

Goldsmiths Statement on Open Access

Goldsmiths is already very active in disseminating research both for the benefit of the international research community and for society more widely. The Goldsmiths academic community is strongly committed to ensuring the widest possible access to its research. Because of its strong interdisciplinary mix ranging across the arts, humanities, social sciences, psychology and computing, Goldsmiths embraces a wide range of research and research output. We recognise that the value and utility of research outputs increases the more broadly they are available to others and we strongly support the statement by the UK Open Access Implementation Group that UK higher education and the UK economy and society will benefit in terms of ‘the increased efficiency with which research can be conducted and disseminated, and the increased impact that research will have when it is openly available to be used both as a basis for further research, and to support innovation and good practice in the wider economy and society.’ (<http://open-access.org.uk/case-for-oa/>).

In light of the Higher Education Funding Council England (Hefce) and major UK and EU Commission research funder mandates for open access publication of peer reviewed journal outputs and conference proceedings, Goldsmiths currently favours open access by means of the Green Route. This route enables Goldsmiths researchers to publish in any journal and to self-archive the author accepted manuscript version of the article on our institutional repository (Goldsmiths Research Online; GRO).

Goldsmiths is mindful too of the current complexity and challenges in achieving an open access approach across all our disciplines which is credible to all of our researchers, and that is sustainable as well as being managed effectively with our limited resources. We recognise that academics, researchers, staff and students should be free to publish in forms of their choice, whether in a named journal or in other forms such as monographs, scholarly editions and conference proceedings as long as there is a mindfulness of Goldsmiths strategic and operational responsibilities. While recognising the need for our researchers to publish in appropriate outlets of their choice, all researchers at Goldsmiths are strongly encouraged to provide Open Access routes to their research outputs via GRO, in order to share and promote all our research at Goldsmiths. GRO is a freely available online resource of the intellectual output of the University staff. We encourage the use of GRO to openly share work above and beyond Hefce and funder requirements as long as this does not have negative consequences for the researcher or practitioner.

By using GRO, Goldsmiths research will be available worldwide to as many people as possible. It will serve to highlight the excellence of our work and our scholars as well as our unique emphasis on interdisciplinary research across a range of artistic, performative, analytic, creative, critical, social and scientific dimensions.

To enable Goldsmiths authors to meet the requirements of their funding agencies alongside Hefce mandates with regard to open access and REF post-2014, authors will be expected to upload the author accepted manuscript of their publications to GRO. These will be stored, preserved and made publicly available, while respecting UK copyright law.

Goldsmiths recognises that we are a community of students, professional and academic staff. The move to greater open access involves a close partnership between its researchers, academic departments, the Library, the Research Office and IT services and will require the support and cooperation of our collaborators and investment from our funders. We will be mindful of the importance of supporting the needs of PhD students and early career researchers within the open access agenda and work closely with the Graduate School to develop processes and systems that support them.

This statement will be reviewed regularly to respond to changes in Open Access policy by funders, Hefce and other external bodies. For further information, see <http://research.gold.ac.uk/openaccess.html>

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