

# Career Development Workshop for PhD Students and Research Staff

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We will cover:

- Some data
- Considering the PhD and where it can lead
- Career review
- Looking forward



# Widening Horizons

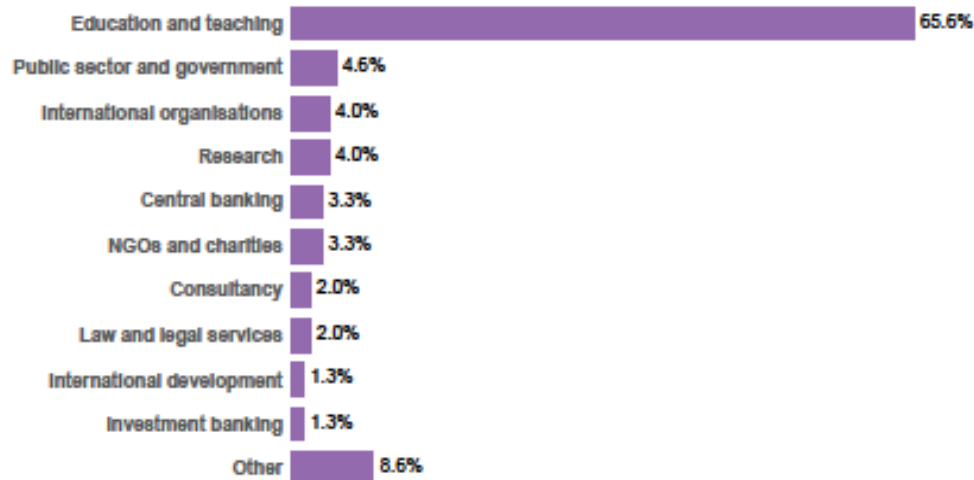


Careers  
Service

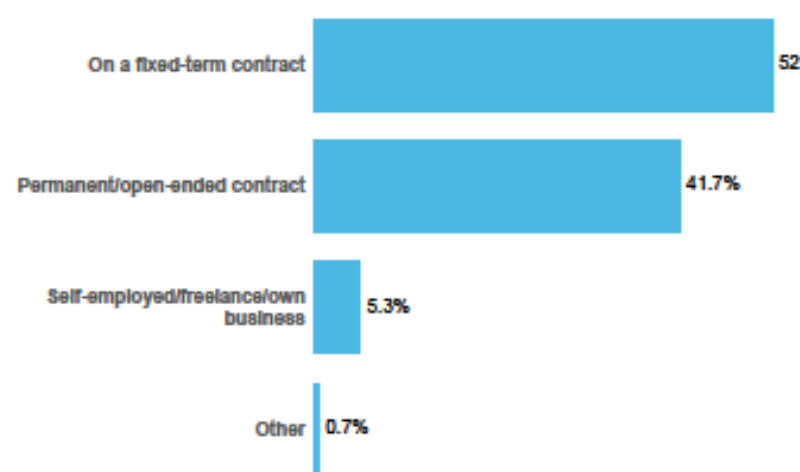
[www.lse.ac.uk/careers](http://www.lse.ac.uk/careers)

