Research Student Log

To fulfil UCL’s commitment to the quality of its research programmes, the Graduate School provides the Research Student Log for the use of all research students at UCL. The Log is a mandatory component of all UCL research degree programmes.

Purpose of the Research Student Log

The Log has been prepared to assist you throughout your degree programme at UCL. It provides a framework for recording details related to your graduate research programme, scheduled supervisory meetings and activities concerning the development of academic and key skills. Your Log will also help you to assess your progress and to plan and chart evidence of the development of academic and discipline specific skills and key skills.

In education and employment there is an increasing emphasis on skills and their development. It is important for individuals to demonstrate that their skills have been actively developed over time. The skills development self audit part of this Log will help you in identifying your skills and also assist you in planning your skills development programme as part of your academic studies and career.

The Log is intended to be used in a flexible manner, to allow for different research processes between different disciplines.

How to use the Research Student Log

You are asked to document ‘formal’ supervisory meetings in this Log. It is not intended to record the (far) more frequent ‘informal’ meetings that often occur several times per week/month. It is important that use of the Log should not replace face-to-face meetings. The framework of supervisory meetings included in the Log is in line with the Graduate School Code of Practice for Graduate Research Degrees.

You are also asked to reflect upon and assess your initial skills level and the development of your skills over time. This will provide evidence that you have mastered a variety of situations, personal as well as professional, in which you may have demonstrated your skills. Increasingly, employers are asking for such examples at interview and in continuing professional development.

Help is available to get more from the Log and Skills Development Programme in the ‘Maximising Your Potential’ sessions run at various times throughout the year. Click here for more detail and to apply for a place.