



Introduction

2020 was a year like no other - and as we proceed cautiously but optimistically into 2021, it seems fitting to look back and reflect on the past 12 months.



Research Data Management

RDM covers the decisions made across the research data lifecycle to handle outputs of research from the planning stage through to preserving and sharing these with the wider community.



The RDL maps the different phases of research helping individuals to manage research outputs as their study proceeds.

Data discovery, access and sharing

Archiving, preserving and curating data

Planning and preparation

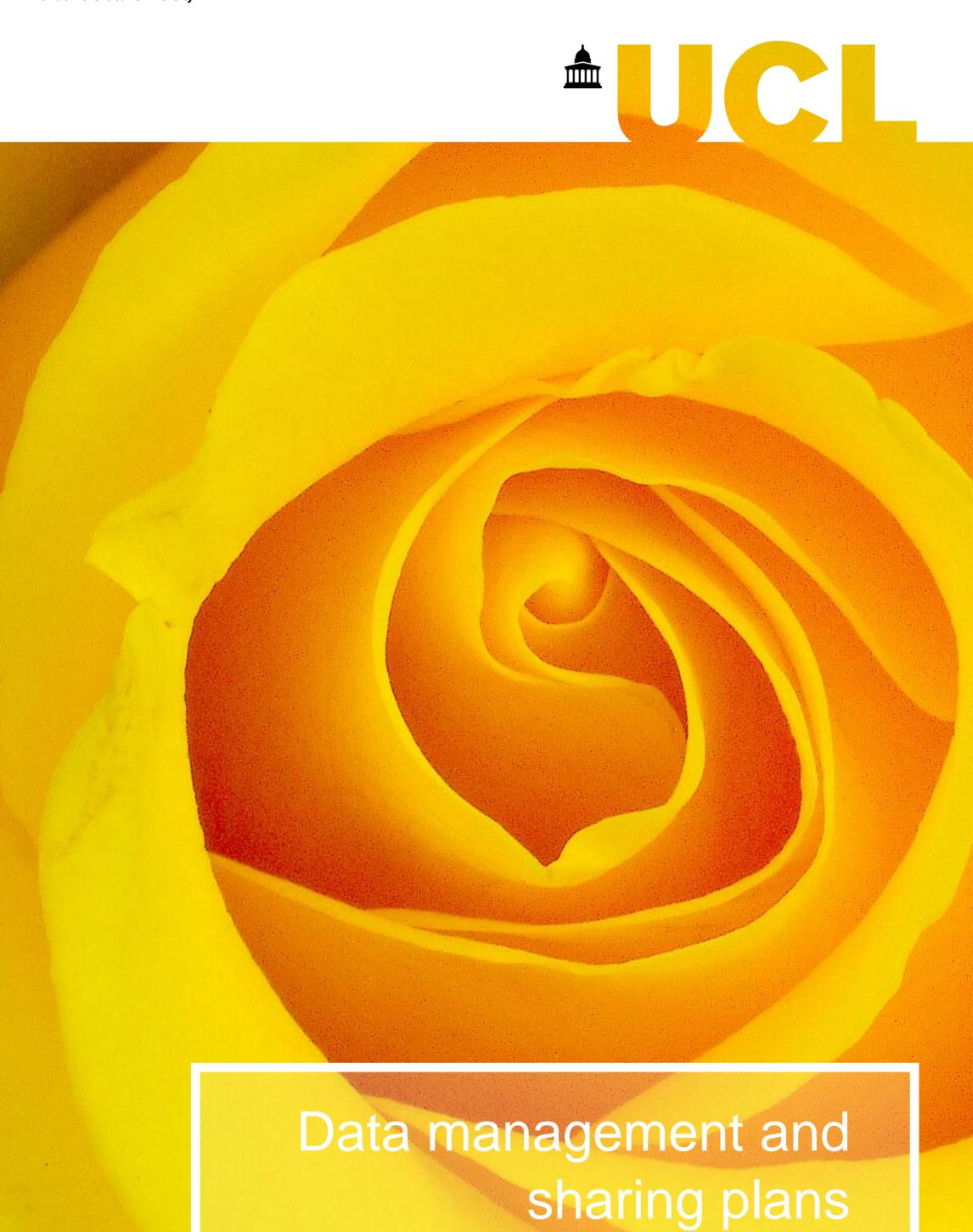
Actively researching



According to the UCL Research Data Policy 2020, data are:

"...facts, observations or experiences on which an argument or theory is constructed or tested.

Data may be numerical, descriptive, aural or visual. Data may be raw, abstracted or analysed, experimental or observational. Data include but are not limited to: laboratory notebooks; field notebooks; questionnaires; texts; audio files; video files; models; photographs; test responses."







