

**8-10 OCTOBER 2025**

i3S - Instituto de Investigação  
e Inovação em Saúde  
Universidade do Porto

MORE INFORMATION

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INSTITUTO  
DE INVESTIGAÇÃO  
E INOVAÇÃO  
EM SAÚDE  
UNIVERSIDADE  
DO PORTO

COURSE:

# Teaching the 3Rs: Train the trainers

Bimodal Course | Full online (remote)  
attendance or full in-person  
(face-to-face) attendance

ORGANIZERS: ANNA OLSSON (i3S)



**IMPROVE**

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## Teaching the 3Rs: Train the trainers

This is a Training School of Cost Action (CA21139) IMPROVE.

This training school provides an opportunity for 3Rs trainers to learn about concepts in education science applied to higher education and professional training, to connect with other trainers and to discuss how best to train researchers for high-quality research with respect for the 3Rs. The audience for this training school are people who teach or would like to start teaching 3Rs related topics / courses to practitioners. This could be for example Refinement focused courses for researchers needing a license to do animal experimentation (Directive Functions A, B, D), or Replacement focused courses in different types of non-animal experimental models, or Reduction focused courses in topics such experimental design, systematic reviews, etc. The training school will be relevant for teachers at different levels of experience. Teaching staff and facilitators will include specialists in teaching methodology in higher education but also experienced teachers from flagship courses in the field. There is a need for training in teaching methodology for educators in this field. Building on the collective experience, and with input from specialists, the training school will contribute to the discussion about how to best address the common challenge for this area of teaching: how to provide training that is both relevant for the 3Rs (which is our ambition as teachers and as a professional community) and for the research career of the participants (which presumably is an important driver for them when deciding to participate in this training).

This course offers a flexible enrollment option where participants can choose to attend either fully online or fully in person.

**Course requirements:** Real engagement with training is a requirement - either already teaching or concrete plans to do so.

**Course duration:** Approximately 18 hours of total workload (including theoretical sessions, activities, participant presentations, etc.)

**Certificate:** A certificate of attendance will be assigned to participants who attend at least 80% of the course sessions.

**Organizing committee:** Anna Olsson (i3S)

## Course Program

### *Preliminary Program*

#### Wed 8 Oct | Auditorium Corino de Andrade

09:15 - 09:30 Registration

09:30 - 9:45 Welcome and important information

**Anna Olsson / Winfried Neuhaus**

09:45 - 10:30 Setting up and developing 3R training

**Anna Olsson**

11:00 - 12:30 Resources for 3R training: FELASA accreditation

**Chris van Ginneken** (Zoom)

14:00 - 15:00 Resources for 3R training: ETPLAS and LAS Learning

**Nuno Franco**

15:00 - 16:00 Intro to teaching good experimental design / practice

**Nuno Franco**

16:30 - 18:00 Participants' presentations

#### Thu 9 Oct | Auditorium Corino de Andrade

10:00 - 17:00 Innovation and evidence-based methods in higher education

All-day event with lectures and interactive elements

**Manuel João Costa**

#### Fri 10 Oct

*(There will be a choice between parallel activities)*

##### **Session A | Meeting room F**

09:00 - 10:30 Case construction for teaching good experimental design / practice - Scenario 1

**Nuno Franco**

##### **Session B | Meeting room 1**

09:00 - 10:30 Case construction for teaching good experimental design / practice

**Andreia Costa / Júlio Borlido Santos**

##### **Session C | Meeting room F**

09:00 - 10:30 Case construction for teaching good experimental design / practice - Scenario 2

**Nuno Franco**

##### **Session D | Meeting room 1**

11:00 - 13:00 Teaching for all 3Rs

**Andreia Costa / Júlio Borlido Santos**

##### **Session E | Auditorium Corino de Andrade**

14:00 - 17:00 Using AI in 3R teaching

**Arti Ahluwalia**

## Course Contents

### Education Science for 3Rs Teaching

Concepts and methodologies in education science applied to 3Rs education.

### Common Challenges in 3Rs Education

Identifying and addressing barriers to effective 3Rs teaching.

### Best Practices in 3Rs Training & Enhancing the Impact of 3Rs Education

Sharing practical experiences and successful approaches among educators.

### Collaborative Reflection and Discussion

Group sessions on the effectiveness and future directions of 3Rs training.

## Tutorial Team

[Manuel João Costa](#) is Prorector of Student Affairs and Pedagogical Innovation at the University of Minho. With a background in biochemistry, much of his work is focused on teaching and learning in higher education in medicine and molecular biology. He has been coordinator of the medical education unit at the School of Medicine and is responsible for the Education section of the journal [FEBS Open Bio](#).

[Chris van Ginneken](#) is Vice-Rector for Student Affairs at the University of Antwerp. She is a veterinarian and has pursued further specialisation in teaching and in laboratory animal science. She is chairman of the [Education & Training board of FELASA](#).

[Nuno Franco](#) is a Researcher at i3S, University of Porto. He has a background in both science education and biology. He teaches in laboratory animal science postgraduate courses at several Portuguese and foreign universities and research institutes. He also organizes courses and workshops on Experimental Design, Systematic Reviews, and Severity Classification of Procedures. He is Past-President of [ETPLAS](#), the EU Education and Training Platform for Laboratory Animal Science and has had a leading role in several projects on higher education, including [LAS-Learning](#). Nuno Franco is leader of WG1 in COST Action IMPROVE.

[Júlio Borlido Santos](#) is head of the Communication Unit at i3S, University of Porto. With a background in biology and experience as a teacher and demonstrator, he is focusing his work on communication science in society. He teaches and promotes advanced training for scientists in "Science, Ethics and Society" and organizes several continuous training activities for high school teachers.

