchers: Writing Skills

Thursday 25th January 2024, 1pm - 4pm – only a couple of spaces remaining

TORCH Seminar Room, 3rd Floor, Radcliffe Humanities

Introducing valuable storytelling and writing skills to enable you to effectively engage audiences with your research. Applicable to public engagement and academic writing.

We will start with exploring the three key elements of a great story – character, plot and texture. Accessible and interactive exercises will be done in pairs (or trios) and you'll be guided through crafting a short piece of creative writing.

We will then look at the practical application of these storytelling skills to the communication of your research. For public engagement, we'll plan and write part of a blog post. For academic writing, we'll explore how plotting can improve an essay and thesis. Empathy will also be explored as a tool to engage diverse audiences.

The session will enhance your creativity and confidence in written communication.

[More information and booking >>](#)

Using Social Media to Enhance your Career Prospects

Monday 29th January 2024, 1pm - 2pm

Online

Hosted by the Careers Service

Learn tips, tricks, benefits and risks of using social media for your job search and advancement.

[More information and booking >>](#)

iSkills: Data sources for research – discovery, access and use

Wednesday 31st January, 10am – 12pm

Social Science Library, Information Skills Training Room, Manor Road, OX1 3UQ

In partnership with the Bodleian Libraries

Modern researchers need to have an up-to-date understanding of working with research data. This relates equally to the material they create themselves and that obtained from other sources. Academic institutions, funding bodies and even publishers are now expecting competence in these issues. This workshop will provide a grounding in the different ways quantitative and qualitative data is being made available to benefit researchers.

[More information and booking >>](#)

Boosting Your Writing Productivity

Thursday 1 February 2024, 11am - 1pm

Online

Academic writing can be hard at the best of times. It's especially challenging when there's so much going on. **In this interactive session, you'll discover how to make writing more manageable, even under difficult circumstances.**

You'll cover:

- Understanding your Circle of Control
- Planning a piece of writing
- Building a writing fortress
- Improving productivity
- Staying focused
- Looking after yourself

By the end of the session, you'll have a range of strategies you can apply right away to help you keep going.

[More information and booking >>](#)

Shut Up and Write

Thursday 1 February 2024, 2pm - 5pm - 3 further sessions are running this term.

Colin Matthew Room, Radcliffe Humanities

The Shut Up and Write sessions provide a quiet space for doctoral students and Early Career Researchers to get work done with colleagues in a friendly, supportive environment. **We share goals and help each other with writing questions between timed silent-working sessions: no emails, no distractions, just dedicated and focused time to get your work done!**

Please bring your own work for the silent sessions. Tea and coffee will be provided.

[More information and booking >>](#)

[Other Opportunities](#)

Advancing Teaching and Learning programme

The Advancing Teaching and Learning (ATL) programme is a taught programme designed to support those who are relatively new to teaching and supporting learning, or those who teach or support learning within a specific context (eg tutorials, lab demonstrations, running study skills support sessions). The ATL programme is open to DPhil students, postdoctoral and early career researchers and academics new to teaching. Participants must be engaged in teaching and/or learning support at Oxford during the 2023-24 academic year.

Applications close Monday 19 February 2024. [More information and how to apply >>](#)

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British Library and National Trust doctoral fellowship

The National Trust is partnering with the British Library to invite applications for a three-month 2024 doctoral fellowships centred on British Library and National Trust collections as part of our ongoing research partnership.

The fellowship focuses on Arabic language manuscripts. The study will explore the provenance of such manuscripts, and potentially those in other West Asian and North African languages, in the British Library and National Trust collections. The ambition is to identify owners, scribes, illustrators and other individuals involved in their production. The Trust's important manuscript collection hasn't yet been studied in any significant way, despite some having been on country house library shelves for almost 300 years.

The deadline to apply is Thursday 25 January 2024 at 5pm. [More information and how to apply >>](#)

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Creative Careers Festival 2024: 29 January – 9 February 2024

The creative sector is broad and it encompasses an enormous range of talent. The sector includes a variety of roles in areas such as tv and film, heritage, music, journalism, and other creative industries, with different entry requirements and skill sets needed to succeed.

There is a high level of interest in the creative sector at Oxford. For this reason, in 3rd and 4th week of Hilary term 2024, we will be introducing you to it through a number of information sessions, useful workshops and inspiring panel discussions run by our expert careers advisers and a host of guest speakers at the Creative Careers Festival.

[See the full list of events here >>](#)

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Casual Opportunity as Research Assistant for the Close the Gap project

Expressions of interest are invited for a temporary role supporting the Close the Gap project, an equal partnership between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Close the Gap is one of several [initiatives](#) that support access and widening participation in graduate admissions at the University of Oxford, and complements the work of the University's graduate admissions [pilot selection procedure](#). The project aims to transform doctoral student selection to develop a socially and epistemically just and inclusive environment for world leading research.

The work is required for up to 10 hours per week for approximately 12 weeks, beginning on 12 February 2024 or as soon as possible thereafter.

The deadline to apply is Friday 26 January 2024 at 12pm. Please see the attached document for more information about this opportunity.

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