

Research development programme:

School of Health



2015-16

General queries about the programme or
want to suggest a session topic for a session?

Email: michelle.pyer@northampton.ac.uk

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1 An introduction to this development programme

This development programme has been designed to support researchers – and those supporting research – in subjects which relate, broadly, to Health and Social Care. The sessions detailed within this booklet are available to research students (PhD and Professional Doctorate) within the School of Health and from across the University. We also welcome staff from the School and further afield, no matter what your previous research knowledge or experience is.

Our development programme is comprised of a number of different activities, including:

- **Core discipline-based development workshops** which run throughout the year on a variety of topics including research methods and supervision issues. These events have been designed to offer a discipline focussed addition to the training of PGRs and research interested/ active staff. Some will be more specific to a health focussed-student, whilst others will be jointly hosted with the School of Social Sciences, enabling cross-disciplinary networking as well as learning;
- **Monthly research seminars hosted by the Institute of Health and Wellbeing** (see page 14 for further information);
- **Transfer seminars** given by existing students will be marketed throughout the year. They are a good way to meet other research interested staff, learn about new methodologies and the findings of ongoing and completed projects (if you are a supervisor and want to send an email to our existing PGR student about a forthcoming seminar please [email Michelle Pyer](#)) ;
- **Specialist interest groups**, for example The School of Health Xcite writing group and the Grounded Theory Forum (see pages 15 and 16 respectively for further information).

1.1 Research students and supervisors

Postgraduate research (PGR) students are expected to actively engage with these opportunities as part of their discipline based training. Whilst most of our school-based development opportunities will be of interest to any staff or student, some have been specifically designed for PGR students and supervisors. These are clearly marked overleaf.

A note about the Pastoral Support that PGRs can access during their studies is included on page 17.

2 Discipline-based development workshops: 2015

2.1 November 2015

Date	Title and abstract	Speaker	Booking details
Tuesday 10 th November 12-2pm Sunley Conference Centre	Doctoral supervisor update session As part of the School's discipline based training provision for research this year we are running an update session for supervisors. The aims of the session are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To offer supervisors of SoH doctoral students the opportunity to meet; To update supervisors on relevant procedures; To (re-)introduce key contacts from the Graduate School and SoH who deliver doctoral education. The event is aimed at both new and established supervisors .	The Graduate School: Prof Ian Livingstone, David Watson, Simone Apel School of Health: Prof Carol Phillips, Prof Jackie Campbell, Dr Michelle Pyer	Open to supervisors of SoH students only. Book by emailing michelle.pyer@northampton.ac.uk

2.2 December 2015

Date	Title and abstract	Speaker	Booking details
Wednesday 2 nd December 2-4pm PY101	Public Involvement in Health Research and Care This session aims to provide an introduction to the principles, concepts and methods for effective public involvement (PI), participation and engagement. The course will cover what PI is, the purpose of engaging, methods for the incorporation of PI in research, training and support mechanisms for public representatives, and how to capture the impact and value of involvement not only in research but also in service delivery, design and evaluation.	Paula Wray, Public Involvement Programme Lead for the National Institute of Health Research Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care East Midlands (NIHR CLAHRC EM).	Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/patient-and-public-involvement-in-health-and-social-care-tickets-19038556836

3 Discipline-based development workshops: 2016

3.1 January 2016

Date	Title and abstract	Speaker	Booking details
Wednesday 20 th January 2-4pm S137	Writing a thesis or publishing in high-impact international journals: it's all the same! Academic writing styles can vary across disciplines and projects, however there are some simple techniques that can be employed to greatly enhance the clarity of the writing. This seminar will examine how to structure common sections of a thesis or manuscript and consider the specific information that should be included in each section. It will also examine techniques to improve sentence and paragraph construction to ensure the writing flows seamlessly to enable the reader to more easily follow and understand the concepts and arguments presented in the document.	Dr Anthony Kay, Associate Professor of Biomechanics, School of Health	Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/writing-a-thesis-or-publishing-in-high-impact-international-journals-its-all-the-same-tickets-19076878457
Thursday 21 st January 1-3pm Top Lodge Conservatory	Professional doctorates: an introduction to the thesis This session is aimed at Professional Doctorate students who have successfully completed (or are about to complete) the facilitated modules and are about to begin work on the independent research module (Professional Research Project: PRP). The session will introduce students to the new ways of working expected during the PRP and explain the processes involved in completing this element of the award.	The Graduate School: David Watson, Simone Apel School of Health: Prof Carol Phillips, Prof Jackie Campbell, Dr Michelle Pyer	Open to professional doctorate students only Book by emailing michelle.pyer@northampton.ac.uk
Wednesday 27 th January 2-4pm S137	Research 'impact': being 'impactful' and auditing 'impacts' <i>*Jointly hosted by School of Health and School of Social Sciences*</i> This session will explore the idea of research 'impact', which has become a fundamentally important part of being an academic researcher in the UK. For example, impact is central to the REF (Research Excellence Framework), Research Councils' funding requirements, and many academic job descriptions. The session will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explain what is meant by impact in this context; • share experiences of developing 'impactful' research; • provide guidance and tips about recording and evidencing impact; • support you to discuss/ audit the potential impacts of your research. 	Katie Jones, Manager, Institute of Health and Wellbeing Dr John Horton, Associate Professor in Human Geography, School of Social Sciences	Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/research-impact-being-impactful-and-auditing-impacts-tickets-19075570545