[Andreia Costa](#) is head of the Advanced Training Unit at i3S, University of Porto. She has a background in biology did her PhD in the topic of Laboratory Animal Science Education and Competence Assessment. She is a member of the Working Group for Assessment of Practical Skills for the EU-funded ETPLAS Project.

[Anna Olsson](#) is a researcher at i3S, University of Porto where she coordinates the research group Laboratory Animal Science. Her research background is in animal behaviour and welfare and in ethics and the 3Rs of animal experimentation. She has coordinated several EU projects addressing the 3Rs and ethics and leads the 3R Knowledge Center (3RKC). She coordinates the FELASA-accredited training course for researchers using animals at i3S, where she is continuously trying out new teaching approaches. Anna Olsson is leader of WG4 in COST Action IMPROVE.

[Arti Ahluwalia](#) is Associate Professor of Bioengineering at the Department of Information Engineering, School of Engineering, University of Pisa. She is also Director of the Research Center E.Piaggio, dedicated to advanced biomedical and robotics engineering using intelligent systems and materials. Until recently, she was Director of the Centro 3R, the Italian inter-university center dedicated to promoting the 3Rs (Reduction, Refinement and Replacement of animal experiments) in teaching and research. Arti Ahluwalia is co-coordinator of COST Action IMPROVE.

## Logistical Details

### COURSE REQUERIMENTS

Please bring a laptop or tablet for use in the interactive exercises.

### NAME BADGES

Please wear your name badge when you are in the venue. You need the badge until the end of the course, so please take care not to lose it.

### INTERNET ACCESS AT I3S

Wireless Internet is available for free.

Network: i3S\_Temp | Password: Password2015

### VENUE

The course will take place at i3S – Instituto de Investigação e Inovação em Saúde, Universidade do Porto. Address: Rua Alfredo Allen, 208; 4200-135 Porto, Portugal

GPS coordinates: 41° 10' 30.008" N, 8° 36' 12.488" W.

Google map link: <https://goo.gl/maps/yvstCwa8Wmp>

### TRAVEL INFO

#### A. Arriving at Porto by train

Metro or bus are available from Campanhã or São Bento train station. However, the metro is the easiest way to reach i3S.

From Campanhã train station:

- Metro: All lines are possible (A, B, C, E and F) | Destination Station: Trindade and then change to line D - yellow (destination Hospital São João) – and leave at station: Pólo Universitário

Average time: 25 minutes | For more information: <https://en.metrodoporto.pt/>

From São Bento train station:

- Metro: Line D - yellow | Destination Station: Hospital São João; leave at station: Pólo Universitário (no connections – direct line)

Average time: 15 minutes | For more information: <https://en.metrodoporto.pt/>

## B. Arriving at Porto by car

The i3S Institute - GPS coordinates are: 41° 10' 30.008" N, 8° 36' 12.488" W.

**Please note that i3S does not offer parking space.**

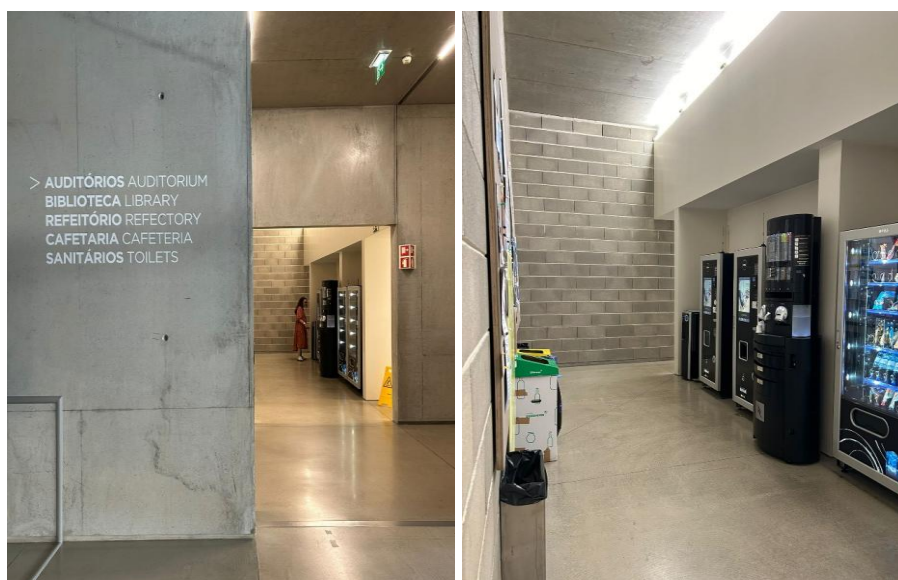
## COFFEE-BREAKS

More indications will be given by the organization at the beginning of the course.

Refreshments are served according to the program.

## WATER STATIONS

The i3S has several water points - one station per floor where you can refill your bottles. On floor zero, the water points are located near the vending machines. On floor one, the stations are located near the elevators.



## MEALS

Lunch is not included in the registration fee. Below you can find some suggestions for lunch. Please note that i3S has a canteen.

A few minutes from i3S:

- Canteen of Faculdade de Psicologia e de Ciências da Educação da Universidade do Porto
- Canteen of UPTEC
- E-learning café
- Some coffees with economic dishes of the day in Rua Dr. Manuel Pereira da Silva
- Shopping Campus S. João (10 minutes walking from i3S)



## **SOCIAL DINNER DETAILS** (For Previously Registered Participants)

The dinner will be on October 9 at:

**éLeBê Centro**, Rua da Conceição 94, 4050-317, Porto



## **Tourist info**

In the following site you can find all the information about the city, monuments, gastronomy, events, etc to help you to enjoy your free time and have a good time in Porto!

Touristic info about Porto: <http://www.portoturismo.pt/Visitar/Paginas/default.aspx>