

7 Git Into Version Control: an Introduction to Git for Scientists

You will be introduced to the concept of version control and learn how to implement it using Git, the de facto standard software for version control. The course will focus on using Git locally.

- Version control: what it is and why it will make your life easier
- Git, the most widely used version control software
- Tracking changes
- Concurrent changes with branches
- Merging branches

Participants: max. 20 (please bring your laptop)

Trainers: Federico Cantini, Frank Hösli

Eawag-Empa: Tue, 10.11.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, FC-D24

PSI: Wed, 11.11.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, OSGA/EG06

WSL: Tue, 03.11.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, Flurysaal

Required: Please bring your laptop with a working Git installation (<https://git-scm.com/downloads>) and have an account created for the Git service Codeberg (<https://codeberg.org/>). Send us your username to federico.cantini@lib4ri.ch. This is needed for the exercises. Contact us should you require assistance with your installation.

Essential Skills for Today's Researchers

Training series

Programme 2026

Series Description

This is our annual introductory training series for PhD students and other interested members of the four research institutes Eawag, Empa, PSI & WSL. Each module is offered at all main sites either in spring or in autumn. Classes are held in English and in-person only.

Registration

Each venue is open to all members of the 4RIs. Please register on our trainings website (www.lib4ri.ch/training-series). You will be forwarded to [lead campus](http://lead-campus.org), the joint education and training platform of the 4RIs. Registration closes a few days prior to each session.

Course Notes

Presentation slides and supplementary material will be available for download from our [trainings website](#) prior to the sessions.

ECTS Credit points

On request, students attending at least 4 modules of this series will receive a recommendation for 1 ECTS credit point.

Training on Demand

- We are happy to visit your group or department to discuss individual topics
- Customised training sessions at all locations of the federal research institutes can be arranged
- Contact us for your training on demand

Contact

Lib4RI c/o Eawag, Überlandstrasse 133, CH-8600 Dübendorf | +41 58 765 57 00 | info@lib4ri.ch | www.lib4ri.ch

Modules

- 1 Searching Scientific Information
- 2 Scientific Publishing – From Writing to Sharing
- 3 Research Data Management – The Basics
- 4 AI in Research & Scientific Writing
- 5 LaTeX – Getting Started
- 6 Literature Management with Zotero
- 7 Git Into Version Control: an Introduction to Git for Scientists

Course sites

Eawag: Dübendorf
Empa: Dübendorf
PSI: Villigen
WSL: Birmensdorf

Online registration

www.lib4ri.ch/training-series

Lib4RI – Library for the Research Institutes within the ETH Domain: Eawag, Empa, PSI & WSL

1 Searching Scientific Information

You will become skilled in finding relevant scientific information using suitable tools offered by Lib4RI.

- Using available resources (including AI assistants) for quick information retrieval
- Formulating systematic search queries including Boolean operators, wildcards and truncations
- Setup your own bibliographic topic search with Scopus and Web of Science

Participants: max. 20 (please bring your laptop)

Trainers: Stephanie Hofmann, Bobby Neuhold

Eawag-Empa: Wed, 06.05.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, FC-D24

PSI: Mon, 13.04.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, OSGA/EG06

WSL: Tue, 21.04.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, Flurysaal

2 Scientific Publishing – From Writing to Sharing

You will be guided through the scientific publication process from start to finish.

- The paper submission journey: From draft to publication
- Writing a paper: Structure and content
- Getting published: Find your journal and share your knowledge
- Your research profile, impact and visibility
- Copyright and Open Access – What to be aware of and how to use it to your advantage

Participants: max. 20 (please bring your laptop)

Trainers: Ellen Knappe, Michael Bachmann

Eawag-Empa: Wed, 20.05.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, FC-D24

PSI: Wed, 03.06.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, OSGA/EG06

WSL: Tue, 05.05.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, Flurysaal

3 Research Data Management – The Basics

You will learn core concepts and practical approaches for research data management.

- Apply Research Data Management across the data life cycle and learn FAIR data principles
- Document, organise and publish data and code using meta-data, READMEs and data repositories
- Develop Data Management Plans and work with institutional research data services

Participants: max. 20 (please bring your laptop)

Trainers: Moushumi Ulrich-Nath, Fabian Felder, Felix Moerman, Chase Núñez; institutional experts (venue dependent): Christian Förster (Eawag), Anusch Bachofner (Empa), Carlo Minotti (PSI), Ionut Iosifescu (WSL).

Eawag-Empa: Thu, 23.04.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, FC-C24

PSI: Tue, 14.04.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, OSGA/OG09

WSL: Mon, 11.05.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, Flurysaal

4 AI in Research & Scientific Writing

This course gives beginners (both in scientific writing/publishing and regarding LLMs) a brief overview of LLM usage in the scientific process from research to writing to publishing. The course includes hands-on elements to gain experience with LLMs and to share experiences.

- Technical basics and key concepts of LLMs
- Prompting and testing of LLMs for research, writing, publishing
- Literature search tools and AI tools beyond LLMs
- Current guidelines from most common publishers

Participants: max. 20 (please bring your laptop)

Trainer: Michael Bachmann

Eawag-Empa: Wed, 20.05.2026, 13:00 - 16:00, FC-D24

PSI: Wed, 03.06.2026, 13:00 - 16:00, OSGA/EG06

WSL: Tue, 05.05.2026, 13:00 - 16:00, Flurysaal

Required: Please create an Apertus (<https://chat.publicai.co>) and a (free) ChatGPT (<https://chatgpt.com>) account before the lecture.

5 LaTeX – Getting Started

You will be guided through your first document, with special attention to scientific writing and templates. This course gives you an entry point to LaTeX and enables you to go further from here.

- A not so short summary of LaTeX basics
- Tables, figures and formulae
- The LaTeX error log and common errors to avoid
- BibTeX and citation styles
- Finding and using journal templates for your manuscript

Participants: max. 20 (please bring your laptop)

Trainers: Janina Radny, Frank Hösli

Eawag-Empa: Thu, 19.11.2026, 09:00 - 16:00, FC-C24

PSI: Tue, 24.11.2026, 09:00 - 16:00, OSGA/OG09

WSL: Tue, 17.11.2026, 09:00 - 16:00, Flurysaal

Required: Please bring your laptop with a working LaTeX installation. Brief instructions for example installations will be available from our [trainings website](#) a few days prior to the course. [Contact us](#) should you require assistance with your installation.

6 Literature Management with Zotero

Scientific literature management is more than collecting papers. In this course, you will receive valuable tricks and tweaks for using Zotero efficiently.

- Retrieving the content you need
- Transforming your collection into a clean library
- Citing and referencing on the fly for your manuscript

Participants: max. 20 (please bring your laptop)

Trainers: Janina Radny, Stephanie Hofmann

Eawag-Empa: Tue, 27.10.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, FC-D24

PSI: Tue, 03.11.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, OSGA/EG06

WSL: Thu, 29.10.2026, 09:00 - 12:00, Flurysaal

Required: Please bring your laptop with a working Zotero installation. Brief installation instructions will be available from our [trainings website](#) a few days prior to the course. [Contact us](#) should you require assistance with your installation.