



# TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT FOR DPHIL STUDENTS & FTRS

Hilary Term Card, 2025

# WELCOME TO HILARY TERM 2025!

Hilary can be challenging – dark, wet, and cold with short days, which makes it an ideal time to connect with others and plan engaging activities.

We're excited to present our Hilary programme, featuring new additions like intensive writing workshops to develop your academic voice, and expanded quantitative offerings including advanced methods workshops for those ready to strengthen their research capabilities. From core research skills to cutting-edge methods, our sessions support your development as future field leaders.

Don't miss our enhanced ResearcherConnect events on page 13, offering peer support, structured online writing sessions, and specialist guidance. Whether you need collaborative writing spaces, mindful practice sessions, or someone to discuss your circumstances with, we're here to help you succeed.

Each session helps you develop your skills and understanding, and connect with fellow researchers. We encourage you to explore these offerings and maximise this comprehensive programme. Your growth as a researcher matters – let's make this term exceptional together!

## HOW TO BOOK

Click on the workshop titles in the online brochure which will take you to the booking page, or scan the QR code below.



## CONTACTS

Dr Eleanor Pritchard  
Researcher Development Coordinator

Amber Juffkins  
Researcher Development Support Officer  
researcherdevelopment@socsci.ox.ac.uk

## OTHER TRAINING PROVIDERS

Bodleian Libraries iSkills  
IT Learning Centre  
Oxford University Language Centre  
The Careers Service

## THEMES KEY



Teaching



Research Methods



Fieldwork



Ethics & Integrity



DPhil Milestones & Development



Academic Writing



Wellbeing



Communication

# THEMES



## Teaching

Developing teaching skills is crucial for your academic journey and beyond. Whether you're aiming for a career in academia or considering other paths, the ability to convey complex ideas clearly and engage diverse audiences is invaluable. Our teaching theme offers innovative pedagogical techniques, guidance on designing effective curricula, and opportunities to boost your confidence in the classroom. These skills can enhance your academic profile and translate well into various professional settings, potentially making you a more versatile and sought-after candidate in any field.



## Research Methods

A solid grounding in research methods is the cornerstone of impactful scholarship. Our Research Methods theme offers a deep dive into both established and cutting-edge methodologies relevant to social sciences. Explore quantitative and qualitative approaches, data analysis techniques, and emerging tools in digital research. This comprehensive understanding can not only strengthen your academic work but also equip you with highly transferable analytical and problem-solving skills prized across various sectors, from policy-making to industry research.



## Fieldwork

Fieldwork is often where theory meets practice, offering unique challenges and opportunities. Our Fieldwork theme prepares researchers for the realities of conducting studies in diverse settings, from remote locations to urban environments. Essential skills training in data collection, cultural sensitivity, safety and adapting to unexpected situations are on offer. These experiences can not only enrich your research but also cultivate your adaptability, problem-solving, and intercultural competence - qualities highly valued in academia and beyond.



## Ethics & Integrity

In today's complex research landscape, understanding and upholding ethical standards is more important than ever. Our Ethics and Research Integrity theme explores the world of responsible research practices, data management, and ethical decision-making. Participants can explore real-world scenarios, discuss emerging ethical challenges in their field, and develop a robust ethical framework for their work. This knowledge not only safeguards the integrity of your research but also enhances your credibility as a scholar and prepares you for leadership roles where ethical considerations are paramount.

# THEMES



## DPhil Milestones & Development

Navigating the DPhil journey can be daunting, but our Milestones theme is designed to guide you through each crucial stage. From proposal writing to viva preparation, this theme offers insights into what's expected and how to excel at each milestone. Gain valuable perspectives on time management, project planning, and strategies for overcoming common hurdles. This theme not only demystifies the DPhil process but also offers transferable skills in project management and goal-setting that can serve well in any future career path.



## Academic Writing

Mastering academic writing is essential for sharing your research with the world. Our Academic Writing theme offers a comprehensive approach to developing your scholarly voice. From crafting compelling arguments to navigating the publication process, gain insights that can elevate writing to new heights. These skills extend far beyond academia, enhancing the ability to produce clear, persuasive content in any professional context - a valuable asset in today's information-driven world.



