

# Researcher Training Course List 2020-21

Our training courses and workshops offer expert support, both in-person and online, for researchers seeking to enhance their research communication skills and gain greater insight into modern journal publishing.

To ensure space in our schedule please allow a minimum 4-6 weeks when booking.

Once booked we like to receive participant lists prior to the course running, so we may contact individuals to gauge their specific needs and tailor our courses accordingly.

Courses include handouts/downloads to accompany the presentation and discussions, and supplementary reading materials.

Our online sessions are carried out using GoToTraining, or a training platform of your choosing if you have a preference.

Course descriptions include examples of content from 3-hour and full-day sessions. The duration of sessions can be adjusted to incorporate the range of content and/or practical activity you require.

We recommend online courses run no more than 3 hours per day. Longer courses to be run online should be scheduled over a number of agreed days for a better learning experience.

All courses can be tailored to fit the subject area scope, learning requirements, or other specific needs of those attending, including fully interactive online versions of each course.

Our course structure is guided by group size - we work with small sizes of 8-12 which allows for interaction and the session resources and examples to be customised to individuals right up to 500+ attendees, both online and in person.

To book or to ask any questions please email [amelia@dnjournals.co.uk](mailto:amelia@dnjournals.co.uk)

# The essentials of article submission and publishing

## Who is the course for:

Doctoral and postdoctoral researchers new to article submission, or anyone wanting insight into journal selection and current publishing trends.

## Benefits:

- Maximise the chances of successful submission
- Avoiding common pitfalls in submitting to journals
- How to deal with rejection
- Gain expert insight into publishing processes

## 3-hour version

This session gives an overview of journal publishing, helping researchers identify suitable journals for their work, providing tools and techniques for comparing journal qualities and tips for effective submissions.

## Course contents

- Discussion of why we publish in journals and what journals do for our work
- Practical techniques to identify journals, using participants own research and requirements
- Understanding Open Access
- Identifying predatory publications
- Qualities of accepted papers
- The peer review process, submission requirements, what to expect during peer review
- How to write a cover letter and respond to revision requests
- Introduction to publishing and research ethics
- Understanding traditional copyright and creative commons licensing, the policies of journal publishers and the rights authors retain over their work

## Full-day version

The full-length version of this course offers greater opportunity for interaction and feedback on participants' own experiences

## Additional contents

- More in-depth practical work on comparing features of journals to optimise submission
- Detailed walkthrough of a paper, highlighting the qualities in accepted manuscripts
- Guidance and best practice advice on effective writing styles

*"Lots of useful information, easy to follow and clear. Broken down into useful sections, with lots of useful website examples and references provided. The trainer was very knowledgeable and gave good chance to ask questions throughout"*

# The essentials of social media for researchers

## Who is the course for:

PhDs and researchers at any career stage.

## Benefits:

- Understand social media within the context of research
- Learn methods of modern article promotion
- Learn how to set up and manage research profiles
- Increase impact and presence of work
- Effectively engage with subject communities
- Acquire impact reports for grants, tenure or promotion applications

## 3-hour version

This course helps researchers to navigate the world of social media with the aim of engaging their peers and wider society with their research. The course discusses the role social media plays in science communication through practical exercises and group discussion.

- Differences between key public and academic social platforms
- How researchers can use social media at every stage of the research cycle
- Choosing appropriate social media tools to use
- Getting started on creating and posting to profiles
- How to post research to social media in an effective way
- How to find the time to fit social media into busy schedules
- Tips to help increase readership and citations of work online
- Introduction to Altmetrics to measure the presence and attention of research online
- Examples of valuable members of the scientific community to follow, engage with and learn from

## Full-day version

The full day version of this course includes in-depth practical tasks to get beginners comfortable with posting, and advanced techniques for the more experienced.

## Additional contents

- Extended session of supervised posting to social media platforms
- Optimising participant's profiles on public and academic research platforms
- Making videos for effective science communication
- Platforms to manage multiple social media accounts and schedule posts
- In depth engagement with Altmetrics

*"Lots of very useful information and the trainer was very knowledgeable about various media. I was very interested in the impact measurement software and suggested uses. The hands-on practical elements were excellent, as was the trainers support and responsiveness to questions."*

# Essential skills for peer review

## Who is the course for:

Early career researchers, or anyone new to peer review looking to become active reviewers or learn more about the process.

## Benefits:

- Learn about the intricacies of the peer review process
- Develop peer review skills
- Understand how peer review can advance your career

Increase your profile and community presence

## 3-hour version

This workshop gives attendees a thorough introduction to the peer review process and the skills required to assess papers submitted to journals.

