



DCW CONSULTANCY

Two-day Workshop Proposal;

'I've got my PhD, what now!'

Target audience:

PhD graduates currently working on part time, insecure contracts as Teaching Assistants or Associate Lecturers.

Purpose:

This two-day workshop provides highly relevant information to enable informed reflection and planning regarding postdoctoral transition pathways.

Target audience:

The rise in doctoral completions and fall of secure posts within the academy is creating a growing cohort of PhD graduates whom, having completed, or nearing completion of their thesis sit on the periphery of academia, often on unstable low paying contracts. These graduates are in danger of developing elongated trajectories, with implications for long-term career opportunities and wellbeing. This course uses data regarding PhD transitions to create an interruption for informed reflection regarding participant's current reality and opportunities moving forward. It supports graduates in recognising their own autonomy and choices in what can be an extremely difficult and pivotal moment in their career journey. In supporting awareness and proactive career planning, this workshop consists of a balanced combination of data and information, case study narratives, interactive content and opportunities for group coaching.

Expertise:

In line with The Concordat principles 3, 4 and 5 this 2-day workshop is informed by current research into PhD transitions, labour market trends, opportunities in relation to intersectionality and qualitative conversations with PhD graduates, early career researchers and established academic and non-academic staff from across the northwest.

Designed and facilitated by Dr Danielle White, an independent Education Consultant who has created workshop content for hundreds of students and thousands of young people. Danielle is an expert in career decision-making within a modern employment market having spent years working as a careers coach and researcher exploring factors that shape and block people's thinking in relation to actively planning and navigating their career. Having lectured across three Universities for eight years Danielle has first hand experience of PhD transitions and is passionate about supporting this cohort to reflect upon their options in such a way that proactive action is possible.



DCW CONSULTANCY

Content:

This course will consist of six units:

- 1 What are my chances of landing an academic job?
- 2 What do academics do?
- 3 How do people get a job in academia?
- 4 What else do PhD grads do?
- 5 How do people get a job elsewhere?
- 6 Where am I now and where do I want to be?

Unit Outcomes:

By the end of the course participants' will have achieved the following outcomes:

- Have a realistic awareness of the competition for academic posts
- Understand routes into academia and related expectations
- Understand the roles and responsibilities of an academic post
- Evaluate self in relation to competition and associated expectations
- Explore alternative career options (including those within HE)
- Increase marketability to a non academic employer
- Action plan the next steps