## Wellbeing

Mental and physical well-being forms the foundation of academic success and personal fulfillment. Our Well-being theme presents practical strategies for maintaining balance, managing stress, and fostering resilience in the face of academic pressures. Learn about techniques for mindfulness, time management, and self-care that can be applied throughout your career. By prioritizing well-being, you can potentially enhance academic performance and develop lifelong skills for maintaining a healthy work-life balance in any professional setting.



## Communication

In today's interconnected world, the ability to communicate your research effectively is paramount. Our Communication theme goes beyond academic writing, focusing on diverse forms of engagement with various audiences. Hone skills in public speaking, digital communication, and research dissemination through both traditional and innovative channels. These competencies can amplify the impact of your research and potentially open doors to exciting opportunities in research communication, policy advising, and thought leadership.

## WORKSHOPS

### Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy for Life (MBCT-L)

ALL | ONLINE

*27 January to 17 March, 19:00 – 21:15 \**

Mindfulness is an evidence-based, secular and effective means of alleviating stress, anxiety and depression, and promoting well-being, flourishing, and resilience. In these times of ongoing uncertainty and additional stress, it can be a useful skill to develop. To enable widest possible access, the course will be taught entirely on Zoom.

\* Session 1 runs 19:00 - 21:30



### Introduction to Learning and Teaching at Oxford

ALL | ONLINE

*Part 1 -28 January, 09:30 - 12:00*

*Part 2 - 04 February, 09:30 - 12:00*

The Divisional Introduction to Learning and Teaching is an interactive and discursive two-part course to prepare for teaching in Oxford. You do not need to be teaching in the term you take this course. Participants must attend both sessions to receive an attendance certificate.



### Advanced Qualitative Research Course

Y3 & Y4 DPHIL | IN PERSON | ONLINE

*04 February to 17 June, 13:30 – 15:00*

The course is designed to help you develop skills and understanding relating to the analysis and reporting of qualitative data. The structure of the course reflects the issues and challenges that students have faced using qualitative data in their research, is quite practical and highly discursive in nature.



### Data Management Best Practices

ALL | IN PERSON

*06 February, 10:30 – 12:30*

Maintaining well-organised data is essential for researchers to keep accurate records of fieldwork data and make informed decisions. The techniques and strategies for securely managing data may differ depending on the field sites, types and amount of data, and the system or database used for data collection



# DPhil Writing Workshop

ALL | IN PERSON

11 February 09:30 – 12:00

*What makes good academic writing?*

This session will teach you how to identify and analyse the key characteristics of effective academic writing in the work of others. You'll learn to recognise elements such as clarity, coherence, and argumentation, and how to apply these principles to your own writing.



# Introduction to Research Ethics at Oxford

ALL | ONLINE

12 February 14:00 – 15:00

This termly session will give attendees an overview of the research ethics review process at Oxford. The trainer will also give you top tips on how to write good research ethics applications.



# Overseas Fieldwork Safety

ALL | IN PERSON

*14 February 09:30 – 13:00*

This course provides an essential overview of the approval process and equips you with the tools to plan and document safe fieldwork through appropriate risk assessments. Aimed at researchers conducting qualitative and ethnographic studies, particularly in areas where the FCDO advises against travel, this session offers valuable group activities and opportunities to learn from fellow researchers' experiences.



# Preparing for your Viva

DPHILS | ONLINE

*17 February, 14:00 – 16:00*

This workshop, designed for those who have submitted their thesis and anticipate their viva within three months, combines pre-reading with interactive sessions to demystify the viva process. We'll address practical issues surrounding the examination, helping you develop clearer expectations and increased confidence. By the end of the workshop, you'll have a comprehensive understanding of the viva system and be better prepared for this significant step in your academic journey.