## The session will discuss

- Why peer review is considered such an essential part of research publishing
- Types of peer review and platforms
- Peer review ethics and good practice
- Examples of good peer review
- Key features of a peer review using a typical article structure
- How individuals can help improve the integrity and efficiency of the peer review process
- How being involved in peer review can enhance participants' own research and careers
- The essential critical and commentary skills participants require in peer review
- Aspects vital to constructing the most helpful feedback for both authors and journal editors

## Full-day version

The full-length version of the course will be a great opportunity for attendees to gain a deeper understanding of the practicalities of the peer review process and learn some key skills that can be applied as and when they begin reviewing for journals.

## Additional contents

- Participants will be sent review requests and have to submit comments through our peer review system, to give attendees an interactive behind-the-scenes look at the process
- Use an example article, reviewer comments and accepted revision to demonstrate the peer review process
- Use a three-step method for peer reviewing to walk through the paper and raise issues
- Introduction to Publons, and getting participants set up with a profile.

*"I liked that I learned a lot about various reviewing platforms and techniques. I know what to look out for in a paper and what to prioritise in a review. The practical element of the course really helped to illustrate the theory, and it was great to look inside a peer review system."*

# An introduction to journal metrics

## Who is the course for:

Early career, or researchers of any level, who wish to learn more about current forms of assessment metrics.

## Benefits:

- The ability to measure and describe the impact and quality of research
- Find out how to benchmark your research against others
- Acquire evidence of quality for journals in which you have published
- Understand how metrics can inform grant, tenure or promotion applications

## 3-hour version

This course offers information and a discussion forum for researchers to address the range of research-related metrics available, understand how they can be used and their potential to inform their current and future work.

## The course covers

- Understanding the difference between journal, article and person-level metrics
- How key citation metrics are calculated, comparing the relative merits of each
- Comparing the form and functions of Web of Science, SCOPUS and Google Scholar
- Explaining and interpreting Alternative metrics
- How to use these metrics to benchmark impact and presence of work
- How to use metrics to inform the communication of work and future work
- Discussing some of the issues inherent in using metrics to determine quality or value

## Full-day version

The full day version of the course offers attendees the chance to gain first-hand experience in working with citation and alternative metrics to benchmark participants' work and understand the metric-related profiles of their own fields.

## Additional contents

- Practical use of citation metrics platforms to benchmark their own work
- Finding participant's best performing papers
- Practical use of alternative metric platforms.

*"I was introduced to a wide range of metrics and tools I didn't know about. The course was well organised with a lot of very useful information relevant to university policies"*

# Open access & open science

## Who is the course for:

Early career, or researchers of any level, who wish to learn more about open access publishing options.

## Benefits:

- Learn the advantages of an open access publication
- How to make your publications freely accessible to increase the impact of your work
- How to identify high quality open access journals
- How to retain rights of your work through open access licensing
- To make informed decisions between publishing in open and closed access journals
- Understand who pays for costs such as author fees

## 3-hour version

This course offers a balanced view of the increasing role open science plays in modern science publishing, raising discussion points to help researchers understand how to use the increasing number of tools and resources available to maximise the potential impact for their work.

## Course contents

- Discuss the different forms of open science and the advantages of open research
- Understand how to publish work as open access and different forms of open access
- How to identify suitable open access journals
- How to identify and avoid 'low-value, 'predatory' journals
- Understand the benefits of pre-prints and self-archiving and how to do it
- Understand what open peer review is, and how to engage with it
- Discuss open data, when it is appropriate and how to make data available
- Understand issues associated with policy and funding mandate compliance
- Details of PlanS and how it may affect researchers

## Full-day version

In the full day course, participants will have more chance to engage with open access platforms to consolidate the topics discussed.

## Additional contents:

- Search, compare and contrast open access journals in participants' own fields
- Identify suitable subject area pre-print servers
- Tips to get maximum impact from published research

*"The Centre for Staff and Educational Development at the UEA has utilised Duncan's services since 2016 with great success, to which, the feedback received from staff who have attended his workshops, has been excellent. Duncan's specialist knowledge covers an array of topics that are critical to staff involved in the research and publication process. His depth of knowledge and experience, along with his innate abilities to apply this knowledge, mean that he is always the first person that we approach when we are looking to provide this type of training."*

Dr. Lisa Worrall | Staff Development Officer, University of East Anglia

## About the trainer



### Duncan Nicholas

Duncan is the Director of DN Journal Publishing Services. He has over 16 years' experience in the journal publishing industry and is President for the European Association of Science Editors ([EASE](#)). He is also trainer for Association of Learned Publishing and Society Professionals (ALPSP), delivering their Advanced Journal Development course. In 2017 and 2018 he chaired the Conference Organising Committee for the International Society for Managing and Technical Editors ([ISMTE](#)), and is currently an active member of the Peer Review Week organising committee.