## DLHE 2013/14: PhD summary

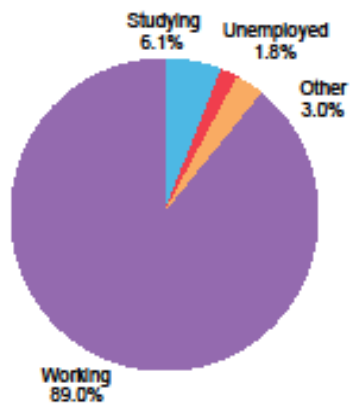
## Organisation sectors



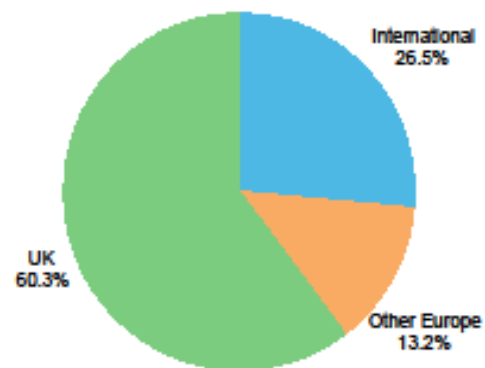
## Employment basis



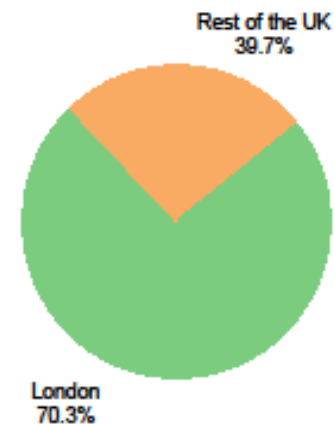
## Most important activity



## Employment country



## London vs rest of UK



Commodities Researcher  
Deutsche Bank

Volunteering Administrator  
Centrepont

Consultant  
Self employed

Research Analyst  
Fundsmith

Senior Officer  
National Offender Management Service

Development Manager  
Equal Chances Better Lives

Program Lead  
Work Foundation

Director  
Strategic Statistics

Economist  
Bank of Italy

Analyst  
NERA Economic Consultancy

Prisons Inspector  
HM Inspectorate of Prisons

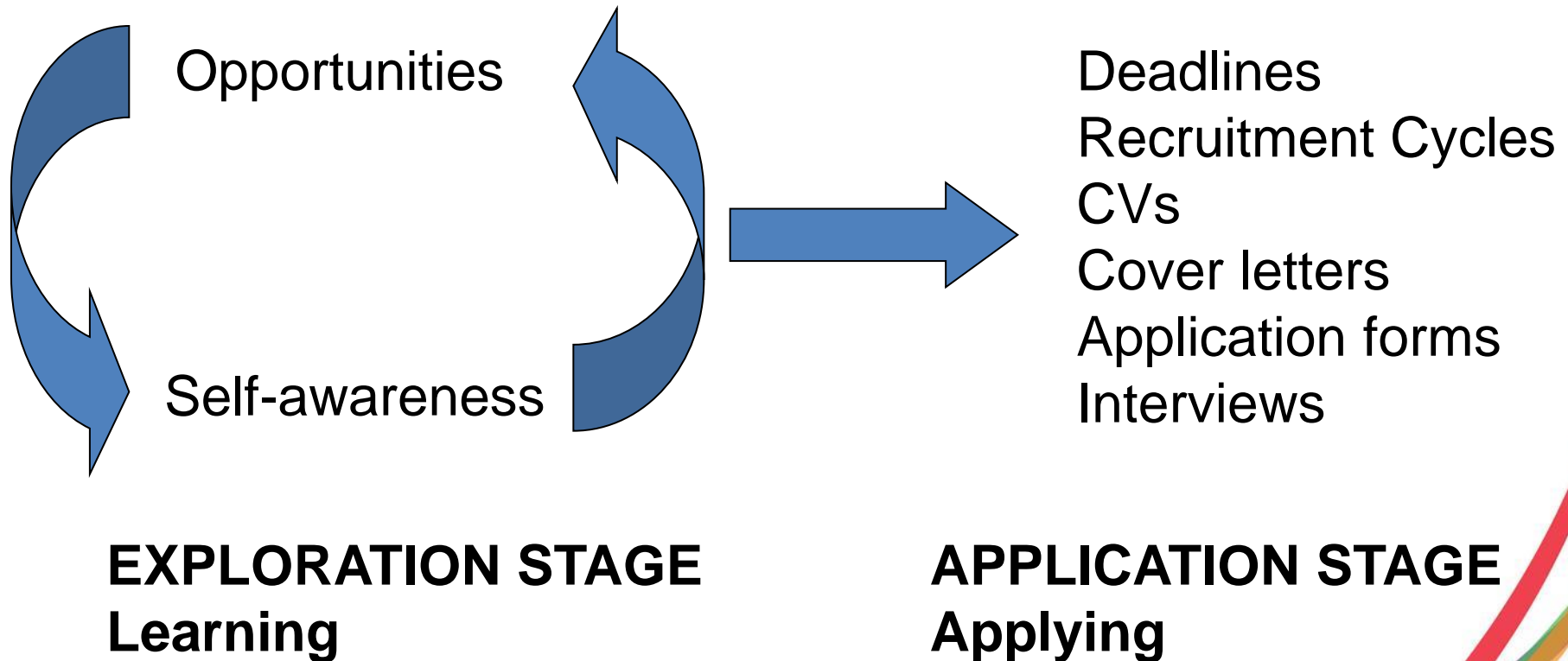
Psychologist  
Ministry of Defence

Consultant  
OECD

Economist  
OECD



# So how do you choose?



Past:

