Training program on soft skills targeted to Early Stage Researchers 2026

According to the principles of the **European Charter of Researchers** and main European Research Policies concerning the **European Research Area**, Sapienza Università di Roma organises the 2026 edition of the training programme on soft skills in research.

The training offer enriches the curriculum of Early Stage Researchers and promotes greater autonomy and awareness of the tools to support their career, thus enhancing the human capital employed in research activities.

The 2026 edition, developed as part of the actions included in Sapienza HRS4R (Human Resources Strategy For Researchers), represents an occasion for interdisciplinarity and contamination among Early Stages Researchers from any scientific area.

In the context of the **CIVIS** project, 9 courses will be held in English and will be open to Early Stage Researchers from other CIVIS institutions in order to foster Sapienza's contribution for structuring the Alliance and to create concrete opportunities for knowledge exchange, networking and virtual mobility among CIVIS Partners.

In the final part of each module, participants will access a short test aimed at verifying their level of learning in relation to the contents presented during the module. Positive feedback on the majority of questions will allow participants to receive an attendance certificate.

For information on how to register and participate in the courses, please consult the following web page:

https://www.uniroma1.it/en/pagina/sapienza-training-soft-skills-young-researchers

SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

civis
Europe's Civic University Alliance

Training Module Title	*Speakers*	*Sapienza professors*	*Contents*	*Time schedule*
Thematic area: R&I project design				
Educational and research potential within CIVIS, Europe's Civic University Alliance	Mattea Capelli Melissa Viselli	Prof. Stefano D'Amelio	The module provides an overview of the initiatives that the CIVIS-Europe's Civic University Alliance makes available to PhD candidates and early-stage researchers. From short-term courses to micro-programmes, from cotutelles to the Memorandum of Understanding on the use of infrastructures within the Alliance, PhDs will be able to learn about the international opportunities that would best suit their academic and research path.	**12/11/2026** **h. 11:00 – 13:00**
Evaluation processes in EU R&I funding programmes	Ciro Franco	Prof.ssa Alessandra Della Torre Prof. Alessandro Saggioro Prof. Fabio Babiloni	The Course will be focused on a shift of the applicant approach from researcher's perspective to the European point of view, highlighting strengths and weaknesses of a project proposal from the evaluator point of view. More in detail, the objective is to evidence the evaluator's approach and the awareness about evaluation processes as key aspects to a successful research project proposal	**25/11/2026** **h. 11:30 - 13:30**
European R&I individual funding schemes	Giuditta Carabella Elisa Gigliarelli	Dott. Ditlev Rindom, MSCA Postdoctoral Fellow	In the current dynamic context of the Knowledge Economy and the European Research Area, researchers are increasingly called upon to have new skills, beyond those acquired through "traditional" university education. In particular, the module intends to provide an overview of the main individual funding scheme at European level and show to young Sapienza researchers which are the first steps to undertake should they wish to participate in a competitive European call	**27/11/2026** **h. 11:00 - 13:00**
Thematic area: Scientific calculation tools, Big data and Artificial Intelligence				
Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence: from Machine Learning to Transformers		Mauro Valorani Fabrizio Silvestri	The module starts with an informal definition of artificial intelligence and the basic concepts of machine learning (data, training, evaluation). It then moves on to the most common neural architectures: feed-forward, CNNs, and RNNs with examples of what they can do and where they fail. It concludes with Transformers and large language models, the architecture that underpins the generative AI systems currently in use.	**11/12/2026** **h. 09:00 – 12:00**
From Models to Tools: Chatbots, Agents, and Training on Sapienza's HPC		Fabrizio Silvestri	The second part is more application-oriented. It shows how to build a chatbot starting from a language model and how to move from chatbot to agent, that is, a system that uses external tools to complete a task in multiple steps. The final part is dedicated to the University's resources: access to the Sapienza Supercomputer Center, job organization, and which models can realistically be trained or adapted with the available resources.	**11/12/2026** **h. 14:00 – 17:00**

Thematic area: Research Data Management				
Open Access delle pubblicazioni e dei dati della ricerca / Publications and research data: Open Access	Ezio Tarantino		Introduction to Open Access: brief history, the different models (green road and gold road), advantages of open access. Brief illustration of the Sapienza policy on open access and opportunities: transformative agreements @ Sapienza (pros & cons). Open data. How much are scientific research data shared?	**13/11/2026** **h. 14:30-15:30**
Introduction to Scopus: Searching, Analyzing, and Managing Research Information	Sebastiano Rossitto (*Elsevier*)		This training module provides an introduction to Scopus, one of the world's leading abstract and citation databases for scientific literature. Participants will learn how to perform effective literature searches, analyze research impact, and make the most of Scopus tools for academic and research activities.	**20/11/2026** **h. 9:00-10:00**
Thematic area: Public Engagement				
Science for Policy: Translating Research output into Public Impact	Dott.ssa Susana Elena Perez (European Future Innovation System - EFIS)		The module is designed to equip early stage researchers with the knowledge translation and communication skills needed to bridge the gap between research and public institutions. Through an analysis of the European Science for Policy landscape and its scientific advisory channels, participants will learn how to transform research results into strategic policy inputs. The course which is aimed at overcoming the fragmentation between academia and public administration, offers an opportunity to build cross-cutting skills and amplify the real-world impact of your research.	**10/12/2026** **h. 09:30-10:30**

For more information::

https://www.uniroma1.it/it/pagina/formazione-sapienza-sulle-soft-skills-giovani-ricercatori

Ufficio Formazione Post-lauream – romina.caronna@uniroma1.it; samantha.maruzzella@uniroma1.it; softskills.phd@uniroma1.it

Postgraduate Education Office – ciro.franco@uniroma1.it