

From ideas to publications: plan, draft, submit, revise, repeat

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Abstract: Early-stage researchers often face a constellation of practical and conceptual questions: What can I present at this conference? Where should I publish my first paper? Is it worth turning my initial literature review into an article? What about publishing preliminary data and findings? Which journals are suitable for a first publication? Should I aim for a monograph-style thesis or a multiple-paper format?

This module is designed to guide you through these recurring dilemmas that mark the transition from research training to autonomous scholarship. It will explore three interconnected themes: (i) how to select and refine research topics and outputs throughout the evolving stages of doctoral work; (ii) how to assess when texts are ready for submission and which formats best fit their purpose and audience; and (iii) how to recognise, manage, and ultimately embrace the creative and sometimes unpredictable nature of scientific inquiry.

Adopting an easy-going but rigorous approach, the module encourages participants to think strategically about their academic trajectories, helping them to make informed choices, avoid dispersion, and turn uncertainty into a productive part of the research process.