**UCL statement on reproducibility in research (draft, 1 April 2019)**

UCL’s Research Strategy emphasises our commitment to responsible research, including nurturing cultures of integrity in all our research activities, supporting rising standards across all fields, a commitment to, and pursuit of, open research and ensuring open access to research outputs.

UCL’s [Statement on Research Integrity](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/research/integrity/pdfs/UCL-Statement-On-Research-Integrity.pdf) sets out our commitment to ensuring the highest standards of integrity in all aspects of our research activities as well as the expectation that all those involved with research at UCL maintain a similar commitment as well as observing the [Code of Conduct for Research](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/srs/governance-and-committees/research-governance).

There is wide cultural variation across different disciplines that influence both capacity for and appropriateness of fully open research practices. UCL supports the academic freedom of researchers to pursue new knowledge using whatever means they judge most suitable; but within that free choice, UCL encourages research that is ‘as open as possible, as closed as necessary’.

This includes a commitment to reproducibility in research and to continue to improve the ways in which we conduct research as part of our broader efforts to enhance the quality of research practice, including by improving self-correction. In particular, we emphasise the importance of:

* **Research practice**: UCL researchers should supplement or employ alternatives to Null Hypothesis Significance Testing where appropriate, and undertake to conduct adequately powered studies.
* **Reporting standards**: where applicable, UCL researchers should disclose all excluded observations, all tested conditions, all analysed measures, and the sample size determination rule. They should engage in methods to avoid publication bias, such as making publicly available details on all experiments undertaken, regardless of their results.
* **Disclosure of interests**: UCL researchers should declare all conflicts of interest (actual, potential or perceived), in line with UCL’s [policy](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/human-resources/policies/2018/jan/declaration-interest-policy).
* **Commitment to open research (including pre-registration)**: UCL researchers should seek wherever possible, and as far as is permissible, to make their research outputs (e.g. protocols, results, publications, data, software and tools) available at the earliest possible point using suitable repositories such as the UCL Research Data Repository, [subject-specific data repositories](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/library/research-support/research-data-management/learn-develop-teach/subject-specific-support/data), or software repositories (e.g. [GitHub](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/isd/services/research-it/research-software-development/version-control-and-collaboration-github)).

UCL is committed to improving our understanding of the factors that contribute to poor research reproducibility and replicability and to developing approaches to counter these and improve the quality of the research we produce. This will include:

* the development of additional **research** **methods training**
* **improving the sharing of knowledge and best practice** across UCL
* **enabling cross-disciplinary discussions of research reproducibility**
* continuing to **support open science** (including through the academic careers framework) and the necessary cultural change, as discussed in LERU’s [policy paper on open science](https://www.leru.org/publications/open-science-and-its-role-in-universities-a-roadmap-for-cultural-change)
* supporting the development of **governance processes** to enable research outputs to be **found, accessed, and reused appropriately** when open sharing is not appropriate**.**