Professional Skills for Research Leaders

Induction

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Objectives

• Epigeum
• PSRL programme
  • Course content/structure/syllabus
  • Course outcomes
  • Commitment
• Programme walkthrough
  • Online navigation
  • Key tools & features
epigeum

- Leading provider of online training courses designed specifically for the higher education sector.
- Founded in 2005 as a spin-out company from Imperial College London.
- Acquired by Oxford University Press in 2015.
- Their courses are developed through global collaboration of experts and partner universities.
- 92 online courses used by over 280 universities in 29 countries worldwide.
- Courses cover key skills areas in higher education including teaching, research, studying and leadership and management.
- www.epigeum.com
Professional Skills for Research Leaders (PSRL)
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This course is for:

- Independent Researchers
- Early and mid-career researchers
- High talent post doctoral candidates
Professional Skills for Research Leaders (PSRL)

PSRL Programme is designed to equip researchers with the skills needed for professional development in a higher education context. Researchers will develop strategies in:

The programme is all about helping you to understand how the professional role of a researcher operates.

How: By drawing on the expertise of international experts from Universities all over the globe.
## Learning Outcomes:

1. Improve grant application writing skills
2. Increase your research impact
3. Ensure robust collaborations
4. Lead productive research teams & projects
5. Communicate across a range of media
6. Extend your reach & influence
7. Understand your transferable skills
PSRL Course Content

The PSRL programme contains 6 self-study courses. This includes:

- A shorter introductory course (Course 1) including:
  - Guide to the programmes features and tools
  - Personalised feedback on which sections may be of most use to you.

- 5 full length courses:
  2. Developing and consolidating your research career
  3. Funding your research
  4. Managing a research team
  5. Research collaboration
  6. Communicating your research
# PSRL Course Syllabus

## Course 1: Introduction

**Core:** 1 hour, 30 minutes  
**Additional:** 8 hours  

**Syllabus:**  
- Introduction to course components  
- Diagnostic/needs analysis

## Course 2: Developing and consolidating your research career

**Core:** 2 hours, 45 minutes  
**Additional:** 13 hours  

**Syllabus:**  
- Career pathways  
- Enhancing your track record  
- Building breadth and depth in your career strategy  
- Increasing your public profile  
- Contributing to the development of the discipline (including peer review)  
- Monitoring your development and success

## Course 3: Funding your research

**Core:** 2 hours  
**Additional:** 7 hours  

**Syllabus:**  
- Competitive contexts  
- Planning your grant (choosing a topic, team, source of funding, estimating costs and time, collaborators, pods with specific national grant information)  
- Writing the grant (creating a persuasive argument, demonstrating impact, tips for good grant writing)  
- Managing your grant requirements (reporting, contract and IPR, budget management, university requirements)  
- Applying for research fellowships
### PSRL Course Syllabus Continued

| Course 4: Managing a Research Team | **Core:** 3 hours  
**Additional:** 8 hours  
**Syllabus:**  
- Organising your team and workload  
- Managing resources  
- Motivating your team (giving feedback, performance management)  
- Developing your team  
- Key principles of good employment practice  
- When things go wrong  
- HR/compliance issues and the need to develop a detailed set of processes to deal effectively with these |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Course 5: Research Collaboration  | **Core:** 2 hours, 30 minutes  
**Additional:** 9 hours, 30 minutes  
**Syllabus:**  
- Working with other research groups  
- International collaborations  
- Working with commercial organisations  
- Challenges of cross-disciplinary team working |
| Course 6: Communicating your research | **Core:** 3 hours, 30 minutes  
**Additional:** 15 hours, 45 minutes  
**Syllabus:**  
- Your communication strategy  
- Publishing  
- Dealing with the media  
- Internal communications  
- Digital tools and approaches |
Blended Programme

PSRL is offered as a blended programme i.e. the online course content is combined with face-to-face teaching and learning.

6 class room based masterclasses scheduled to supplement each of the online courses.

Master classes are optional but highly recommended.

1. The higher education context – Doris Alexander, TR&I & Fiona Killard, DoR Office
2. Career Planning – Marielle Kelly, Careers Advisory
3. Funding your research, Camilla Kelly, TR&I
4. Managing a Research Team, Ronan MacDermott, Learning & Development
5. Collaborating with other partners, Declan Weldon, TR&I
6. Increasing your public profile & communicating your research, Niamh Brennan, Library
Commitment Required

16 hours of core online activities

60 hours of additional activities

Plus additional masterclasses (circa 1.5 hours each)

Link to PSRL Timetable
Flexible Learning

• Flexible access, anytime, anywhere.

• Course is accessible 24/7 from any computer with an internet connection.

• You can work through the material at a time, place & pace that suits you.

• Hop back and forth between courses and modules as you wish i.e. you don’t need to have completed one module/course before you proceed to another.
Programme Walkthrough

Accessing the programme

• All staff in Trinity College have an account on Blackboard Learn
• Enter the URL: http://mymodule.tcd.ie
• Enter your College network username and password.
Select the course **HR-TRI-Version1: Professional Skills for Research Leaders Programme**

Figure below shows the programme entry screen
The 6 core online components of the programme are accessed from the left-hand side menu bar.

The below image shows what the screen looks like when the course ‘DEVELOPING AND CONSOLIDATING YOUR RESEARCH CAREER’ is clicked.
Typical course screen/webpage
Every course begins with a ‘Welcome’ screen which:

- Introduces the authors & reviewers
- Sets out clear learning outcomes
- Explains the course structure
- Identifies some highlights
- Lists the universities who invested in the project & peer-reviewed the course content as it was being developed.
At the top of each screen within the course, you will see:

• An estimated duration for working through the main content
  • These estimates include time to watch videos and complete activities in the central section, but not to complete the additional 'Portfolio activities'

• A link the plain text / accessible version of the screen

• A link to a help and support page.
Course Features
Video Content, Case Studies & Interactive Activities

Throughout the courses, you’ll find a lot of video interviews, real life case studies & interactive activities, with researchers and research leaders sharing their experiences, insights and advice.
Right hand boxes

On many screens you will also see coloured boxes on the right-hand side.

These contain supplementary materials, documents to download, useful links, statistics, quotations, definitions of key terms and portfolio activities.
Resource Bank

At the end of each course you'll find a 'Resource Bank' packed full of useful websites & further reading if you want to explore a particular topic in more detail.

**Resource bank**

Note: Key works are signalled with an asterisk for ease of reference.

**General resources**


End of Course Quiz

On completion of each course we recommend you complete the end of course quiz.

- Short MCQ quiz of circa 15 questions
- To put what you've learned to the test
- Scores are calculated immediately – for your information only – not held on file

DEVELOPING AND CONSOLIDATING YOUR RESEARCH CAREER

- Developing and consolidating your research career
  Click the text above to access the course
  [Mark Reviewed]

- Quiz 2 - Developing and consolidating your research career
  Click the text above to access the quiz

- End-of-course survey 2
  Click the text above to access the survey
  [Mark Reviewed]
End of Course Survey

On completion of each course we would appreciate it if you would complete the end of course survey.

Your feedback will be invaluable to us in terms of tweaking the PSRL course offering going forward.
Useful Links:

- PSRL Timetable
- PSRL Mentoring
- PSRL Contributors
- Blackboard
- epigeum
- Human Resources
- Learning and Development
Queries

For all PSRL queries please contact:

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Thank you