

Data Management: Context - Introduction

In this course opener, we'll define research data as the evidence that underpins scientific results, and underline that reproducibility is key to scientific rigour.

We'll distinguish between primary and secondary data, and their link to the vital topic of metadata – the description of data itself. We'll talk about open data, which means enabling data sharing, and that that's easiest if considered from the very start of projects.

The data policy landscape is introduced, including the role of funders, institutions and publishers, and we'll briefly highlight data ethics as a consideration for your work.

And we'll introduce the research data lifecycle as an overriding context of your workflow, from collection to analysis to its ultimate reuse either by you or by another researcher.