We reviewed 46 data management and sharing plans

- 16 UKRI Future Leaders
 Fellowship
- 4 MRC
- 4 ESRC
- 3 AHRC
- 2 MRC/NIHR CARP
- 1 NERC
- 1 CRUK
- 1 Royal Society
- 14 Other



We published the new UCL data management plan template

Topics include:

- Study information
- Collection of data and study materials
- Storage, security and back up
- Archiving, preservation and curation
- Discovery, access and sharing
- Metadata
- Rights and responsibilities

https://bit.ly/36ctuUv









The most downloaded items were:

- Raw data Ravagli et al. 2020 Imaging fascicular organization of rat sciatic nerves with fast neural Electrical Impedance Tomography (EIT) - 2090 downloads, https://doi.org/10.5522/04/13177073.v1
- 2. Impacts_temperatures_global yields_up_to_2012_code+data **607 downloads**, https://doi.org/10.5522/04/12768425
- Ab initio calculations and high P-T experiments on iron, iron alloys and other materials: hcp-Fe-Si-S-C elasticity 6500 K – 415 downloads, https://doi.org/10.5522/04/10769435.v1
- Writings on Political Economy Volume IV.
 Preliminaries and preliminary text. All text files (1-16) now uploaded. 371 downloads, https://doi.org/10.5522/04/9897596.v2
- 5. Data and code for Figures for the article "Real-time 3D movement correction for two-photon imaging in behaving animals" 315 downloads, https://doi.org/10.5522/04/11949063





Creating and using FAIR data

Together with the new UCL Office for Open Science and Scholarship, the RDM team are providing enhanced support to the UCL community in understanding, producing and curating FAIR data - Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable.

When combined, these four elements are designed to help lower barriers to research outputs, facilitating potential secondary researchers to find, understand, reuse and repurpose them to realise additional research opportunities and maximise existing resources.

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New UCL Research Data Policy 2020

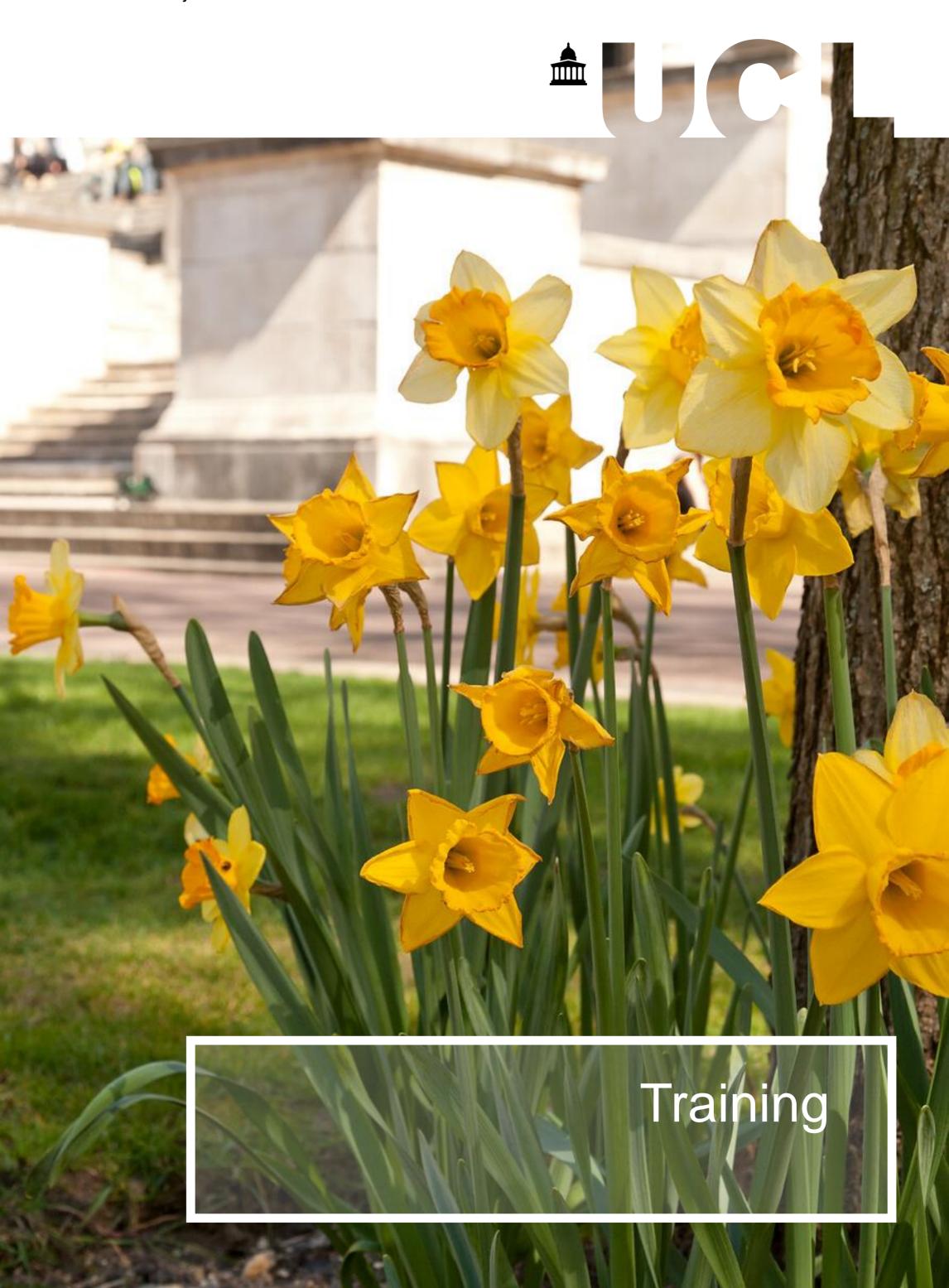
In September 2020, the new Research Data policy was published. UCL staff and research students are advised to adopt a cyclical approach to managing research outputs and harness the advantages of embracing open research practices.