# Presentation Preparation Skills

ALL | IN PERSON

*18 February, 09:30 – 12:30*

This transformative workshop explores the heart of persuasive presenting - where credibility meets genuine care for your audience. Drawing from diverse fields including storytelling, business communication, and real-world experience, you'll develop a flexible framework that aligns with your authentic style. Through interactive exploration and practical exercises, we'll examine how personal preference and internal language shape our message delivery, helping you craft presentations that resonate deeply with your audience.



# Presentation Delivery Skills

ALL | IN PERSON

*18 February, 13:30 – 16:30*

This workshop goes far beyond surface-level advice, helping you uncover your unique presentation style and equipping you with practical tools for your next speaking engagement. We'll explore how to leverage internal and external resources to create impactful presentations, debunk public speaking myths, and examine the intellectual, emotional, and physical aspects of effective communication. Through memorable concepts and hands-on exercises, you'll gain a deeper understanding of live communication principles, empowering you to approach future presentations with confidence and skill.







# Introduction to Digital Methods

ALL | IN PERSON

*19 February, 15:00 – 17:00*

*26 February, 15:00 – 17:00*

This 2-part course provides an introduction to and overview of general issues and methodological options for conducting social sciences research in digital/online and blended (online and offline) environments. The course is divided into two sessions, the first providing a general and historical overview of engagement between social sciences research and the digital, focusing on key themes and issues, methodological, ethical and otherwise, and the second, focusing on case studies as a means of exploring issues and strategies specific to different online research contexts/environments. In the second session, students will also be provided the opportunity to “workshop” related issues with reference to their own research project(s).



# Vicarious (secondary) Trauma Workshop

ALL | IN PERSON

*20 February, 09:30 – 16:30*

The Vicarious Trauma Workshop is designed for researchers whose work engages them with the traumatic experiences of others. It aims to help researchers reduce the risk of vicarious traumatisation and manage the exceptional emotional demands this kind of research can place on them.