He provides independent editorial consultancy and training courses to publishers, researchers and the wider scholarly community, with clients around the world in Europe, Asia, Middle East, Africa, and North America.

Duncan writes and delivers training workshops and presentations to editorial staff and researchers of all levels of academic seniority on a wide range of topics, and has been involved in the development, creation of content and recording of online learning materials, including the [IFIS Expert Guide to Journal Publishing](#), and a central role in producing the [Publons Academy](#). His workshops include editorial office management, writing and journal publishing skills, peer review, journal impact and metrics, open science, social media & promotion, publishing & research ethics, and copyright & licensing.

To read testimonials visit the DN Journals website: [www.dnjournals.co.uk/testimonials](http://www.dnjournals.co.uk/testimonials)

Some of the companies, organisations, universities and journals Duncan has worked with:

### Companies & Societies

Bristol University Press  
British Occupational Hygiene Society  
Charlesworth Author Services  
Cogent OA  
Editage  
EMBO Press  
Emerald Publishing  
Enago Author Services  
European Association of Developmental Psychology  
International Water Association  
KnowledgeE Publishing Services  
Lepra  
PEERE  
Publons (Clarivate)  
Royal Society of Tropical Medicine & Health  
Society of Occupational Medicine  
Taylor & Francis  
Textrum Publishing

### Universities & Institutions

Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt  
Beijing Children's Hospital, China  
Beijing Foreign Studies University, China  
Beijing Huilongguan Hospital, China  
Children's Cancer Hospital, Cairo, Egypt  
Glasgow University, UK  
Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, China  
Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania  
King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia  
Kings' College London, UK  
Ministry of Higher Education, Cairo, Egypt  
University of Bologna, Italy  
University of Central Lancashire, UK  
University of East Anglia, UK  
University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy  
University of Strathclyde, UK  
University of Sussex, UK  
Vilnius University, Lithuania

## Journals

Examples of some of the journals Duncan has worked with. 2018 Impact Factor and quartile rank provided as an indicator of the activity of each journal.

### Behavioural Science

Attachment and Human Development (2.147, Q2)  
Behavioral Medicine (2.344, Q3)  
Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression (n/a)  
British Journal of Guidance and Counselling (0.907, Q4)  
European Journal of Work & Organizational Psychology (2.638, Q1)  
Work & Stress (3.14, Q1)  
Writing Systems Research (n/a)

### Business, Economics & Urban Environment

Applied Economics (0.750, Q3)  
Applied Economics Letters (0.504, Q4)  
Regional Studies (3.147, Q1)

### Chemistry/Physics

Soft Materials (1.132, Q4)

### Engineering

Construction Management and Economics (n/a)  
International Journal of Control (2.101, Q2)  
International Journal of Production Research (2.623, Q2)

### Food Science

Food Additives and Contaminants - Part A Chemistry, Analysis, Control, Exposure and Risk Assessment (2.129, Q2)

### Journalism

Ecquid Novi: African Journalism Studies (0.25, Q4)

### Natural & Earth Sciences

Atmosphere-Ocean (1.195, Q4)  
Australian Journal of Earth Sciences (1.22, Q4)  
Journal of Natural History (0.875, Q3)  
Norwegian Journal of Geography (0.979, Q4)  
Veterinary Quarterly (1.492, Q2)  
Journal of Hydroinformatics (1.797, Q3)  
Journal of Water and Climate Change (0.809, Q4)  
Hydrology Research (1.801, Q2)  
Journal of Water and Health (1.352, Q3)

Journal of Water Reuse and Desalination (0.688, Q3)  
Journal of Water Supply: Research and Technology – AQUA (n/a)  
Journal of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Development (n/a)  
Water Policy (0.838, Q4)  
Water Quality Research Journal of Canada (0.556, Q4)  
Water Science and Technology (1.247, Q4)  
Water Science and Technology: Water Supply (0.674, Q4)  
H2Open Journal (n/a.)

### Neuroscience

Cognitive Neuroscience (3.417, Q2)  
Developmental Neurorehabilitation (1.239, Q4)  
Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology (1.853, Q3)  
Language, Cognition & Neuroscience (2.086, Q1)  
Neurocase (0.92, Q4)  
Social Neuroscience (2.575, Q3)

