

DOCTORAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

Faculty of Technology, Design & Environment



Introduction

The Faculty of Technology, Design and Environment is committed to providing a particularly high quality research environment, for the benefit of students and staff. As a part of this I am delighted to introduce the new Doctoral Training Programme. The Programme represents the very best in current thinking around training provision, and is designed to support the rich and varied formal and informal interactions that are the hallmark of a vigorous research community. It promotes the sharing of ideas and best practice. Its structure combines broadly-applicable content with discipline-specific material and highly focused personal training designed to meet the exacting needs of individuals. As the Programme develops we will continue to innovate, and to embrace new dimensions that reflect the enthusiasm of our research communities. The Programme is owned by everyone, students and staff, and everyone is invited not only to participate but to contribute.

Professor Nigel Crook

Associate Dean Research and Knowledge Exchange
Chair of the Faculty Research Degrees Sub-Committee

What is the DTP?

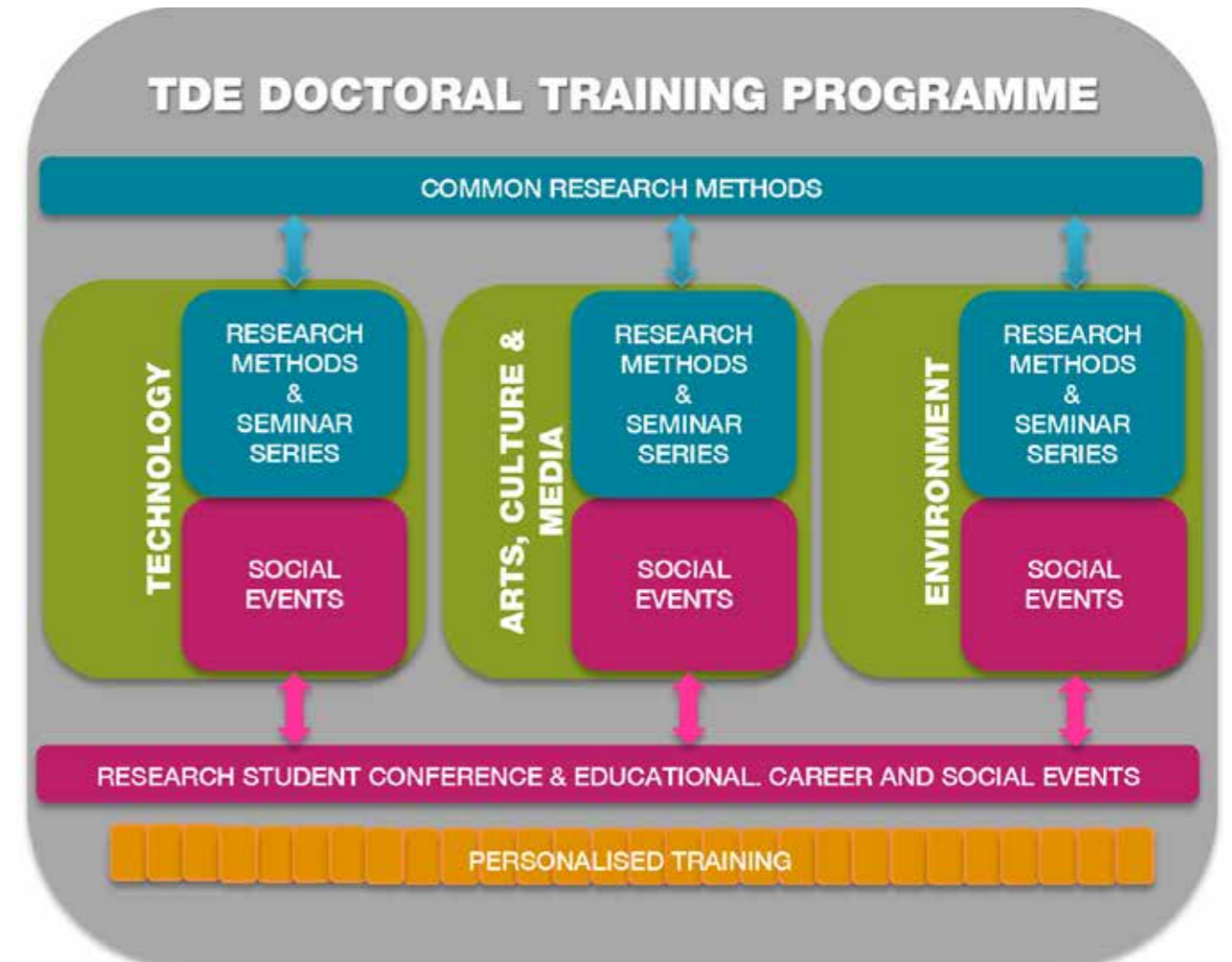
Doing a PhD is both an exciting and at times challenging experience. The Faculty has developed its Doctoral Training Programme (DTP) to support you through the process and to equip you with the necessary skills to complete your research degree. It also prepares you for an academic or a non-academic career in the wider world.

