

[Jane Davison](#)

Professor of Accounting

What attracted you to become an academic in your research field?

My work is interdisciplinary between accounting (I'm a chartered accountant) and the humanities (my academic background is in French literature, in which I have a PhD). I enjoy the intellectual challenges of bringing the insights of one discipline to bear on another, finding connections and devising frameworks. When I was studying French critical thought, I hadn't imagined it could be so fruitful in the field of accounting communication. Likewise, I can now re-read French classics (such as those of Emile Zola) with new eyes, through having an understanding of accounting and business.

What attracted you to work at Royal Holloway?

I came to Royal Holloway in 2004. Royal Holloway has a long history of good academic values, with inspiring researchers across the whole College, and a strong Arts faculty. Living with the Founders Building is an everlasting delight. I am also a local girl, from down the road in Chertsey.

What piece of advice would you give your younger self?

Read the great works of international literature, walk every day – be a flâneur/se, yet remember that time goes all too quickly.