

# Passport for Open Science



French Committee for open science  
Skills and training college



Université  
de Lille

Libraries  
Services for research and researchers

## A Guide on open science

For doctoral students in all fields of study  
in France

<https://www.ouvrirlascience.fr/open-science/>

# The origin of the project


- 2018 : Frédérique Vidal launched the French National Plan for Open Science.
- In its third commitment, the plan calls for **Developing open science skills, especially in postgraduate schools.**
- Focus on PhD students
- Project launched in 2019 with funding from the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (40 K €)

“ France is committed to making open science a normal, everyday practice for researchers. ”



# Why this Passport? For whom?

- Lack of a comprehensive open science guide
- Need to present open science terminology, not well known among PhD students
- PhD students interviewed confirmed the need for the guide



**The goal:** create for PhD students a sort of mini, introductory textbook that explains the benefits of open science, its vocabulary, and how to get started.

# The Passport : a 40 page, illustrated booklet

Front and back covers

## PASSPORT FOR **OPEN SCIENCE**



**A PRACTICAL  
GUIDE  
FOR PHD  
STUDENTS**



The *Passport For Open Science* is a guide designed to accompany you at every step of your research, from developing your scientific approach to the dissemination of your research results. It provides a set of tools and best practices that can be directly implemented and is aimed at researchers from all disciplines.

We hope this guide will motivate you and provide the means for you to realise the ambitions of open science by sharing your research results and data with as many people as possible.



Soutenu par



**OUVRIR  
LA SCIENCE !**



# 8 chapters, presented over 3 stages of the PhD

## 1. Planning an open approach to scientific work

- Using freely accessible resources ..... p. 6
- Planning data management ..... p. 8
- Working in a reproducible way:  
For yourself, for others ..... p. 11

## 2. Disseminating research

- Disseminating your publications in open access ..... p. 16
- Making your thesis freely accessible ..... p. 21
- Making research data open ..... p. 25

## 3. Preparing for after your thesis, join the movement

- Deeply rooted public policies ..... p. 30
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**Act now** ..... p. 34

**Going further** ..... p. 35

**Glossary** ..... p. 36

**Sources** ..... p. 38

### Legend

Underlined text is explained in the glossary.

This triangle ▼ refers to tools which are given as examples.

1




Planning an open approach to scientific work

2



Disseminating research

3



Preparing for after your thesis, join the movement

The double-page spreads that precede the chapters of each stage of the PhD

# 8 chapters, presented over 3 stages of the PhD

The chapter on resources, 2 pages

## Using freely accessible resources

You are beginning work on your thesis. You need access to the publications, articles and data already produced in your field. This is the beginning of your obstacle race...

### Access and reuse

The open science movement's aims are to **facilitate access to scientific content and encourage its reuse**. Often we speak of:

- **Open-access resources:** thanks to their author and/or publisher, these resources can be freely accessed without researchers or their institutions having to pay.
- **Free resources:** as well as being in open access these are reusable depending on the distribution license involved. For example, Creative Commons licenses allow reuse as long as conditions set by the author are respected. For more information, please see [▼creativecommons.fr](https://creativecommons.fr).



### WORTH KNOWING

The fact that a resource is in open access is not a guarantee of quality in itself. It needs to be critically evaluated before being used like all document resources.

### Where should you look for resources?



**Open access journal platforms:** Open access journals can have diverse business and editorial models. **▼OpenEdition Journals** offers 450 online publications in the humanities and social sciences.



### Platforms for preprints or working papers:

The availability of these unpublished articles means researchers can quickly discover the latest research approaches. Discover **▼RePEc**, a platform for working papers in economics.



### Data warehouses:

These may be multidisciplinary or specialised. Searches can be run for different types of data and they enable the deposit, conservation and sharing of research data. **▼FAIRsharing.org** lists the data warehouses available in the life sciences.



**Open archives:** These may be institutional or thematic and scientific productions are deposited in the archives by researchers themselves for free consultation. Explore **▼HAL**, the multidisciplinary archive for French research.

the digital thesis collections of universities and research centres. Visit **▼Dart-Europe** or **▼Open Access Thesis and Dissertation (OATD)**.



### Specialist search engines:

These aggregate open access content to make them easier to discover.

**▼Core (core.ac.uk)** is a search engine specialising in open access academic publications (books, articles, theses, etc.).

**▼Unpaywall** can be installed as a browser extension and offers free access versions of all the articles available in its database.

# 8 chapters, presented over 3 stages of the PhD

The chapter on theses,  
3 pages

## Making your thesis freely accessible

### Depositing your thesis

PhD students and doctors are covered by the provisions of the decree dated May 25<sup>th</sup> 2016 which set out the **national framework for doctoral studies** (training, awarding the PhD). Your digital thesis must be submitted to your institution.

Your institution will then take care of the permanent archiving and referencing of your thesis in the Sudoc national catalogue and the [theses.fr](http://theses.fr) portal.

### Disseminating your thesis

After your thesis has been submitted and processed, it will be disseminated online:

- **freely on the Internet if you give your consent** in the contract you sign with the institution where you defend the thesis;
- otherwise, **restricted access** will be given within the French university community (compulsory).