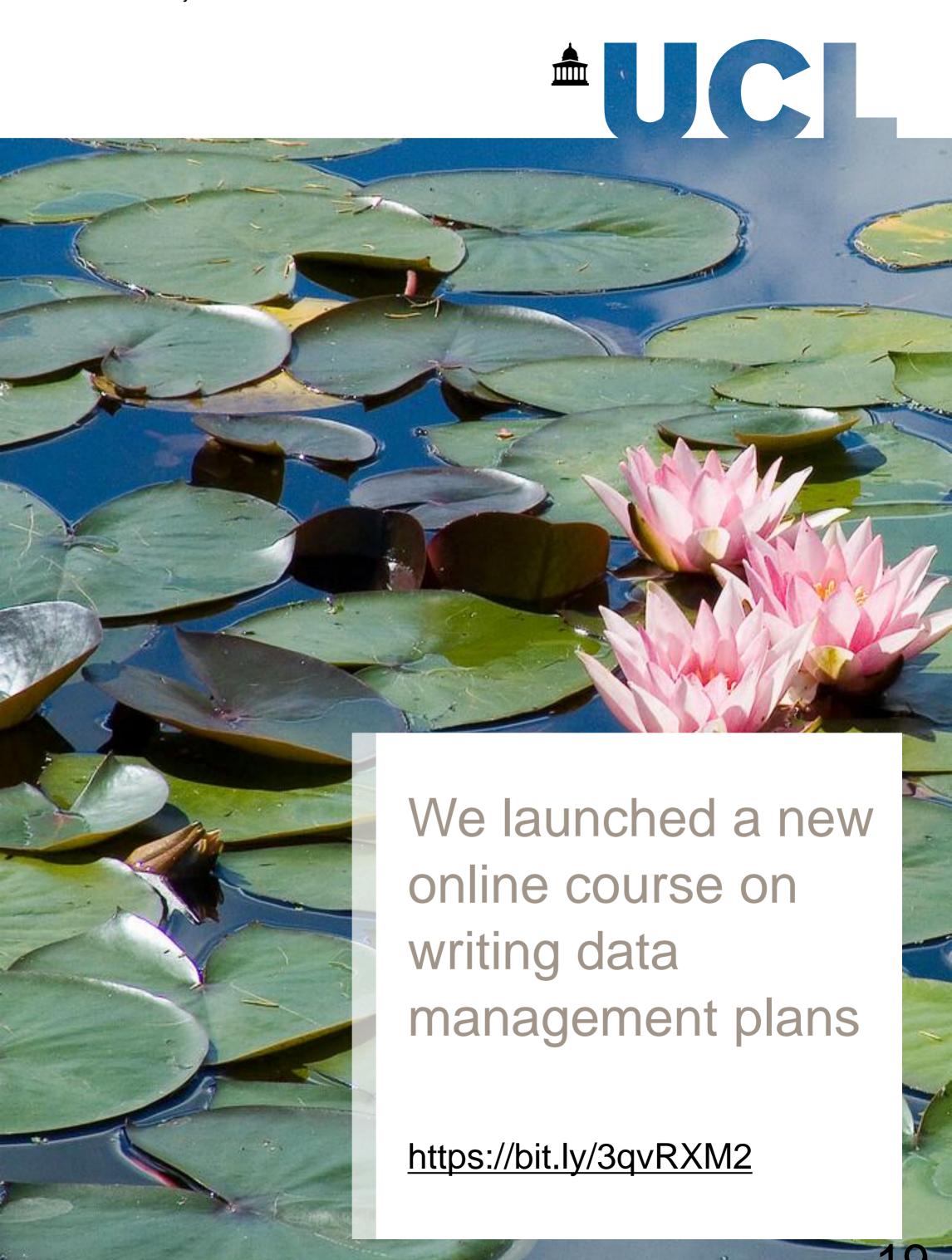
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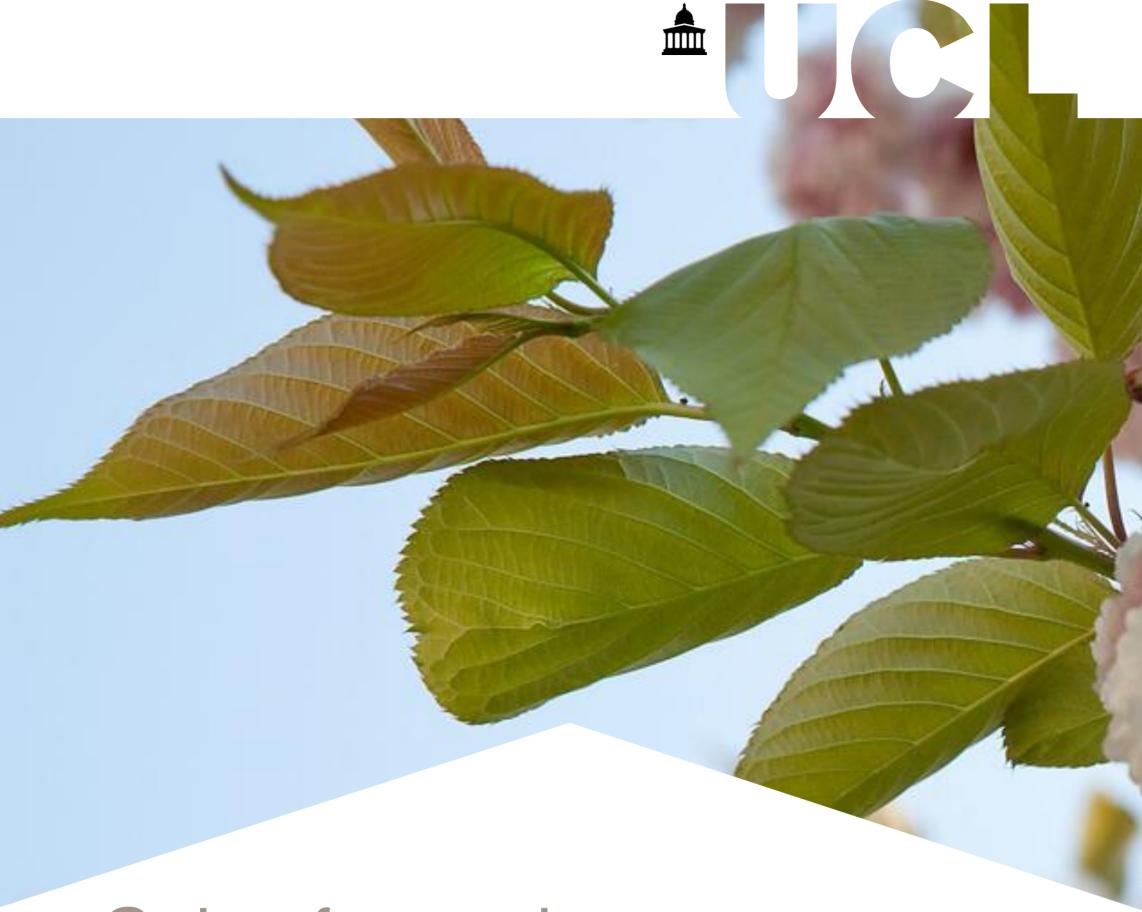
UCL staff and research students should...

- Ensure data are as open as possible, but closed as necessary
- Share responsibility for managing and preserving data between all members of UCL
- Make research data available in a timely fashion following primary use
- Identify clear lines of responsibility and ensure research data always have an owner
- All research data regardless of where they are archived – should be recorded in either the UCL Research Publications Services or the UCL Research Data Repository









Going forwards

Embracing open research practices will inevitably impact how individuals manage research outputs across the research data lifecycle. The RDM team will continue to support the UCL community to maximise the value of their data.

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