*A chance to step back and look at the bigger picture of your career so far.*



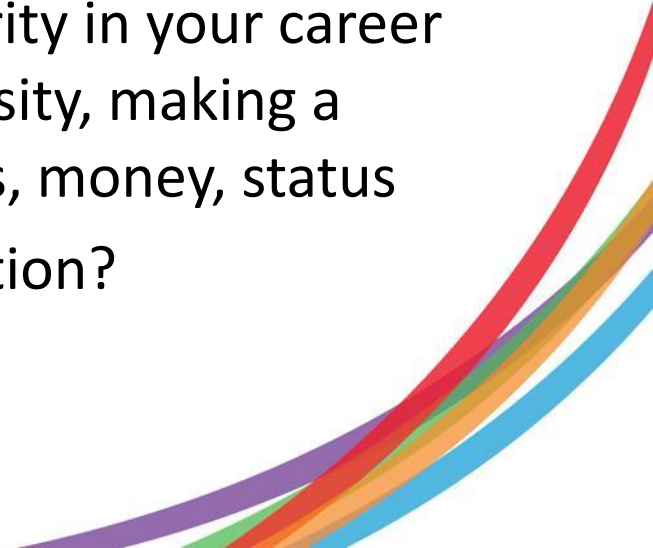
# Mapping Your Career

- Draw your career choices as a map
- At each transition point note, what influenced your choices
- Add in for each period whether you enjoyed that experience or not and why





# Mapping Your Career

- What does your map reveal about your approach to your education and working life so far? There may be general patterns you can see.
  - What have been the most enjoyable parts of your education/working life so far? Why?
  - What has been the role of chance versus forward planning in your decision making?
  - What motivations have had greatest priority in your career choices, eg: fulfilling your potential, curiosity, making a difference, meeting people's expectations, money, status
  - What does this mean for your next transition?
- 

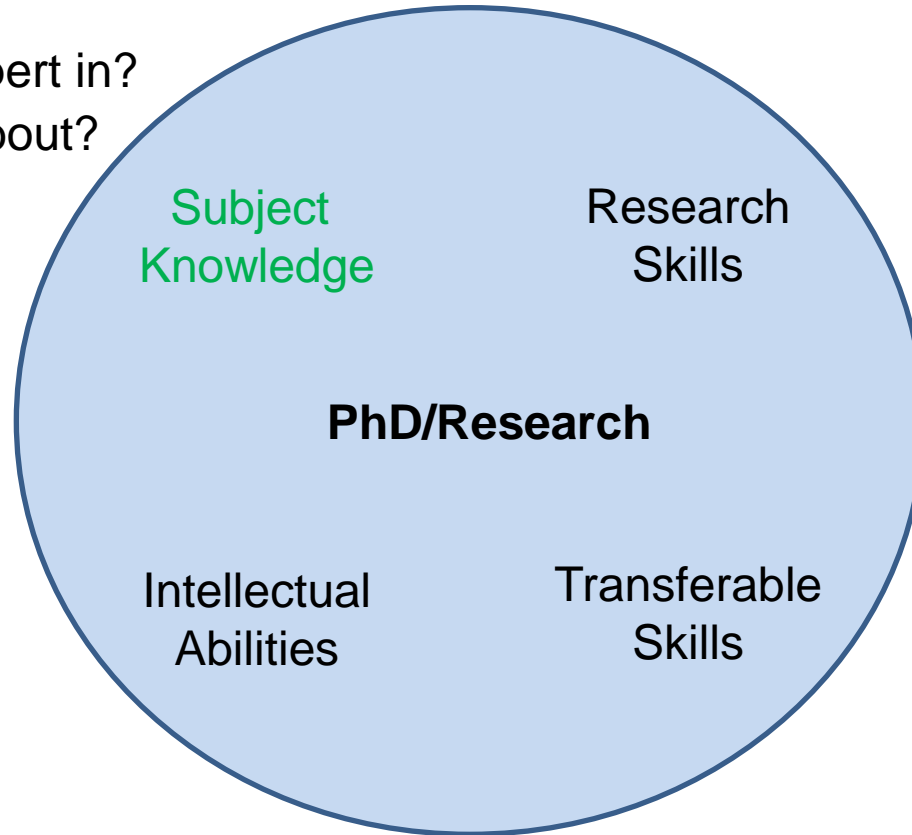
Present:

