The Conversation's self-paced, online training courses and live training sessions for academics are now mapped to Vitae's RDF
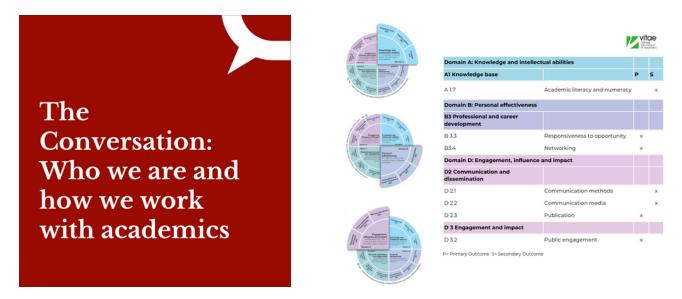
Training helps academics to understand how we work, the support we provide and the shift in mindset and writing style needed to write for a non-academic audience. Now academics can see how their engagement with The Conversation contributes to their professional development.

The Vitae Researcher Development Framework (RDF) describes the competencies (knowledge, behaviours, skills and attributes) of effective researchers, as identified by the higher education sector. The RDF provides researchers with an internationally recognised route map for their professional development. This approach is now embedded across over 140 higher education institutions in the UK. Vitae also supports almost 200 HEIs globally from 20 different countries.

The Conversation training, mapped by Vitae, supports researchers to develop competencies to enhance their knowledge and intellectual abilities to undertake research (Domain A); to develop personal effectiveness particularly in relation to professional and career development (Domain B); and to develop competencies in relation to research impact, influence and impact (Domains D).

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How training maps to the RDF

The Conversation: Who we are and how we work with academics

Domain A: Knowledge and intellectual abilities		P	S
A1 Knowledge base			
A 1.7	Academic literacy and numeracy		x
Domain B: Personal effectiveness			
B3 Professional and career development			
B 3.3	Responsiveness to opportunity	x	
B 3.4	Networking	x	
Domain D: Engagement, influence and impact			
D2 Communication and dissemination			
D 2.1	Communication methods		x
D 2.2	Communication media		x
D 2.3	Publication	x	
D 3 Engagement and impact			
D 3.2	Public engagement	x	

P= Primary Outcome S= Secondary Outcome

An introductory course explaining how we work. Academics share their experience of the editing process, the skills they've gained and post-publication impact and engagement.

How to write for The Conversation

Domain A: Knowledge and intellectual abilities		P	S
A1 Knowledge base			
A 1.7	Academic literacy and numeracy	x	
A2 Cognitive abilities			
A 2.2	Synthesising		x
A 3 Creativity			
A 3.4	Argument construction	x	
	Intellectual risk		x
Domain D: Engagement, influence and impact			
D1 Working with others			
D 1.6	Influence and leadership		x
D 2 Communication and dissemination			x
D 2.1	Communication methods	x	
D 2.2	Communication media		x
D 2.3	Publication	x	
D 3 Engagement and impact			
D 3.2	Public engagement	x	
D 3.5	Society and culture		x

P= Primary Outcome S= Secondary Outcome

An introduction to journalistic writing covering what academics need to consider to write successfully for a non-academic reader and provides the tools to write a short article.

Explore the four online courses from The Conversation [↗]

How to pitch to The Conversation

Domain A: Knowledge and intellectual abilities			
A1 Knowledge base		**P**	**S**
A 1.7	Academic literacy and numeracy	x	
Domain B: Personal effectiveness			
B3 Professional and career development			
B 3.3	Responsiveness to opportunity	x	
B 3.4	Networking		x
B 3.5	Reputation and esteem		x
Domain D: Engagement, influence and impact			
D 1 Working with others			
D 1.6	Influence and leadership		x
D2 Communication and dissemination			
D 2.1	Communication methods	x	
D 2.2	Communication media		x
D 2.3	Publication	x	
D 3 Engagement and impact			
D 3.2	Public engagement	x	
D 3.5	Society and culture		x

P= Primary Outcome S= Secondary Outcome

This course demystifies the pitching and commissioning process, providing academics with the tools to successfully communicate their ideas and craft a great pitch to The Conversation.

Writing for Insights

Domain A: Knowledge and intellectual abilities			
A1 Knowledge base		**P**	**S**
A 1.7	Academic literacy and numeracy	x	
A 3 Creativity			
A 3.2	Intellectual insight		x
A 3.5	Intellectual risk		x
Domain B: Personal effectiveness			
B3 Professional and career development			
B 3.5	Reputation and esteem		x
Domain D: Engagement, influence and impact			
D 1 Working with others			
D 1.6	Influence and leadership	x	
D 1.7	Collaboration		x
D2 Communication and dissemination			
D 2.1	Communication methods	x	
D 2.2	Communication media		x
D 2.3	Publication	x	
D 3 Engagement and impact			
D 3.2	Public engagement	x	

P= Primary Outcome S= Secondary Outcome

For research that suits a storytelling approach suitable for our Insights series, this course provides techniques for developing a compelling narrative and maintaining the reader's interest throughout.

Live training sessions

Domain A: Knowledge and intellectual abilities			
A1 Knowledge base		**P**	**S**
A 1.7	Academic literacy and numeracy	x	
A 2 cognitive abilities			
A 2.2	Synthesising	x	
A 3 Creativity			
A 3.2	Intellectual insight		x
Domain B: Personal effectiveness			
B3 Professional and career development			
B 3.3	Responsiveness to opportunity		x
Domain D: Engagement, influence and impact			
D 1 Working with others			
D 1.6	Influence and leadership		x
D2 Communication and dissemination			
D 2.1	Communication methods	x	
D 2.2	Communication media		x
D 2.3	Publication	x	
D 3 Engagement and impact			
D 3.2	Public engagement	x	
D 3.5	Society and culture		x

P= Primary Outcome S= Secondary Outcome

Editor-led live sessions offer the opportunity to learn how to write for non-specialist audiences directly from editors. **Explore the four online courses from The Conversation** ↗