3.2 February 2016

Date	Title and abstract	Speaker	Booking details
Weds 3 rd February 2-4pm C318	Working Qualitatively and Making Methodological Choices This session aims to explore the underlying principles of qualitative methodology, in particular the decision making based on these principles, through the process of research. The intention is to facilitate an understanding of methodological choices and the rationales for positions taken by qualitative researchers. The openness of the qualitative research process allows for greater possibilities than quantitative research and consequently there are choices throughout. Decisions made need to be coherent, and qualitative researchers should justify their choices. There will be an emphasis on health research as an ongoing, cyclical process driven by particular paradigmatic views. Part of the session will involve small group work drafting out a proposal for a small scale study and presenting your choices and justifications to the class for discussion and development.	Prof. Judith Sixsmith, Institute of Health and Wellbeing	Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/working-qualitatively-and-making-methodological-choices-tickets-19470851842
Wednesday 17 th February 2-4pm S137	An overview of Grounded Theory Learning outcomes Participants will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the key features of grounded theory 2. Outline the differences between the most commonly used forms of GT 3. Consider the applicability of GT for their own projects This session will provide an introduction to the history and key principles of Grounded Theory and the main forms of GT, such as Glaserian, Straussian and Charmazian GT. Discussion of these different forms will introduce the concept of fit between the philosophical assumptions of the researcher and the selection of an approach to GT. It is an ideal session for anyone considering using GT for the first time or for those wishing to refresh their knowledge at an introductory level.	Dr Sarah Neill, Associate Professor, School of Health	Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-overview-of-grounded-theory-tickets-18991669595

<p>Wednesday 24th February 2-3pm S137</p>	<p>Research Integrity: What is it and how do we recognise it? The core elements of research integrity are: honesty, rigour, transparency and open communication and care and respect. This session will examine these core values and how they are operationalised into our research culture. We will discuss what these values mean and review national and international guidelines on research integrity.</p>	<p>Professor Carol Phillips, Deputy Dean for Research, School of Health</p>	<p>Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/research-integrity-what-is-it-and-how-do-we-recognise-it-tickets-19038595953</p>
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3.3 March 2016

Date	Title and abstract	Speaker	Booking details
<p>Wednesday 2nd March 2-4pm S137</p>	<p>The analytic purpose: Can qualitative data analysis ever be undertaken as a group activity? Aim: to engage participants in a group data analysis workshop. Learning outcomes Participants will be able to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain how qualitative data can be analysed by a group of people. 2. Explain the benefits of analysing qualitative data using a group approach. 3. Identify the limitations of utilising a shared process to analyse qualitative data. <p>This session is designed as a participatory workshop. The aim is to introduce participants to the idea that thematic analysis of qualitative data can be analysed by a group of people, as well as by individuals. The workshop participants will be invited to thematically analyse data extracts and identify and share their emerging key themes while working together as a group. Participants will be given an opportunity to consider the strengths and limitations of using a shared approach to analysing qualitative data.</p>	<p>Professor Jackie Parkes, Institute of Health and Wellbeing</p>	<p>Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/applying-group-analysis-in-health-and-social-care-research-tickets-19038694247</p>
<p>Wednesday 30th March 2.30-4.30pm S137</p>	<p>Researching with ‘vulnerable’ groups <i>*Jointly hosted by the School of Social Sciences and the School of Health*</i> This session is designed to support postgraduate students and staff whose research involves working with groups of people who are defined as ‘vulnerable’ by most research ethics processes in the UK (e.g. children, young people, people with disabilities). The session will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explain what is meant by ‘vulnerability’ in this context; • provide a space to share experiences of conducting research with vulnerable participants; 	<p>Dr John Horton, Associate Professor in Human Geography, School of Social Sciences, & Dr Michelle Pyer, Senior Researcher, Institute of Health and Wellbeing</p>	<p>Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/researching-with-vulnerable-groups-tickets-19075746070</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide guidance and tips about developing ethics applications for research with vulnerable participants. <p>We invite attendees to tell us about the groups that they are working with, and via a workshop based approach we will seek to identify a range of strategies to support researchers in planning and undertaking their project work.</p>		
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3.4 April 2016