*A chance to evaluate your skills and knowledge  
expertise.*



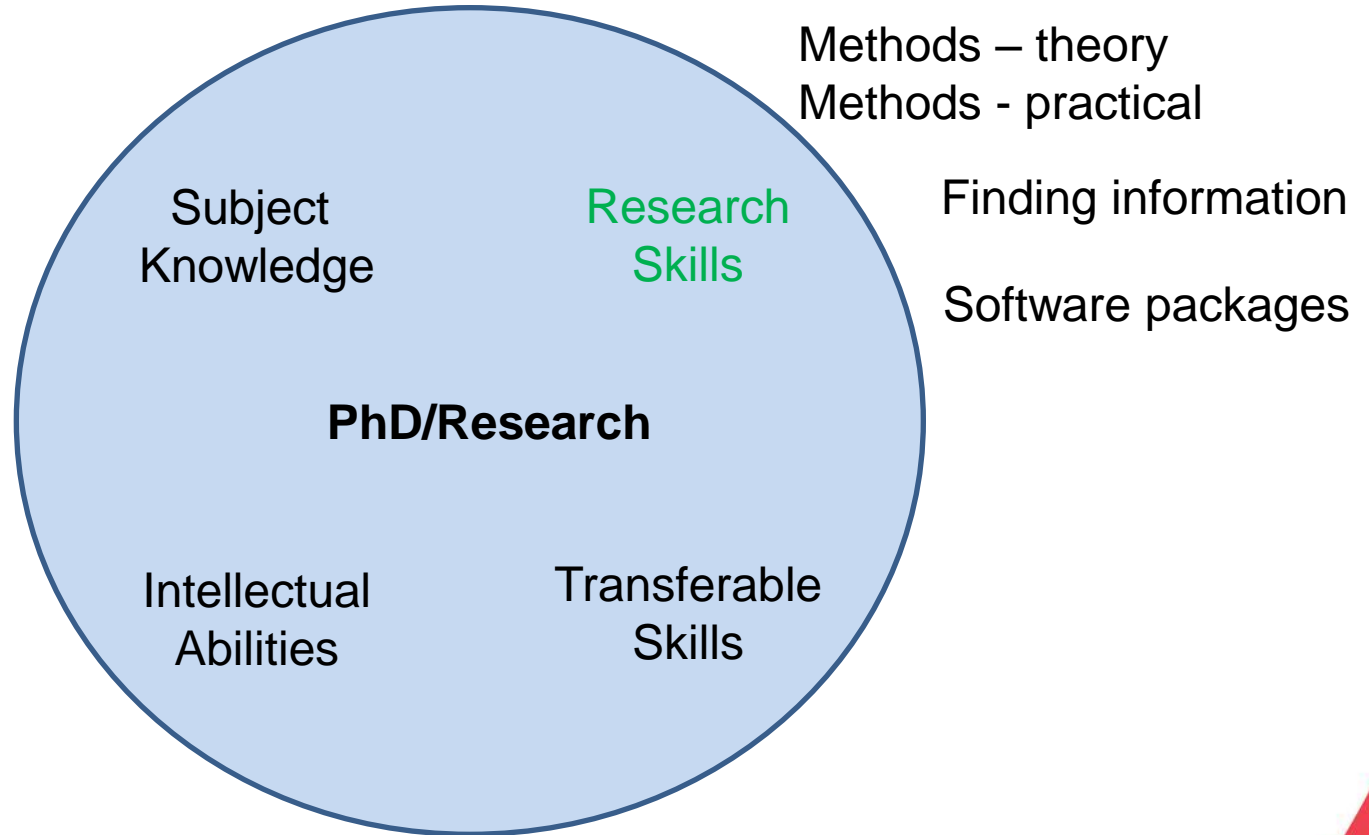
**During your PhD/research you are building up your.....**

What are you an expert in?  
What do you know about?  
Think laterally...