### Psychology

Cognition and Emotion (2.563, Q2)  
Cognitive Neuropsychiatry (1.329, Q4)  
Cognitive Neuropsychology (1.796, Q3)  
European Journal of Developmental Psychology (1.208, Q4)  
European Review of Social Psychology (3.75, Q1)  
Journal of Cognitive Psychology (1.378, Q4)  
Journal of Forensic Psychiatry & Psychology (0.891, Q3)  
Journal of Positive Psychology (2.594, Q1)  
Laterality (1.388, Q2)  
Memory (1.873, Q3)  
Psychology, Health & Medicine (1.603, Q3)  
Psychology Research and Behavior Management (1.840, Q2)  
Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology (2.449, Q2)  
Religion, Brain and Behavior (n/a)  
Self and Identity (1.435, Q3)  
Social Influence (0.979, Q4)  
Thinking and Reasoning (2.372, Q2)  
Visual Cognition (1.343, Q4)

## Politics, Society & Sociology

Critical and Radical Social Work (n/a.)  
Emotions & Society (n/a.)  
European Journal of Politics and Gender (n/a.)  
Evidence & Policy (1.127, Q2)  
Families, Relationships and Societies (n/a.)  
International Journal of Care and Caring (n/a.)  
Journal of Gender-Based Violence (n/a.)  
Journal of Poverty and Social Justice (n/a.)  
Journal of Public Finance and Public Choice (n/a.)  
Longitudinal & Life Course Studies (n/a.)  
Policy & Politics (1.250, Q2)  
Voluntary Sector Review (n/a.)

## Public Administration & Education

Forensic Science Policy & Management: An International Journal (n/a)  
International Journal of Science Education (1.325, Q3)  
International Public Management Journal (2.739, Q1)  
Journal of Interlibrary Loan, Document Delivery & Electronic Reserve (n/a)  
Studies in Higher Education (2.321, Q1)

## Public Health, Environmental and Occupational Health

AIDS Care (2.105, Q1)  
African Journal of AIDS Research (1.220, Q4)  
Annals of Work Exposures and Health (1.615, Q3)  
Behavioral Sleep Medicine (3.171, Q2)  
Clinical Interventions in Aging (2.585, Q3)  
Fatigue: Biomedicine, Health & Behavior (ESCI)  
Global Health Action (1.817, Q3)  
Global Public Health (1.943, Q2)  
HIV/AIDS: Research and Palliative Care (ESCI)  
International Journal of Developmental Disabilities (0.472, Q4)  
International Journal of Sexual Health (1.014, Q4)  
Journal of HIV/AIDS & Social Services (ESCI)  
Journal of Manual & Manipulative Therapy (n/a)  
Journal of Occupational Therapy, Schools, & Early Intervention (n/a)  
Journal of Physical and Occupational Therapy in Geriatrics (n/a)  
Nature and Science of Sleep ((3.054, Q2)  
Occupational Medicine (1.482, Q3)  
Occupational Therapy in Health Care (n/a)  
Occupational Therapy in Mental Health (n/a)  
Pathogens & Global Health (1.969, Q3)

Physical and Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics (n/a)  
Physical Therapy Reviews (n/a)  
Physiotherapy Theory and Practice (1.158, Q4)  
Research and Reports in Tropical Medicine (ESCI)  
SAHARA-J: Journal of Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS (0.619, Q4)  
Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies (ESCI)  
World Federation of Occupational Therapists Bulletin (n/a)

## Publications

Squazzoni, F. et al. (2020) Unlock ways to share data on peer review. *Nature* 578, 512-514. DOI: [10.1038/d41586-020-00500-y](https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-020-00500-y)

Nicholas D (2019) How to choose a journal and write a cover letter. *Saudi Journal of Anaesthesia*. 13, Suppl S1:35-41. DOI [10.4103/sja.SJA\\_691\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/sja.SJA_691_18)

Tennant J, Penders B, Ross-Hellauer T, Marušić A, Squazzoni F, Mackay AW, Maden CR, Shaw DM, Alam S, Mehmani B, Graziotin D, Nicholas D (2019) Boon, bias or bane? The potential influence of reviewer recommendations on editorial decision-making. *European Science Editing*. 45(1). DOI [10.20316/ESE.2019.45.18013](https://doi.org/10.20316/ESE.2019.45.18013)

Smart, P. and Gaston, T. (2019), How prevalent are plagiarized submissions? Global survey of editors. *Learned Publishing*, 32: 47-56. DOI:[10.1002/leap.1218](https://doi.org/10.1002/leap.1218) (contributed commentary on text and data)

Nicholas D (2018) Advances in standards and training for journal editors and peer reviewers. *European Science Editing*. 44(2) [10.20316/ESE.2018.44.18005](https://doi.org/10.20316/ESE.2018.44.18005)

Nicholas, D. Developing Communications: Customising and Automating Submission System Templates. *Editorial Office News*. February 2016

Nicholas, D. The role of social media in the research cycle. *European Science Editing* 2015; 41(4) <http://europeanscienceediting.eu/articles/the-role-of-social-media-in-the-research-cycle/>