Date	Title and abstract	Speaker	Booking details
<p>Wednesday 6th April 2-4pm G159</p>	<p>An introduction to NVivo Aim: to introduce participants to NVivo, a qualitative data analysis (QDA) management tool. <u>Learning outcomes</u> Participants will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain the role of QDA software in the analysis of qualitative data 2. Describe how NVivo can facilitate constant comparative analysis 3. Find the software, use the embedded tutorials following the session, upload data and begin coding. <p>This session will introduce participants to NVivo, a qualitative data analysis (QDA) management tool. It is intended for those who have yet to use NVivo and who may be considering its use in future. The session will explore how to import data into NVivo, how to code data, add memos and annotations to data. Participants will also be shown where to find NVivo on the university staff webpages.</p>	<p>Dr Sarah Neill Associate Professor, School of Health</p>	<p>Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-introduction-to-nvivo-tickets-18989279446</p>
<p>Wednesday 20th April 2-4pm S137</p>	<p>The realities of Randomised Control Trials. An introduction to Randomised Control Trials. Aim: to introduce participants to Randomised Control Trials using an example of this type of quantitative study. <u>Learning outcomes</u> Participants will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain what a Randomised Control trial is. 2. Describe how they are undertaken. 3. Transfer the principles of Randomised Control Trials to their own discipline. <p>Using a practical example, this session will introduce participants to Randomised Control Trials. Participants should be able to reflect on the methodology and be able to consider using them in their own discipline.</p>	<p>Dr Mike Curran, Associate Professor, School of Health</p>	<p>Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-realities-of-randomised-control-trials-tickets-19043034228</p>

<p>Wednesday 27th April 2-4pm S137</p>	<p>Collaborative Enquiry Workshops: a method for consulting collaboratively in research Aim: to introduce the participants to collaborative enquiry workshops, incorporating 'open space technology'. Learning outcomes Participants will be able to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the format for a collaborative enquiry workshop. 2. Explain the benefits of using this approach in research and evaluation projects. 3. Identify any challenges that could arise when developing, designing, and implementing a CEW. <p>This session is designed as a participatory workshop. The aim is to introduce participants to the idea of collaborative enquiry workshops (CEW) and 'open space technology'. Increasingly 'Open Space' is being used to generate inspiring, innovative events where the agenda is created and managed by the participants. This tool provides a means to address significant, complex issues and achieve meaningful results quickly. It is particularly valuable with diverse stakeholder and service user groups enabling all voices to be heard and all perspectives considered. A central strategic theme provides the basis from which individuals raise questions/issues in order to convene a discussion. Multiple parallel conversations enable participants to move between conversations ensuring individuals have a say, gain information and cross-pollinate discussions. A collaborative enquiry workshop incorporating an 'Open Space technology' and a dot democracy format (Harrison 2008) will be facilitated during this session.</p>	<p>Professor Jackie Parkes, Institute of Health and Wellbeing</p>	<p>Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/collaborative-enquiry-workshops-a-method-for-consulting-collaboratively-in-research-tickets-19038680205</p>
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3.5 May 2016

