You’ve come here to do high quality research, why do we distract you?

- Well, we don’t! We try to give you the skills you need to do high quality research with least frustration and most effect
- You need to work effectively with your supervisor and usually a wider research group
- You need to be able to present your work to people ranging from A-level students to the interview panel you next face
- You need to be able to plan and manage your work
- You need to think critically about your work and its context
- And at the end you need to get a good job using your skills
- So...
The Postgraduate Certificate in Transferable Skills (PGCTS)

warwick.ac.uk/transferableskills

It is an accredited qualification

Part of the University PGR Professional Development Framework

It gives you an idea of the skills we think you should be gaining from your research and that we think you need to support your research.

Aims of the certificate

To help you

- to be a successful doctoral researcher undertaking world leading research
- to improve your research effectiveness
- to be even more successful in your future career
- to understand what you know and how to use that to maximum effect in your project and beyond.
Employability and careers

Students who attended a Transferrable Skills course are:

- 6.3% more likely to be in Graduate Employment.
- 9.5% more likely to be in Full-time employment.
- 2.1% less likely to be in Part-time employment.

Structure of the Certificate

For all PhD students in Warwick Faculty of Science, Engineering & Medicine

Usually 2 modules per year. Total
6 modules x 10 CATS each.

Standards and progress are formally overseen by the Exam Board. In practice you deal mainly with your Department Director of Graduate Studies.
STRUCTURE OF THE CERTIFICATE

YEAR 1
- Doctoral Skills 1
- Team working for researchers

YEAR 2
- Doctoral Skills 2
- An option e.g. Science communication

YEAR 3
- Doctoral Skills 3
- An option e.g. Decision making and leadership

OPTIONAL MODULES

YEAR 1: Team working for Researchers
- 3-day course, April, May, June, July

YEARS 2 & 3: Choose 2 of
- Science Communication
- Decision-making & Leadership
- Research Ethics & Practice
- Business, Innovation & Commercialisation
- Scientific writing skills
- Programming
- Languages
- Bioscience, Politics & Social Acceptability
- +others
Doctoral Skills modules

*If you are doing OK with your PhD then the skills modules should simply be a case of gathering evidence!*

- Skills 1-3 cover the basic skills needed and used by science PhD students.
- You collate (and maintain) a brief portfolio based around your day-to-day research activities. Keep it up to date!
- Year 1 focuses on concerns and skills of graduates starting out on independent research.
- Years 2 and 3 focus on skills and activities needed to develop and complete a project and for a career after your PhD.
- Tasks signed off by supervisor or relevant academic.
- DGS or their representative will sign off each module.

Doctoral Skills 1

1. Starting Literature Review – 5 Research Papers
2. Research Plan (including budget) (Keep updating it)
3. Interim Research Report
4. End of year Research Report
5. Year 1 Research Poster or Seminar Review for General Reader
6. Seminar Summaries
7. Poster Marking/Postgraduate Presentation Assessment/Teaching
8. Meeting Planning
9. Webpage
What to do?

Go to Transferable Skills website:

warwick.ac.uk/transferableskills

- Sign up for Doctoral Skills 1 module in SkillsForge
- Sign up for a Team working for Researchers course via Skills Forge

Any questions, email: transferable.skills@warwick.ac.uk