

Programme\* Antwerp Doctoral School Doctoral Day  
Thursday 19 March 2026

\*This programme may be subject to changes

19 March: on-campus & online

On-campus at UAntwerp Stadscampus, Hof van Liere (Prinsstraat 13, 2000 Antwerp)

Online via Blackboard

**OPENING - Room: Albrecht Dürer**

9.00 – 9.25 **Welcome coffee**

**PLENARY SESSION - Morning programme - Room: Frederik de Tassis**

9.30 - 9.55 **Introduction & welcome**

Karla Tersago (Head of the Antwerp Doctoral School)

Prof. Serge Demeyer (Chair of the Antwerp Doctoral School)

9.55 - 10.40 **Doctoral study programme and support during your PhD**

Kristien Daems & Stephan Missault (Antwerp Doctoral School)

10.40 - 11.10 **Practicalities regarding your doctoral study programme**

Antwerp Doctoral School team

**COFFEE BREAK / NETWORKING / Q&A - Room: Albrecht Dürer**

11.10 - 11.30 **Coffee break, networking and Q&A 'Practicalities regarding your doctoral study programme'**

**PLENARY SESSION - Morning programme - Room: Frederik de Tassis**

11.35 - 12.35 **Session on Science Communication - *Everyone has an audience. From press release to conference coffee break: communication as a core skill in every PhD***

*Science communication is not an add-on, but a fundamental part of doing research. In this talk, we explore the full spectrum of communication formats: from media and citizen science to conferences, policy briefs, and one-on-one conversations. You will discover how to choose the right form for each goal and each audience, and how to build your story around the message you want people to remember.*

Jonas Lembrechts (Biology Department, Faculty of Science)

12.35 - 12.50 **Associations, courses and initiatives**

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**LUNCH BREAK / NETWORKING - Room: Albrecht Dürer**

12.50 - 13.35 **Lunch break and networking**

13.40 - 14.25 **Personal development as a PhD researcher**

*Why should personal development be a priority during your PhD trajectory? In this session, we will uncover why focusing on your growth is essential not just for your research, but also for your future career and well-being. You will get to know a practical tool designed to support your personal development, perfectly aligned with the competence profile of the doctoral study programme.*

Karla Tersago (Antwerp Doctoral School)

Room: Frederik de Tassis

PARALLEL SESSION 1 - Afternoon programme Choose one of three options

14.30 - 15.15

**1.1 Researchpreneurship: Developing Entrepreneurial competences for Researchers**

*This session introduces researchpreneurship: translating research insights into societal, economic, or scientific impact. It highlights the growing importance of entrepreneurial competences—such as opportunity recognition, collaboration, initiative-taking, and resource mobilisation—as transferable skills for researchers inside and outside academia. Using concrete examples, including spin-offs and industry collaboration, the session illustrates pathways from research to impact. It also presents how UAntwerp supports researchers in developing these competences, through initiatives such as the Company+ programme.*

**Barbara Tan** (Head of the Creativity & Entrepreneurship Office (CREO))

Room: Frederik de Tassis

**1.2 Personal information security & GDPR: general information session for researchers - recommended for PhD researchers in Social Sciences and Humanities**

*In this session you will get a general introduction regarding the processing of personal data a.k.a. GDPR and scientific research. What is GDPR? Why is it relevant, what do you have to do as a researcher and what information is available? The link with Research Data Management and securing your data will also be covered.*

**Koen Pepermans / Jeroen Van den Bergh** (Privacy and Process Management Office)

Room: Thomas Gresham

**1.3 In the Driver's Seat of Your Career as a PhD**

*In this session the Talent Center will take time to reflect on how you can actively shape your career as a PhD researcher. We will explore what career self-management means and consider how greater awareness can help you move forward with more clarity and confidence. This session is meant as a starting point. Expect to be encouraged to continue your reflection to develop a career that is valuable and fulfilling to you, also supported by the diverse training offer of the Antwerp Doctoral School and the Talent Center.*

**Steven De Winter** (Talent Center)

Room: Willem Elsschot

15.15 - 15.35 **Coffee break and networking**

**PARALLEL SESSION 2 - Afternoon programme** Choose one of three options

<p>15.40 - 16.25</p>	<p><b>2.1 Introduction to research data management</b>  <i>Research data form the beating heart of academic research, making solid management of your research data, not just an option but a necessity. Above all, research data management (RDM) is about risk management to ensure the quality, sustainability and (re)usability of your data.</i>  <i>During this session, we will explore when and how to set up a Data Management Plan (DMP), which is a document to help manage your research data over the course of a research project. We will learn how this DMP will help in making your data FAIR: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable. Thinking about these concepts will ease all parts of the research data life cycle, while also accounting for restrictions due to privacy, legal, or technological regulations.</i></p> <p><b>Robin Björklund</b> (Research Affairs Office)                  Room: Frederik de Tassis</p> <p><b>2.2 Research ethics: self-assessment, ethics committees and case studies.</b>  <i>Join this interactive workshop to uncover the essentials of research ethics. We will cover some key concepts and highlight ethics committees-applications but mostly tackle a number of thought-provoking cases. The goal? For you to gain practical tools to identify dilemmas in your own research. Oh, and doing things right of course, that too.</i></p> <p><b>Sarah Claes</b> (Research Affairs Office)                  Room: Thomas Gresham</p> <p><b>2.3 Publishing &amp; reviewing</b>  <i>As a researcher, you are expected to publish your research findings. In this session, we will discuss the importance of a well-considered publication strategy and the various choices you will have to make, such as how and where to publish (publication type, collaboration, journal choice, ...). The session will also pay attention to impact assessment and the requirements for UAntwerp researchers (institutional repository, ORCID, open access, ...).</i></p> <p><b>Nele Dexters &amp; Eline Vandewalle</b> (Research Affairs Office)                  Room: Willem Elsschot</p>
<p>16.25 - 16.30</p>	<p><b>Closing notes and questions</b>                  Antwerp Doctoral School team                  Takes place directly after the parallel session in the same room</p>