

# Open Access Requirements for RCUK Funded PhD Students - The Essentials



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As an RCUK (AHRC or ESRC) funded student you have responsibilities to make your thesis Open Access according to your [RCUK Training Grant](#) and any journal articles you may publish as a result of your funded PhD Open Access according to the and the [RCUK Open Access Policy](#) Below is a summary of what you need to do and how we can help!

Look out for our information sessions for RCUK students in October each year. Email [outputs@soas.ac.uk](mailto:outputs@soas.ac.uk) at any point in your project for support or information.

## Making Your PhD Thesis Available via SOAS Research Online

<p><b>Your thesis needs to be made Open Access no later than 12 months after the date of the award of your PhD.</b></p> <p>Please fill in the <a href="#">Thesis Submission form for RCUK Funded Students</a> and select either immediate Open Access or Open Access after 12 months.</p>	<p>Your thesis may contain material for which you don't own the copyright or sensitive commercial or personal data which you will need to anonymize. Please refer to SOAS guidance on this and contact your supervisor for further advice.</p> <p>If you require an extension to the 12 month restriction you should contact <a href="mailto:outputs@soas.ac.uk">outputs@soas.ac.uk</a> in the first instance.</p>
<p><b>Your thesis needs to include a statement acknowledging your funding.</b></p>	<p>In the acknowledgements section e.g. This work was supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council [grant number xxxx]</p>

## Publishing Your Journal Articles Open Access

Any journal article in which you are a named author (main or co-author) and stems from the research undertaken on your PhD needs to be made available for anybody with access to the internet under certain conditions outlined in the [RCUK Open Access Policy](#). We have summarized how you can do this below.

<p><b>Before You Submit</b></p> <p>Check your Journal lets you make your article Open Access according to RCUK requirements. Contact <a href="mailto:outputs@soas.ac.uk">outputs@soas.ac.uk</a> if you are in any doubt.</p>	<p>Is your journal Open Access or does your journal have a paid Open Access option? If so:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- do they publish articles under a CC-BY licence?</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Does your journal let you add the accepted version of your article to SOAS Research Online? If so:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- can it be made Open Access within 24 months of publication?</li> <li>- are you able to apply CC-BY or CC-BY-NC licence?</li> <li>- Check the <a href="#">Sherpa Fact Database</a> to find out</li> </ul>
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