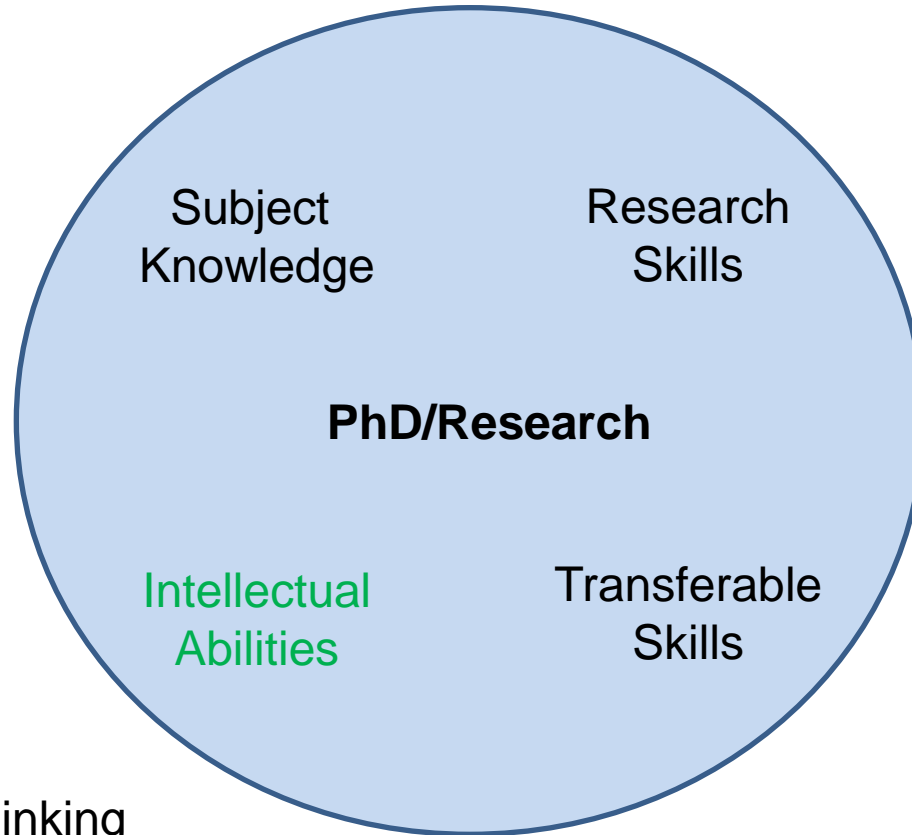
*Which (top three) areas of your knowledge do you most want to use in your future career?*

**During your PhD/research you are building up your.....**



*Which top three research skills do you want to continue using?*

During your PhD/research you are building up your.....



