

Professional Development Opportunities for Imperial College London Research Degree Students (PhD, MPhil, MD[Res], EngD)

Introduction

1. The Early Career Researcher Institute (ECRI) is proud to deliver award winning and sector leading professional development opportunities to research degree students at Imperial College London. The importance of professional development is recognised nationally by funding bodies and is a key part of the educational experience at Imperial.
2. ECRI's suite of learning and development opportunities offers research degree students opportunity to develop attributes which are valued by a broad range of employers, and it also supports individuals to develop as world-class researchers.
3. There are several programmes available, each led by an ECRI Programme Leader, or Programme Co-Leaders, who work in partnership with research degree and postdocs or fellows Programme Partners (EPPs) to co-design, co-develop, co-deliver, and co-evaluate the provision. These programmes encompass a wide range of support addressing the needs of research degree students who may have specific development requirements through to specialist training which aims to challenge and inspire those who are excelling.
4. ECRI offers inclusive and accessible learning and development opportunities, delivered through a variety of modes (self-paced, in-person online and in-person on campus). This ensures research degree students can engage with professional development opportunities whether they are working from their home, on campus, on overseas placements or at a time and place to suit their needs.

Imperial's Professional Skills Attendance Requirement for Research Degree Students

5. For PhD, MD[Res] and EngD students, Imperial requires individuals to achieve a minimum of four ECRI credits, by the Late-Stage Review (LSR). In addition to these credits, the online doctoral plagiarism awareness course must be completed by the Early-Stage Assessment (ESA). Credits should be accumulated as follows:

Course Length	Number of Credits
Up to 1 day	1
Over 1 day, up to 2 days	2
Over 2 days	3

The online Plagiarism Awareness Course is compulsory but does NOT count towards the minimum credit requirement.

6. For MPhil Students: Students who are direct-entry MPhil, or those being awarded with an MPhil degree having first registered for a PhD, must complete a minimum of two credits and the Plagiarism Awareness Course before Examination Entry.
7. Master's students (MSc, MRes, MBA, MPH, PG Cert and PG Dip), are welcome to explore ECRI's learning and development opportunities and enrol on our courses, however, it should be noted that their numbers will be capped to prioritise places for ECRI's primary stakeholder groups (Research degree students and postdocs and fellows).
8. Where master's students complete ECRI courses during their master's registration, and then they progress on to a research degree at Imperial, ECRI credit will be transferred with them and will be counted towards the research degree professional skills attendance requirement.

Exemption and recognition of professional development courses undertaken elsewhere.

9. ECRI provides a broad range of workshops and courses for research degree students to choose from, but it is recognised that some departments, and in particular the university's CDTs and DTPs, also provide professional development training opportunities to their students.
10. Where students undertake professional development training elsewhere there is a process to recognise this training and offer exemption to students for up to a maximum of 2 ECRI credits. This is to ensure that students benefit from undertaking opportunities delivered outside of their initial cohort and to meet peers from across different departments at Imperial.

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