



## Doctoral Academy Updates

### Faculty of Humanities Doctoral Academy

#### PGR Handbook

For all the information you need for your PhD programme, scan the QR code for your Faculty of Humanities PGR Handbook or visit

[www.humanities-pgr-handbook.manchester.ac.uk/](http://www.humanities-pgr-handbook.manchester.ac.uk/)



In the last DA newsletter of the calendar year, you will meet more colleagues from the Doctoral Academy, congratulate our December graduates as well as read how you can get involved in shaping a more sustainable research culture.

We also have the latest PGR workshops from the Library, Researcher Development and two fantastic lunchtime seminars from Methods North West.

There will be no December newsletter and so we take this opportunity to wish you all a fantastic, and well deserved, festive break!

As always, if you would like to feature anything in the newsletter, please let us know.

The Doctoral Academy Team

Follow us on Bluesky: <https://bsky.app/profile/uom-humdocacad.bsky.social>

Join us on LinkedIn: [The University of Manchester Faculty of Humanities Doctoral Academy | Groups | LinkedIn](#)

## Meet the Doctoral Academy Team

This month's 'Meet the Doctoral Academy Team' feature comes from your **Progression and Welfare Team!**

Hello, I'm Anusarin Lowe and I lead the Doctoral Academy's Progression, Welfare and Experience team. Within this, the Progression and Welfare team plays a vital role in ensuring our Postgraduate Researchers have the best possible experience throughout their research journey.



**Anusarin**

**Lynne**

**Jackie**

**Jess**

**Rachel**

We provide advice on and support with:

- [Annual progression and re-registration](#)
- [Fieldwork and Study Away](#)
- [Change of Circumstances, including applications to interrupt or extend study](#)
- [Signposting and referral to University Support Services](#)
- [Completion Support](#)

We also administer the Research Training Programme and PGR course units across the Faculty.

For our international PGRs, we also monitor Attendance and Engagement at regular intervals in compliance with the UKVI.

It is our pleasure to support PGRs from their very first day on the programme and throughout their own unique journey.

With best wishes

**Anusarin, Lynne, Jackie, Jess and Rachel**

(please follow us on [Bluesky](#) and join us on [LinkedIn!](#))

## Graduation

### Congratulations December Graduates!

This is the final milestone on your PhD journey and a chance to look back and celebrate all that you've achieved throughout your time here.

Winter ceremonies will take place in Whitworth Hall from **Thursday, 11 December to Friday, 19 December 2025.**



For all the information you need, including the schedule of ceremonies, how to prepare and what happens on the day, please check our Graduation site [here](#).

There is also a handy [list of FAQs](#) and details of becoming an alumni and what happens to your IT account after you graduate.

## Methods NW Lunchtime Seminars



Methods NW has two fantastic lunchtime seminars coming up at the end of this month and early December. The seminars are free to attend (online) so sign up to reserve a spot!

📌 **Calling all Social Media Analysts!**

**PGR Social Media Methods Network**

📅 **Thursday 27 November** 🕒 **12-1pm** 🌐 **online**

This Methods North West lunchtime session will bring together social media methods researchers and analysts of digital culture, to build a network for PGR Social Media Methods.

Nadine Shanahan (Liverpool), Holly Dean (Lancaster) and Allysa Czerwinsky (Manchester) will discuss their own research, which examines Instagram, TikTok and forums. We'd love to hear about your work too, so come prepared to have a chat about your work and how you're getting on.

[Sign up now](#)

### Writing and Researching Differently through Fictocriticism

 **Thursday 4 December**  **12-1pm**  **online**

In this Methods North West Lunchtime Seminar, Mark Gatto (Northumbria University) will be exploring gender, work & care through dystopian fictocriticism to challenge patriarchal norms and inspire inclusive change.

[Sign up now](#)

## Help Shape a More Sustainable Research Culture



As part of the University's commitment to enhancing our research culture, we are exploring ways to reduce the environmental impact of non-lab-based research. We're inviting PGRs to share your experiences and suggestions in two ways.

