

Author guidelines: How to submit a *Research Bow* blog

General overview

Research Bow accepts blog submissions on any topic for our weekly, online publication. Published pieces typically run from 500 and 1,000 words, but longer drafts within the bounds of reason will be considered. Submissions can be either individual or collaborative pieces. Be sure to include annotations for all assertions and attributions made in your blog post.

We ask that everyone include a two-sentence “Meet the Blog Author” ID at the top or bottom of the submission. Author IDs typically include a headshot, the author’s name(s), department in the School of Health in Social Sciences (e.g., Clinical Psychology), and area of PGR focus. Inclusion of photos or other media, such as video or audio records relating to the content of the blog (as long as all individuals depicted in these materials/records has given permission for online publication) is encouraged. Free-stock images can be located at 1.) <https://unsplash.com>; 2.) <https://www.canva.com/photos/free>, or 3.) any other free stock image website of your preference. If you would like a specific image to feature your blog (as a header) please let us know.

All submissions must be original and exclusive to Research Bow, and included as an email attachment (along with relevant images and multimedia). We do not consider articles sent to other publications or posted online, including on a personal, or ancillary blogs.ed.ac.uk online spaces.

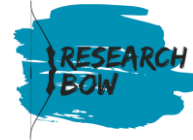
Submissions may be sent to research.bow@ed.ac.uk.

Submission process

All submissions, once received, are proofread and edited by the [Research Bow editorial team](#). If any changes are proposed, the editorial team will include all changes as “Tracked Changes” (located in-text) and comments (located in text margins). Next, the editorial team hands over the blog submission to the School of Health in Social Sciences’ (SHSS) Research Bow reviewer team. If necessary, the reviewer team will propose further changes and comments (located with in-text or the margins). Subsequently, once the blog submission is returned to the editorial team, the blog author(s) can either “Accept” or “Deny” tracked changes, as well as apply any revisions suggested in the comments. After the blog author(s) finalise their submission and provide their “Meet the Author” information, the Research Bow editorial team will inform the authors of their successful submission and provide a tentative timeline of online publication.

What, exactly, makes a Research Bow blog submission?

Anything can be submitted as a blog post. Personal or explanatory essays; reflections on research, interest and/or PGR career progression; cultural trends; and MORE are welcome. Research Bow is interested in anything well-written with a viewpoint we believe both casual readers and dedicated subscribers will find worthwhile. Learn more about us at: <https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/research-bow/about-us/>



Publication information

Publication frequency: once per week

Publication timeline (general): the amount of time taken between blog submission and (if successful) publication—to complete the proofreading, editing, and review process—is approximately two weeks

Content guidelines

Word limit: 500-1000 words

Aims and scope:

- **Mission:** Research Bow is a platform for online, informal PGR knowledge sharing and public engagement. An initiative to both acknowledge and connect over the PGR experience, Research Bow encourages voices that are less formal or polished than ‘proper’ academic publications so, as a community of PGR candidates, we can support and disseminate ideas, study recruitment, research groups and centres, etc. with less ‘filters’—that is, autonomy—to share honest experiences, exciting initiatives and valuable tips and pieces of advice as a PGR candidate.
- **Scope:** Blogs featured on Research Bow describe academic-related experiences, insights and tips related to the PGR journey. Examples of published subjects include [PhD life and milestones](#), [mental health and wellbeing](#), [research groups and centres](#), and [lifestyle and culture](#). These categories function as a point of reference to help identify examples of previous publications; however, the above list is by no means exhaustive or definitive. For more examples, visit <https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/research-bow/> to check out [previous successful blog submissions](#). Blogs discussing aspects of the PGR experience, study recruitment, academic insights, etc. falls within the scope of Research Bow’s initiative inasmuch as it aids the advancement of efforts to strengthen PGR community knowledge, sociality, and networking. Research Bow welcomes submissions from SHSS PGR candidates, and ancillary University of Edinburgh research centres. If you have concerns regarding the scope, relevancy, or appropriateness of your submission, please contact the Research Bow team at research.bow@ed.ac.uk.

Use of inclusive language: Inclusive language recognizes—and is sensitive to—diversity, exhibits respect to all individuals, and promotes equal opportunities.

Redundancy in publication: We do not consider articles published elsewhere in any medium. Re-publication of an article, regardless of abbreviation, is reminiscent of self-plagiarism; thus, in accordance with the [University of Edinburgh’s Good Academic Practice](#) policies:

If a blog submission piece is already published, Research Bow cannot increase exposure/impact of the post because the piece is a redundant publication. Broadly, a redundant publication is a piece of work that has been submitted, accepted, and published elsewhere. The Research Bow team is aware some individuals may be unaware of this common issue. To learn more, an easy, informative resource to begin learning about “Redundant Publication: How to Avoid Duplication” (Honeyman-Buck, 2016) is available at: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10278-015-9851-z>



Terms and conditions

Research Bow blog author(s) contribute to the tradition of online open review and public commentary, and highlight the nature of collaboration and individual authorship on the blog.

By submitting a blog to Research Bow, you accept the following terms and conditions.

Terms and conditions of use:

You agree **not** to use the Blogging Service to:

- Post, or knowingly link, to any content that is threatening, defamatory, obscene, indecent, seditious, offensive, pornographic, abusive, liable to incite racial hatred, discriminatory, menacing, scandalous, inflammatory, blasphemous
 - in breach of confidence
 - in breach of privacy or which may cause annoyance or inconvenience, although we recognise that there might be a limited number of scenarios in which such material is required to be used in a blog for legitimate academic purposes; impersonate any person or entity or misrepresent your relationship with any person or entity;
- post any content that may damage the reputation or goodwill of the University;
- post any content for which you have, not obtained all necessary licences and/or approvals and not cleared copyright permissions;
- post any content which constitutes or encourages conduct that would be considered a criminal offence, give rise to civil liability, or otherwise be contrary to the law of or infringe the rights of any third party, in the UK or any other country in the world;
- post content that would breach the General Data Protection Regulations;
- post any material which is technically harmful (including, without limitation, computer viruses, logic bombs, Trojan horses, worms, harmful components, corrupted data or other malicious software or harmful data).
- post content that could be described as harassment or bullying as defined by the University's Dignity and Respect Policy.

You may find the following resources useful while writing your blog:

1. [How to write an engaging blog](#)
2. [Academic blogging – 10 top tips](#)
3. [9 Editorial Guidelines for Your Blog](#)

Thank you for considering contributing to Research Bow!

ⁱ Submission processes and content guidelines are *always* subject to change. For any questions or concerns, contact the Research Bow team at research.bow@ed.ac.uk.