Date	Title and abstract	Speaker	Booking details
Wednesday 4 th May 2-5pm S137	Using Creative and Non-traditional social research tools This is an interactive session looking at the ways that the social researcher can bring creative and non-traditional tools into their investigations and lines of enquiry. We will also explore the benefit of using these tools with specific research participants and communities. There will be an opportunity for participants to familiarise themselves with different tools (including paint, lego, sound-scaping and online avatars) and have an opportunity to test them out in the session. Additionally, there will be time and space to reflect on the ethical and practical risks associated with their use. The workshop will benefit researchers who are thinking about the methods and tools they may want to use in the field and well as those looking to expand their current practice and skills. All participants should come to the session in clothes that they don't mind getting paint on, and with an open mind.	Dr Marc Bush, Visiting Professor, School of Health	Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/using-creative-and-non-traditional-social-research-tools-tickets-19046357167
Wednesday 25 th May 2-3pm S137	Open Access in the REF: A review * Jointly hosted session with the School of Social Sciences* HEFCE have stated that certain research outputs must be made available in an open access form if they are to be eligible for submission to the next REF. What does this mean for you and how can you make sure you are compliant? Comprising a presentation covering the key points of HEFCE's open access policy, followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion, this session will be of interest to anyone who aspires to submit their research to the next REF.	Dr Miggie Pickton, Research Support Librarian, LLS and Nick Dimmock, Research Information Specialist, LLS	Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-access-in-the-ref-a-review-tickets-18999264311

3.6 June 2016

Date	Title and abstract	Speaker	Booking details
<p>Wednesday 1st June 2-4pm S137</p>	<p>Research ethics in health and biomedical research Research ethics is a fundamental part of all biomedical and health research. It is a requirement for obtaining research funding and a pre-requisite for publication in academic journals. Conducting research ethically is ultimately the responsibility of the researcher, therefore all researchers must be aware of ethical principles and familiar with ethical guidelines and professional codes of conduct. This interactive session will introduce the theories and principles behind research ethics, and explain the unique ethical dilemmas that arise in health and biomedical research. The session will include a discussion and analysis of some recent case studies in health and biomedical research ethics.</p>	<p>Dr Merryn Ekberg, Senior Lecturer in Bioethics (School of Health), Chair of the School of Health Research Ethics Committee, and Deputy Chair, of the University of Northampton Research Ethics Committee</p>	<p>Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/research-ethics-in-health-and-biomedical-research-tickets-19058759262</p>

<p>Wednesday 29th June 2-4pm S137</p>	<p>Analysing, generating and disseminating visual data</p> <p>The workshop will introduce participants to theoretical and methodological approaches which frame reading, generating and disseminating visual material. This will include working practically with visual media, including photographs, film and video. The workshop will begin with an overview of theoretical perspectives and methods for analysing images and include opportunities for participants to apply these to a range of images generated in contemporary research with ‘vulnerable and hard to reach’ communities and individuals. These activities will be framed by questions about the analytical insights offered by different theoretical and methodological approaches. The second part of the workshop will focus on the generation and communication of visual data, and participatory and emplaced methods in particular. Discussion will include the ways that such methods can enable a richer picture of participants’ lives but how this needs be framed within an ‘ethics of care’. Participants will be encouraged to reflect on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how the meaning of visual material is shaped by the social processes and contexts of its production, and its viewing; • the implications of disseminating findings about the lives of vulnerable people in a digital age and the dominance of stigmatising discourses around poverty and disadvantage. 	<p>Professor Helen Lomax (Institute of Health and Wellbeing)</p>	<p>Booking via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/analysing-generating-and-disseminating-visual-data-tickets-19046714235</p>
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4 Institute of Health and Wellbeing lunchtime seminars

One of the University's research institutes, The Institute of Health and Wellbeing (IoHW) is an interdisciplinary and inter professional centre of excellence in Health and Wellbeing. The Institute team work with health and social care providers, commissioners and other partners to support research, enterprise and innovation relevant to the health and wellbeing of the population. Within the Institute of Health and Wellbeing there are five research Centres and each one provides an opportunity for individuals to actively engage in Centre meetings. The five centres are:

- Aging Research Centre
- Applied Mental Health Research Centre
- Centre for Place, Space Wellbeing
- Physical Activity and Chronic Disease
- Centre for Family Life

More details on the Research Centres and their activities can be found at <http://institute-of-health-and-wellbeing.org.uk/>

The Institute holds free monthly research seminars, usually held on the second Wednesday of each month (excluding July and August). These are cross-disciplinary and cross-professional seminars to which research students, staff and external clinicians and other stakeholders can attend. A free lunch is provided.

You can find details of forthcoming IoHW seminars and how to book on their webpage: <http://institute-of-health-and-wellbeing.org.uk/events/>

4.1 Research students and supervisors

Increasingly, PGR students in the School of Health are linked to one of the IoHW research centres. There is also the opportunity (mainly for part time PGR students) to be involved for short periods of time on funded research projects giving 'hands on' experience of working in a research team and in project delivery. Opportunities like this should be sought in collaboration with the supervisory team. These placements enhance development as a researcher and increase employability in the long term. For more information about the IoHW and short term placements please contact [Katie Jones](#) (Institute Manager).