By completing a short survey (approx. 15 minutes) you can directly inform how the university can better support researchers to adopt more sustainable practices in their everyday work.  [Complete the survey here.](#)

Book your place onto one of our interactive workshops in November and December to discuss ideas and share good practice across faculties. If you'd like to join a session please book one from the list below:

#### **For Research staff**

[1st December, 2-4pm](#) (online)

[3rd December, 10am-12pm](#) (in person)

[9th December, 2-4pm](#) (in person)

[10th December, 10am-12pm](#) (in person)

[10th December, 2-4pm](#) (in person)

[11th December, 2-4pm](#) (online)

#### **For PGR students\***

[2nd December, 10am-12pm](#) (online)

**\*PGR students are welcome to book onto any session, but this session is PGRs only.**

If you have any questions or would like to know more, please contact [nia.coupe@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:nia.coupe@manchester.ac.uk)

## Researcher Development



The Researcher Development Team are running some PGR workshops in the run up to Christmas - please see below for details and links to book:

**04/12/2025**

[Calm and Confident Presenting: Understanding and Managing your Presentation Anxieties](#)

**04/12/2025**

[Academic Career Planning](#)

**09/12/2025**

[Stop self-sabotage](#)

**10/12/2025**

[Research Independence - Fellowship grant applications](#)

**11/12/2025**

[Two Day NVivo Course](#)

**16/12/2025**

[Power Hour of Reading](#)

The Team also have two fantastic opportunities coming up for PGRs!

### **Realising Disability Inclusion for ECRs/PGRs**

We know that disabled PhD students and early career researchers often face barriers to professional development, including:

- Pressure to appear as the 'perfect' academic
- Imposter syndrome and fear of disappointing supervisors
- Difficulty advocating for access needs

These challenges can lead to stress, isolation, and missed development opportunities. To address this, the project team is hosting a course led by Result CIC, a disabled-led organisation specialising in leadership and confidence building.

The course aims to support disabled researchers in Personal development, building confidence to discuss access needs and finding accessible career development opportunities

The deadline to [apply](#) is 15 December 2025

### **Engagement@Manchester: Collaborative Practice**

**Date:** Wednesday 26 November

**Time:** 12:30–13:40

**Location:** Room 3.204, University Place, Oxford Road (in-person)

Join our community of practice to share, learn, and connect around public engagement. Whether you're new or experienced, this informal session will explore collaborative ways to engage communities through case studies, talks, and Q&A.

Tea, coffee, and cake provided – feel free to bring your lunch!

Sign up [here](#)!

**Emotionally Demanding Research Network**

**SOSS has set up a network for those who feel their fieldwork may trigger past events or emotional stress, the Emotionally Demanding Research Network.**



There is a training event planned for January. If you would find this beneficial, you can sign up for the network by contacting the team at [soss.socialresponsibility@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:soss.socialresponsibility@manchester.ac.uk).

## Library PGR Workshops

The Library are running the following PGR workshops in December:

[Reference management with EndNote desktop for researchers](#) (on campus) – **Tuesday, 2 Dec, 14:00 – 15:30**

[Sharing research with confidence: developing your public speaking skills](#) (on campus) – **Wednesday 3 Dec, 10:00 – 11:30**

[Research Data Conversations \(Dr Samantha Pearman-Kanza, CaSDaR Network+\)](#) (online) - **Thursday 4 Dec 2025, 14:00 - 15:30**

[Shut Up and Write](#) (on campus) – **Monday, 8 Dec, 14:00 – 16:00**

[MRE Writing Retreat](#) (on campus) – **Friday, 12 Dec, 09:00 – 17:00**

## Library opening hours over Christmas vacation

Library opening hours will change over the festive period, between Wednesday, 24 December 2025 and Friday, 2 January 2026.

Full information on our opening hours across all Library sites can be found on the [Library's locations and opening hours page](#).

[Library Chat](#) will be available 24/7 during the vacation period. It will be staffed by third-party partner institutions.

## New Duo Authentication

## For eProg and Training Catalogue Access

From Tuesday 4 November you will need to use Duo multi-factor authentication (MFA) to access the eProg and training catalogue systems.

Duo adds an extra layer of security to protect your account.



After entering your username and password to access eProg or the Training catalogue, you'll be asked to verify your identity by approving a Duo push notification, entering a code, or receiving a phone call.

This change is part of the University's commitment to keeping your data secure.

If you need help installing or using the Duo app, visit [Duo for staff and PGRs](#) or raise a Connect ticket for ITS support.

### University News

[Researcher Development](#)

[Counselling Services](#)

[Research IT](#)

[PGR News](#)



The University Of Manchester, Faculty of Humanities, Doctoral Academy

[Contact Us](#) | Tel: +44 (0) 161 306 6000 | Web: [www.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.manchester.ac.uk)

Registered Office: The University of Manchester, Oxford Rd, Manchester, M13 9PL. Royal Charter Number: RC000797

To opt out of future communications [click here](#)