

LIBRARY TIPS #7  
NARRATIVE CV

## What is a Narrative CV?

>>> A style of CV that **tells the story of the professional career**, highlighting **impact, quality, innovation** and **social contribution**

- Objectives: diversification of recognized contributions; **fairer**, more **flexible** and **inclusive evaluation**.
- Used in funding applications or research proposals.
- Differs from the traditional CV by presenting a **more holistic, qualitative and integrated vision**.



Contributions, experiences and skills  
Descriptions and context  
Motivation and vision



Focus on publications  
Lists  
Isolated metrics

Aligned with



## What is the structure of a Narrative CV? \*

\* There is no single template. The structure proposed is adapted from CIÊNCIA VITAE and The Royal Society (UK) models.

Identification	Name and author identifiers (ORCID, Science ID, ...).
Career profile	Summary of your career path: education, main qualifications, relevant positions.

## Contributions

## 1. Generation of ideas, tools, methodologies or knowledge

- Concrete description of **original contributions**, with **impact** in the field of study and associated **skills**.
  - You may include a short and recent **selection of outputs** (about 5) e.g. publications, datasets, patents, as well as **awards** or **funding**, explaining their **significance**.

## 2. Development of individuals and/or team members

- Highlight and contextualisation of your role: (1) in the development of **competencies** and in individual and team **success**; (2) in **teaching, supervision, mentoring, and collaborations**.
  - Refer your influence and/or strategic leadership in guiding teams or organisations.

## 3. Collaboration with the wider research community

- Summary of activities (of an interdisciplinary, interinstitutional and/or international nature) such as **reviews, editing, participation in committees, organisation and attendance of events, congresses, conferences**, promotion of research integrity and research culture, **institutional roles**, recognitions...

## 4. Engagement with the broader society

- Presentation of examples of **involvement** with society, industry, the public or private sector, and of policy **development, dissemination** of scientific knowledge, **inclusion** of specific groups or **advising** to decision-makers.



## Get to know the organisation to which you will submit your CV

- If available, use the preferred template of the institution or funding agency.
- Adapt the content to the role or funding opportunity you are applying for.

## It's more about "HOW" and less about "WHAT"

- Avoid long lists and metrics with no social impact.
- Tell your story, attributing meaning and connecting different activities and experiences.
- Focus on the quality of your contributions, providing concrete examples.

## Aim for a personalised, concise, and clear writing

- Use an objective structure with short, direct sentences.
- Adopt an engaging and confident tone.
- Prefer action/impact verbs and adjectives (e.g., expanded, collaborated, modified, pioneering, influential, strategic...).

## Ask your peers and mentors for feedback.

## Suggestions



## Do you know...?



You can **create** your Narrative CV on the **CIÊNCIAVITAE** platform and export it directly to myFCT.

An increasing number of national and international **funding agencies**, such as the **Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT)** and the **European Research Council (ERC)**, are requiring the submission of a Narrative CV.

## Who can also help?



Library



Pre-Award Office