All research students in the Faculty are part of the DTP, which comprises lectures, (social) events, networking and training opportunities for research students, and gives students a community of learning to support their research.

Students are allocated to one of three strands: Technology, Environment, and Arts, Culture & Media, based on their area of research. Some students are involved in more than one strand as their research is interdisciplinary.

I found attending the sessions very useful for my research journey, especially gaining skills in research, research management, and even life management and life skills.

Laurence Colbert
School of Arts



How will the DTP benefit you as a researcher?

There are many benefits to being part of the Programme:

Network with a diverse group of students and staff

A series of social events gives participants an opportunity to meet students and staff from across the Faculty. Becoming more integrated into the research community and learning from others in related and distinct areas of study is an important part of the research journey.

The DTP helps to improve a sense of a PhD community. The sessions enable us to come together, share what we're working on, discuss areas of commonality, and also to pick up practical tips.

Zoe Jordan
School of Architecture

Access world-class research methods training

Training is delivered at three levels to give students a thorough understanding of research methods:

- **Core:** A broad overview of the essential elements of research methods and practical research skills.
- **Strand** (Technology, Environment, and Arts, Culture & Media): Research methods training relevant to that area of research, a seminar series where students present their research and social events.
- **Personalised:** Tailored training to meet individual needs, such as particular software training.

The training sessions gave me a clear idea of what I should do during my PhD and how to keep myself motivated. I think they are very helpful.

Zixuan Ran
Department of Mechanical Engineering and Mathematical Sciences

Fast track career development skills

Join events arranged through the University's Graduate College (which organises training and social events for research students). Sessions cover a wide range of topics, from how to be an effective researcher and how to get a job, to developing applications for ethics approval and how to manage your supervisor. Skills taught here will equip you for a career in academia or elsewhere.

Contribute your research, views and opinions

Work with your supervisor to tailor the available training to your needs, and if it's not already provided, we'll try to organise it for you. Present your work-in-progress at the annual Research Student Conference, develop your communication skills and engage with the research of other research students.

I like the DTP because it gives me the ability to choose specific training. I can even create a personal learning calendar to track my progress and highlight aspects of research I want to improve.

Alla Vovk
Department of Computing and Communication Technologies

Enjoy the journey at fun, informal events

The Programme runs a series of social events where you can connect with the PhD community in a more informal way. Fun events such as 'Dress as your Research' bring a lighter side to PhD life and pave the way for new friendships.



Contact

Technology

Prof. Khaled Hayatleh
khayatleh@brookes.ac.uk

Arts, Culture & Media

Prof. Paul Whitty
pwhitty@brookes.ac.uk
Prof. Ray Lee (practice-based)
ray.lee@brookes.ac.uk
Dr Jane Potter (text-based)
j.potter@brookes.ac.uk

Environment

Dr Sue Brownill
sbrownill@brookes.ac.uk

Common Research Methods

Dr Nicholas Walliman
nwalliman@brookes.ac.uk

Research Administrator

Ms Allison Stevens
a.stevens@brookes.ac.uk