Our Postgraduate Certificate in Research and Innovation Leadership was designed as a collaboration between the University of Cambridge’s Institute of Continuing Education (ICE) and Postdoc Academy Researcher Development team. This one-year course enables you to develop your research identity and hone your capability to lead independent projects. You’ll learn current approaches to research alongside a diverse mix of academic and non-academic researchers.

“...The course tutors and lecturers do amazing work. I have enjoyed the classes and learned new skills that will help me in a new job that I am just starting…”

Arianna, Postgraduate Certificate in Research and Innovation Leadership participant
About the course

The programme consists of four modules and leads to a University of Cambridge Postgraduate Certificate – a nationally recognised qualification equivalent to 60 credits at FHEQ level 7.

The four modules are:
- Building a research vision and identifying core values
- Using entrepreneurial skills as a research leader
- Managing research projects and leading successful teams
- Leading engagement and impact in academia and beyond

Who is it for?

This course is open to postdoctoral researchers or fellows from any discipline who are looking to develop their understanding of the research landscape and expand their leadership capabilities within current or future roles. Applications are also welcome from research professionals from industry or the public sector who are keen to learn about leadership alongside a cross-disciplinary cohort of academic researchers.

Apprenticeship option

The course is also available as a 15- to 18-month apprenticeship. To take this route, you must be supported by both your employer and your Principal Investigator, line manager or supervisor, who will be actively engaged in your on-the-job development. The tuition fees for participants taking the apprenticeship track can be paid via the employer’s contribution to the apprenticeship levy, making it cost-free for participants. Alongside this, as an apprentice, you’ll also benefit from work-based practice as part of your ongoing employment and dedicated off-the-job training time.

Why study with us?

As a researcher, you’ll immediately be able to integrate what you learn on the course into your everyday research practice. The course has been designed in conjunction with employer feedback, so you can be sure that it equips you with skills that are in high demand throughout the job market. At ICE, you’ll be part of a unique and diverse community of professional peers and leading academics. You’ll learn from each other as you share your expertise and experience in support of your collective development.

How to apply

Apply online by clicking ‘Apply Now’ from the course webpage, where you can read more about the application process. For more details, visit: www.ice.cam.ac.uk/research-innovation

If you have any additional questions, we’d love to hear from you. Use the ‘Ask a Question’ button on the course webpage or email researchleadership@ice.cam.ac.uk