Evaluation

Critical thinking

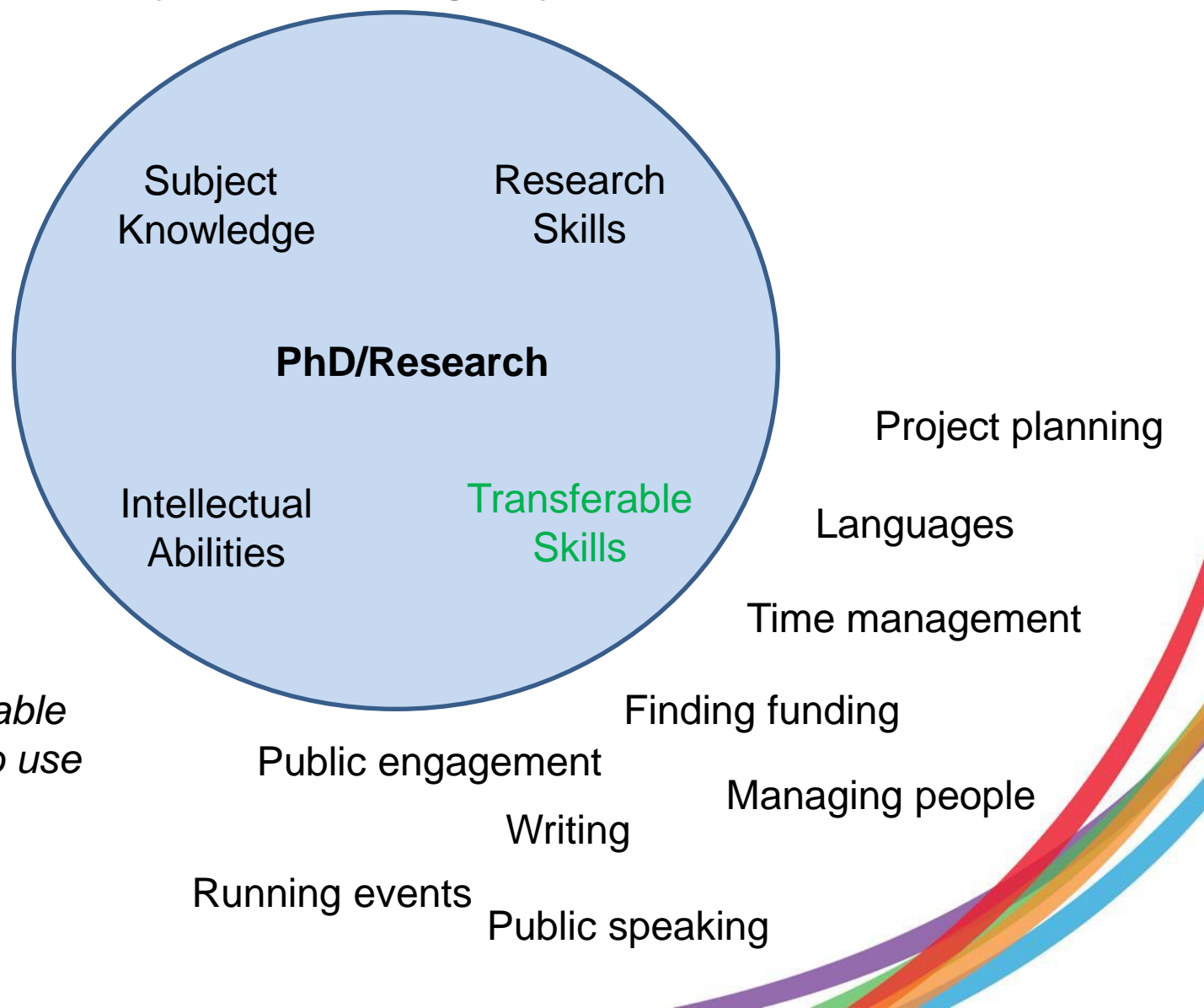
Analysis

Problem solving

Argument construction

*What are your top three intellectual abilities?*

**During your PhD/research you are building up your.....**



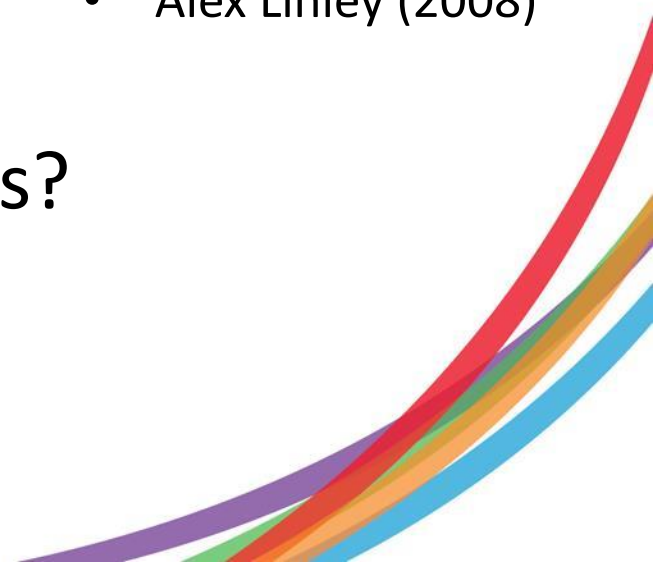
*What three transferable skills do you want to use more of?*

# STRENGTHS

‘a pre-existing capacity for a particular way of behaving, thinking, or feeling that is authentic and energising to the user, and enables optimal functioning, development, and performance’

- Alex Linley (2008)

What are your top three strengths?



