

Lens development

The Getting started in research lens on the Vitae Researcher Development Framework is informed by our experience running the popular Vitae programme 'Effective Researcher: getting started' (www.vitae.ac.uk/effectiveresearcher) and was developed through consultation with academic and professional researcher development colleagues in our Vitae network, to create a common understanding of the knowledge, behaviours and attributes essential to making an effective start in research.

Related advice and development materials are available on the Vitae website: www.vitae.ac.uk/rdfenses

The participants of the Vitae Effective Researcher programme said...

“My project looked a mammoth task, but when planned well, it looks manageable”

“You should take time out to get creativity going and get new ideas”

“Having realised I like to focus on detail, I have started thinking more about the bigger picture in my research”

“Having a proper plan with a schedule and milestones has made it easier to communicate with my supervisors”

“The PhD is MY project and I am the driving force”

To protect and maintain the integrity of the Vitae Researcher Development Framework and the Researcher Development Statement (RDS)¹ and to ensure a consistent approach to the development of lenses on the RDF, anyone wishing to create a lens on the RDF should seek permission from Vitae, and must adhere to the RDF conditions of use². Enquiries regarding the development of a lens on the RDF can be directed to rdf@vitae.ac.uk

For further information about the range of Vitae activities go to www.vitae.ac.uk or contact website@vitae.ac.uk

¹ www.vitae.ac.uk/rds

² www.vitae.ac.uk/rdfconditionsofuse

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Researcher Development Framework

Getting started in research lens on the Vitae Researcher Development Framework

Overview

The Vitae Researcher Development Framework (RDF) underpins a major approach to developing world-class researchers. The framework has been developed by and for researchers working in higher education as an aid to planning, promoting and enhancing professional and career development. It articulates the knowledge, behaviours and attributes of successful researchers and encourages all researchers to realise their potential.

This is one of a series of lenses on the Researcher Development Framework.

For further information about the Researcher Development Framework visit www.vitae.ac.uk/rdf

Find out more about lenses on the Researcher Development Framework at www.vitae.ac.uk/rdfenses

“This part of doctoral study is so important, because it is about selling your ideas and convincing people that there is a gap for your research”

Max Robinson
(electronics/3D imaging)

Purpose of this lens

The Getting started in research lens on the Vitae Researcher Development Framework is for those in the first few months of their doctoral research. The Vitae Researcher Development Framework offers a comprehensive view of a successful researcher. It can be used to review development needs and progress for all researchers as they move forward in their careers. This lens focuses on the knowledge, behaviours and attributes required to start out in research and to begin developing as a researcher.

How to use the Getting started in research lens

Researchers starting their doctorate may wish to use this lens to:

- Consider the knowledge, behaviours and attributes essential to a successful start in doctoral research
- Select areas where they may need to develop in order to become an effective researcher
- inform progress and professional development reviews and training and development choices

Supervisors and researcher development professionals may wish to use the lens:

- As a basis for initial reviews of development needs
- To inform induction programmes for new doctoral researchers

You may wish to adapt the lens to suit local circumstances, for example if new doctoral candidates are encouraged to teach.

Getting started in research

A lens on the Vitae Researcher Development Framework

