

# A Nationally Collaborative Approach to Carpentries Training in NZ

Murray Cadzow, Tom Saunders, Hayden Thorne, Nisha Ghatak  
University of Otago, University of Auckland, Victoria University of Wellington, NeSI  
[murray.cadzow@otago.ac.nz](mailto:murray.cadzow@otago.ac.nz), [tom.saunders@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:tom.saunders@auckland.ac.nz), [hayden.thorne@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:hayden.thorne@vuw.ac.nz),  
[nisha.ghatak@nesi.org.nz](mailto:nisha.ghatak@nesi.org.nz)

## ABSTRACT / INTRODUCTION

Workshops from The Carpentries (<https://carpentries.org>) have been taught at individual institutions in New Zealand to teach researchers introductory digital literacy skills. Following the shift to online teaching during the pandemic, the traditional Carpentries workshop format of two days of in-person teaching has been adapted to offer shorter, modularised online workshops.

A pilot series of regularly occurring workshops teaching the “Introduction to the UNIX Shell” lesson from the Software Carpentry curriculum was established. The change to delivering workshops as modules of the full curriculum has made it easier to share instructors, helpers, and learners across institutions. Delivery of shorter ‘modules’ online and kept within “core-hours” aimed to improve accessibility of workshop participation, due to location, personal commitments, or limited resources, as well as reducing ‘zoom fatigue’.

This talk will run through some of the experiences and lessons learned from the pilot series of workshops.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR(S)

- Dr Murray Cadzow
- Murray is a Scientific Programmer within Research Teaching IT Support at the University of Otago. Prior to this he spent 11 years researching the genetic basis of gout and related diseases. Murray has been heavily involved in computational literacy and bioinformatic training at the University of Otago - organising Research Bazaar Dunedin and the Otago Bioinformatics Spring School. He is both a Carpentries instructor and instructor trainer. His teaching has focused on delivering digital literacy training to researchers, and the development and support of the local Carpentries community at Otago.
- Dr Tom Saunders

- Tom has a background in entomology and biosecurity but is now an Engagement Specialist in the Centre for eResearch at the University of Auckland. Tom organises, hosts, and delivers digital research skills workshops, and helps researchers to manage their data throughout the research lifecycle. He collaborates on the organisation and delivery of ResBaz Aotearoa and cross-institution Carpentries events as a certified instructor.
- Dr Hayden Thorne
- Hayden is currently a Digital Research Consultant at Te Herenga Waka - Victoria University of Wellington. He is part of a small team delivering digital research support across the whole university. The team supports everything from survey and reference management tools through to an in-house HPC environment, and run regular in-house Carpentry events as well as being involved in these national collaborations.
- Dr Nisha Ghatak
- Nisha is the Research Communities Advisor and Training Lead at NeSI. Currently based at the University of Auckland, her role focuses on growing the eResearch capability in New Zealand through training delivery and community building. She is also the Regional Coordinator and Executive Council member for The Carpentries in Aotearoa New Zealand.