# Becoming aware: positive patterns

A specific achievement that has been positive and memorable for me is...





## **Future:**

*Looking forward....*

*What do you want your work to do for you?*



# What's Important To You About Paid Work

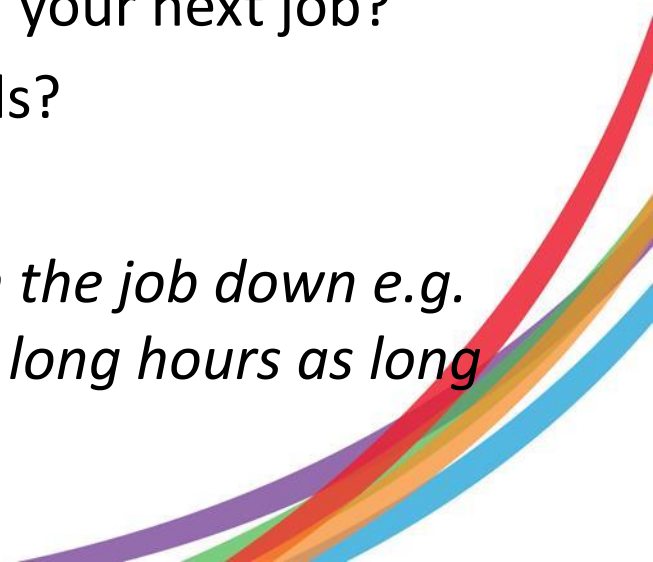
- Sort your cards under the 5 headings ranging from least to most important
- You should have no more than 7 in the most important column



# What's Important To You About Paid Work

- How many of the 'Very Important' selections are reflected in your current role?
- How many of the 'Non Important' selections are reflected in your current role?
- Would the 'Very Important' selections continue to be reflected in the next stage in an academic career?
- Which would you like more of and less of in your next job?
- Is there anything you would add to the cards?
- What are your 'deal breakers'?

*(If it was present in a job would make you turn the job down e.g. 'I'm not working 14 hour days!' vs 'I'm ok with long hours as long as the work's interesting.')*

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner consisting of several overlapping, curved lines in red, orange, yellow, green, and blue, creating a sense of movement and energy.

Coming towards the end of this workshop:


Take a few minutes to review what we've done and think how you might answer:

‘I'm looking for a career which .....

Turn to your neighbour and tell them.




# PhD Careers Appointments

- Book at a time that suits you through Career Hub  
<http://careers.lse.ac.uk>
  - Wednesday and Friday afternoons, 1pm to 5pm, 30 minutes, term-time and holidays
  - Academic or non-academic career discussions
  - CV review, cover letters, practice interviews
- 

# Profiling For Success

- Multiple choice questionnaire to assess your preferences and personality
- You receive a report which details how the results may influence career choices

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/intranet/CareersAndVacancies/careersService/IntsAssessPsych/Psychometrics/Home.aspx>



# Resources for Exploring Different Types of Career

- Prospects Types of Jobs

[http://www.prospects.ac.uk/types\\_of\\_jobs\\_browse\\_all.htm](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/types_of_jobs_browse_all.htm)

- Jobs.ac.uk Academic Case Studies

<http://www.jobs.ac.uk/careers-advice/academic-case-studies/1>

- Vitae Career Stories

[https://www.vitae.ac.uk/researcher-careers/researcher-career-stories?b\\_start:int=30](https://www.vitae.ac.uk/researcher-careers/researcher-career-stories?b_start:int=30)



# Some Career Planning Books:

In LSE Careers:

**How to get a Job You'll Love** (John Lees)

**Do What You Are** (Tieger, Barron and Tieger)

Elsewhere:

**The Strengths Book** (Linley, Willars, Biswas-Diener)