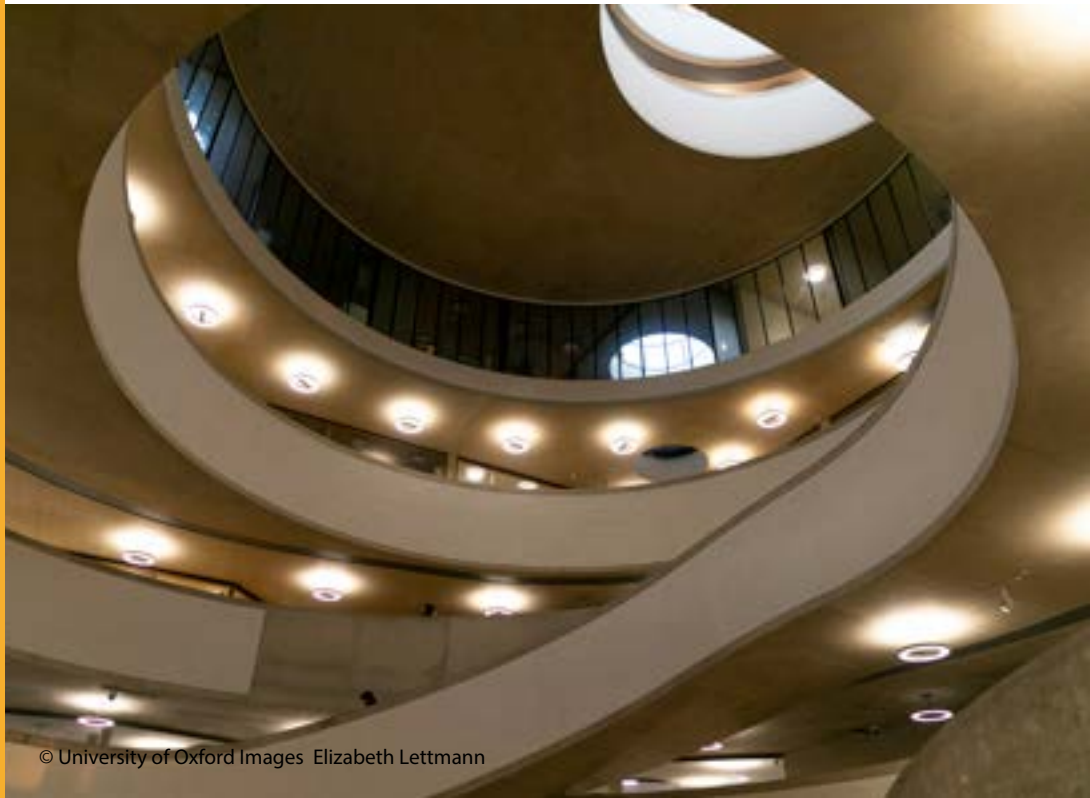


# Advanced R for Social Science Researchers

ALL | IN PERSON

*21 February, 09:30 - 17:00*

This one-day course provides Social Scientists with a range of useful tools and techniques to improve their ability to code using R. This workshop is aimed at students who have already got the basics of R (Loading in data, cleaning data, running regression models and producing ggplots).



# DPhil Writing Workshop

ALL | IN PERSON

*26 February 09:30 – 12:00*

*Guide Your Reader*

This session will teach you how to use signposts to highlight the structure of your work, making it easier for readers to follow your line of thought. You'll learn techniques for introducing, linking, and concluding sections, as well as how to use transitional phrases to maintain a smooth flow. By the end of the session, you'll be able to create a well-organised piece of writing that clearly communicates your ideas and arguments, enhancing the overall readability and impact of your work.



# Insider and Outsider Fieldworkers

ALL | IN PERSON

*27 February, 10:30 – 12:30*

For some of us, our research projects are situated back home or in locations where we have already spent considerable time. For the rest of us, our field sites could be in locations where we are visiting or living for the first time. Some of us work closely with people in our own communities, whilst others join local communities as external fieldworkers. Depending on our backgrounds, we may navigate fieldwork as “insider” researchers, “outsider” researchers, or both.



# Overseas Fieldwork Safety

DPHILS | IN PERSON

*05 March 09:30 – 13:00*

This course provides an essential overview of the approval process and equips you with the tools to plan and document safe fieldwork through appropriate risk assessments. Aimed at researchers conducting qualitative and ethnographic studies, particularly in areas where the FCDO advises against travel, this session offers valuable group activities and opportunities to learn from fellow researchers' experiences.



# Quantitative Research for Qualitative Researchers

ALL | IN PERSON

*06 March 09:30 – 17:00*

This one-day course attempts to demystify quantitative methods for people who don't naturally think in numbers. Starting with a brief discussion on why using numbers to investigate a phenomenon may be useful (and not necessarily that tricky), the bulk of the course will use examples and thought experiments to explore the core set of quantitative methods that social scientists typically use.



# RESEARCHER CONNECT SUPPORT

*ResearcherConnect events offer a more relaxed approach to your development journey, fostering a supportive community among peers. Under this theme we provide flexible, informal spaces for collaboration, problem-solving, and growth. Through DPhil 1:1 appointments, offered weekly in term time, you can tap into personalised guidance on any training or development needs, helping you navigate your unique path with confidence. And our online Co-Working Sessions, held Mondays and Fridays during term time, create a virtual environment for shared productivity and mutual support. Whether you're seeking advice, accountability, or simply a change of pace, ResearcherConnect is your go-to resource for building connections and enhancing your research experience in a less structured, more organic way.*

## Co-Working Sessions



ALL | ONLINE

*Mondays and Fridays during term, 09:30 - 12:30*

*Are you struggling with motivation and need some accountability?  
Feeling isolated in your work and want some company and connection?  
In search of some regular structure for your weeks?*

Step into our Co-Working sessions, online gatherings where focus and progress are at the heart of every session. Twice a week, join a senior DPhil student facilitator in a virtual space dedicated to advancing your academic work. It's not about discussions or feedback; it's about setting a rhythm for productivity alongside fellow researchers. Each session is an opportunity to work independently yet not alone, in solidarity with your peers. There's no pressure to share or critique—just the collective energy of concentration that inspires personal motivation. Whether you're ploughing through literature, planning data collection, or writing up your findings, the Co-Working Sessions are your scheduled appointment with progress: make them a core part of your weekly routine.