You can defer the online dissemination of your thesis by putting it under an embargo period during which the file will only be available within the university community.

Theses may not be disseminated if they are deemed to be confidential. Confidentiality is decided by the head of the institution rather than the PhD student and the thesis will be defended behind closed doors. There is always a limit to the confidentiality period.

The institution where you defend the thesis defines the open archive (for example, HAL-TEL) used to diffuse your thesis. You can also deposit your thesis in an open archive yourself.

The dissemination of your thesis requires you to respect:

- the intellectual property code: If your thesis contains works covered by property rights, you must obtain authorisation from the rights holders to reuse and disseminate these. Works in the public domain are not concerned by this provision;
- the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): any personal data concerning third parties in your thesis must be anonymised or pseudonymised.

## The stages of depositing and disseminating

1. You defend your thesis.



2. You make all requested corrections and have your thesis approved.



3. You submit the final version of your thesis and sign the dissemination contract.

4. The university library takes care of processing and disseminating your thesis. You can also deposit your thesis yourself in an open archive.



## Why choose open access for your thesis?

Wide dissemination of a thesis is considered a best practice today and is very much encouraged.

- Your work will be much more visible and downloaded and cited more by other researchers and students.
- This facilitates your integration into the academic community (consultation by a selection panel).
- A thesis that is more widely disseminated is much better protected against plagiarism than a work with more restricted dissemination.
- Download statistics can encourage publishers to propose publishing projects. You should however be careful with requests from companies that present themselves as publishing houses but do not actually offer any quality editorial work on the text of your thesis.
- Your thesis will have a permanent and validated online consultation address.

## CAN I DISSEMINATE MY THESIS IF I HAVE AN OFFER OF PUBLICATION?

Disseminating your defended thesis is not an obstacle to publication. However, you may have objective reasons for temporarily restricting its dissemination particularly if rapid publication is planned for an article. In this case, it is advisable to wait for some time before opening access to the article. Discuss this with your thesis director or the jury.

Publishing a monograph based on your thesis is a long-term project which requires editorial work, rewriting and adaptation. The original defended version of a thesis is never published which means that disseminating it is not a problem in any way. Ask your publisher or thesis director for advice.

# 3 stories from PhD students

## Sur le terrain

Minh-Châu N., PhD student in phonetics,  
Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3 University

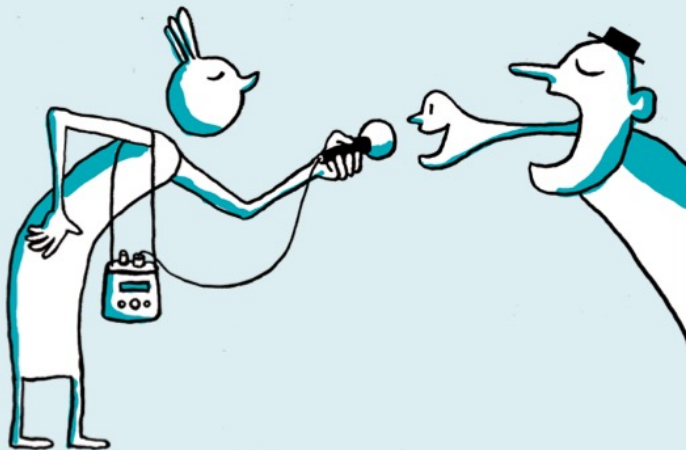
I am a phonetician. I study the sounds of languages particularly little-studied Vietnamese dialects.

During my master's degree, I made field visits to the province of Phú Thọ to collect and record data from the little-documented dialect of Kim Thưng Mường namely phonological and lexical contents, stories, dialogues and songs.

The article has been cited and downloaded but will gradually be replaced by new work. However the primary data is of unlimited value.

With two other researchers, I published an article which is available on HAL. The datasets have been deposited online in the CNRS Pangloss rare language sound collection.

I have continued working on my PhD in open science mode. As well as phonetic study, part of my work consists of preparing all the data recorded for long-term conservation in Pangloss. I am happy to contribute in this way to the preservation of my home country's languages!



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The article has been cited and downloaded but will gradually be replaced by new work. However the primary data is of unlimited value.

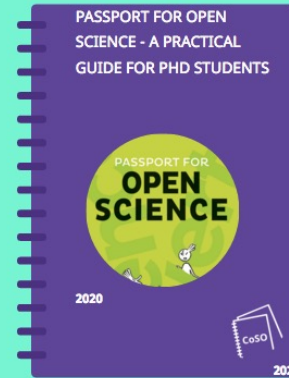


# Next steps

- Updated guide available soon (September)
- The following are planned for 2021/2022
  - Codes and software guide
  - Preconceived ideas about open science
  - Videos clips

## Open Science for PhD students

DISCOVER



# Feel free to use our Passport as a model!

- The English version of the Passport for Open Science is available at: <https://www.ouvrirlascience.fr/passport-for-open-science-a-practical-guide-for-phd-students/>
- La version française du Passeport pour la science ouverte est disponible sur : <https://www.ouvrirlascience.fr/passeport-pour-la-science-ouverte-guide-pratique-a-lusage-des-doctorants/>

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