5 School of Health Xcite Writing Group



This group is for people with different experience of writing for publication from novice to expert. It is the intention that this group will encourage people to write, to offer some workshops on how to write for different audiences and publications, peer review and

peer support each other in developing writing skills. We have set out dates for this group for academic year 2015/16 which are listed below. We realise that people may not be able to attend every meeting but we hope to develop a group of people who are encouraging, supporting and enabling each other to write.

This is a writing group and not a reading group.

Dates for 2015/ 16 Academic year are:

Date
18/11/2015
20/01/2016
23/03/2016
18/05/2016
20/07/2016

If you are interested in this group and want to discuss anything about it please contact Ali Ewing ali.ewing@northampton.ac.uk or Jackie Parkes Jackie.parkes@northampton.ac.uk

6 Grounded Theory Forum

The Grounded Theory forum is a university wide forum for staff and students with an interest in GT whether or not they are using it at that time. It provides a forum for exploring different forms of GT, debating contemporary issues and discussing individual's and group's experiences of using the methodology. It is a great forum for research students and staff to present their work too.



Subjects explored since the inception of the forum in 2013 include: comparing Glaserian & Straussian approaches to GT, Adele Clarke's Situational analysis, constructivist GT, using NVivo for quantitative analysis within GT, constructivism versus constructionism and more.

The Forum usually meets twice each term at 1-3pm. Dates and times are published on the Research Hub webpages or are available from the forum lead Associate Professor Sarah Neill by email sarah.neill@northampton.ac.uk Sarah can also add you to the circulation list.

Dates that have been set for the 2015/16 academic year are as follows:

- November 11th 2015
- January 20th 2016
- March 16th 2016
- June 29th 2016

7 Doctoral students: pastoral support for your studies

As part of the University's Research Degree regulations research students have access to pastoral support from an independent member of staff. In using the term 'pastoral support' we mean support that relates to your general welfare or other issues that you may not wish to discuss with your supervisors (although please note that your supervisory team should be your first/ main source of project-related support).

Research Degree students within the University can access pastoral support from Research Degrees Tutors (RDTs). RDTs are members of Research Degrees Boards and each School is represented by academic staff. Overleaf you will find a list of staff who are currently members of either the Social Science or Science RDB. You can approach any member of your RDB for support (if you are unsure of which RDB your project falls under please [contact David Watson](#)).

All members of the RDB will have the usual firstname.lastname@northampton.ac.uk email address. Please email if you would like to arrange a meeting. Contacting your RDT is **not a requirement** of your studies, merely an option that is open to you. If your concerns have not been resolved to your satisfaction via these means, the [Head of The Graduate School](#) or [Postgraduate Research Manager](#) should be notified.

You can also source additional support via the following avenues:

- Professor Carol Phillips (Deputy Dean for Research, School of Health): carol.phillips@northampton.ac.uk;
- Dr Michelle Pyer (Doctoral Programmes Lead, School of Health): michelle.pyer@northampton.ac.uk
- Professor Jackie Campbell (Professional Doctorate thesis coordinator): jackie.campbell2@northampton.ac.uk;
- [Student Services Helpdesk](#) (the helpdesk can book appointment for specialist student services);
- [The Students' Union](#).

Dr Michelle Pyer

Doctoral Programmes Lead, School of Health

In addition to the support given by supervisors and peers, it is important that research students have access to pastoral support from an independent member of staff. Research Degrees Board members can be approached for support with any issues that a student does not wish to discuss with their supervisors for any reason. RDB members will depend upon their ability to develop and retain the confidence of students and to deal appropriately with any sources of difficulty or conflict.

UoN [PGR Code of Practice](#) (Section 4.17)

7.1 Research Degree Board membership (September 2015)

Social Sciences

Prof Chris Roe
Dr Jane Callaghan
Prof Andy Pilkington
Dr Jim Davies
Dr Glyn Daly
Dr Mary Dobson
Dr Jackie Parkes
Dr John Horton
Prof Peter Morris
Dr Helen Lomax
Dr Michelle Pyer

Science

Dr Wanda McCormick
Dr Robin Crockett
Prof Phil Picton
Dr Stuart Raleigh
Dr Will Wise
Dr Scott Turner
Prof Jeff Ollerton
Dr Paul Beeson
Prof Tony Denman
Dr Gemma Marsden