## DPhil 1:1 Appointments

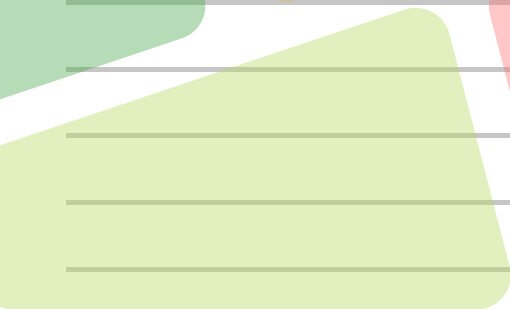
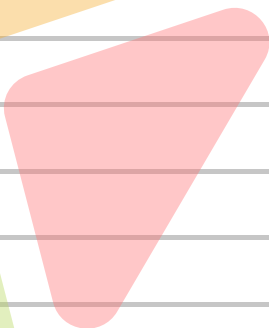
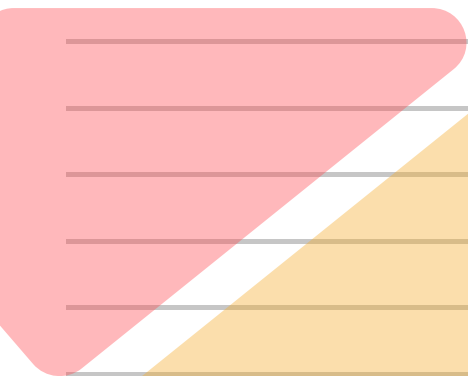


DPHIL | ONLINE

*Fridays during term time, 14:00 - 15:00*

If you've got questions about training, or developing yourself as a researcher while you're in Oxford, this drop-in session is the very place to ask an expert! For answers, signposting, suggestions and valuable connections, book a slot, and let's have a chat.

# NOTES



# SSD Term Card Timetable

EVENT	TIME	DATE
Mindfulness Course - start date	19:00 - 21:30	27 January
Introduction to Learning and Teaching at Oxford Part 1/2	09:30 - 12:00	28 January
Introduction to Learning and Teaching at Oxford Part 2/2	09:30 - 12:00	04 February
Advanced Qualitative Research Course - start date	13:30 - 15:00	04 February
Data Management Best Practices	10:30 - 12:30	06 February
DPhil Writing Workshop - What Makes for Good Academic Writing?	09:30 - 12:00	11 February
Introduction to Research Ethics at Oxford	14:00 - 15:00	12 February
Overseas Fieldwork Safety	09:30 - 13:00	14 February
Preparing for Your Viva	14:00 - 16:00	17 February
Presentation Preparation Skills	09:30 - 12:30	18 February
Presentation Delivery Skills	13:30 - 16:30	18 February
Introduction to Digital Methods 1/2	15:00 - 17:00	19 February
Vicarious (secondary) Trauma Workshop	09:30 - 16:30	20 February
Advanced R for Social Science Researchers	09:30 - 17:00	21 February
DPhil Writing Workshop - Guide your Reader	09:30 - 12:00	26 February
Introduction to Digital Methods Part 2/2	15:00 - 17:00	26 February
Insider and Outsider Fieldworkers	10:30 - 12:30	26 February
Overseas Fieldwork Safety	09:30 - 13:00	05 March
Quantitative Research for Qualitative Researchers	09:30 - 17:00	06 March
Co-Working Sessions - Mondays and Fridays during term	09:30 - 12:30 14:00 - 15:00	
DPhil 1:1 Appointments - Fridays during term		



SCAN THE QR CODE TO VIEW ALL OF OUR WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS



[WWW.SOCSCI.OX.AC.UK/OUR-PROGRAMME](http://WWW.SOCSCI.OX.AC.UK/OUR-PROGRAMME)

