

ESRC DTP Newsletter

January 2025



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Welcome

Welcome to the January newsletter – we hope that everyone is having a great 2025 so far. Just to note that we have a new team member, Emily, who has joined us as a DTP Coordinator. She has moved internally within Warwick having previously worked in Leadership and Management Development. Thanks for your patience while she learns the ESRC way of doing things!

If you have any items that you would like us to include in the next newsletter, please send them to ESRCdtp@warwick.ac.uk and mark the subject as 'Newsletter Item'.

Student Successes and News

Below are some of our students' successes and news. We love to hear from our students so if you have news or a success that you would like to be featured in a future newsletter, please do let us know!

Matías Valderrama Barragán

Matías has had two papers published which are the result of collaborations during their PhD:

- Valderrama Barragán, M., Tironi, M., Cotoras, D., Correa, T., Humeres, M., & López, C. (2025). From Industry Hype to Emerging Criticism: Analysing Chilean News Media Coverage of Artificial Intelligence. *Digital Journalism*, 1–23.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/21670811.2025.2450624>
- Marres, N., & Valderrama Barragán, M. (2025). Making expert advice public in a time of emergency: Independent SAGE and the contestation of science during the Covid

pandemic in the UK. *Social Studies of Science*, 0(0).
<https://doi.org/10.1177/03063127241309071>

Kirsty Green

Kirsty's article was published online in *Gesture* today: [Infants can create iconic gestures during natural interactions with caregivers](#) | John Benjamins

Cat Jones

Cat Jones was invited to attend the launch of the Parents in Poverty inquiry at the House of Commons and gave the keynote to school leaders at the Reach Foundation Conference on the topic of "Examining Teachers' Readiness for Parent Partnerships".

Congratulations to Matías, Kirsty and Cat!

Upcoming Events

Please find below information on a number of upcoming events which may be of interest to attend.

More than a PhD: Overseas Fieldwork (Wednesday 5th February, 2:00 – 3:00pm, Online)

Do you need to complete overseas fieldwork as part of your PhD research? Come along to this session to learn about the process of setting up fieldwork, how to prepare, and what a typical day during fieldwork looks like. Find more info and register here:

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/mgsdtp/news/seminars/morethanaphd

More than a PhD: Doctoral Event Grants (Wednesday 12th February, 1:30 – 2:30pm, Online)

Are you interested in running an event connected to your research or other development needs? Come along to this session to learn about the funding available, how to narrow down your idea, and the process of organising an event. Find more info and register here:

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/mgsdtp/news/seminars/morethanaphd

Rejection in the job market (Thursday 20th February, 12:00 – 1:30pm, Online)

In this session, Chris will discuss the varying reasons why candidates are unsuccessful with job applications and run through several methods to enhance your chances of finding employment after your PhD. Chris will be in touch with Microsoft Teams invitations closer to the session date.

Focused Academic Writing: Develop Clarity and Confidence (Wednesday 26th February, 1:00-4:00pm, Online)

The Midlands Graduate School are pleased to welcome Dr Catriona Ryan to deliver another of her popular writing workshops. Places are limited, register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/focused-academic-writing-develop-clarity-and-confidence-tickets-1216447349769?aff=oddtcreator>

How to stand out in your Graduate Teaching Assistant role (Thursday 27th February, 12:00 – 1:30pm, Online)

This is ideal for anyone considering or currently starting their teaching journey as a PhD candidate. The session will provide some tips on how to make the most of your teaching role and work towards an academic position after your PhD. Chris will be in touch with Microsoft Teams invitations closer to the session date.

Publishing as a PhD student (Wednesday 5th March, 1:00 – 3:30pm, in person at Loughborough University)

The Midlands Graduate School Doctoral Training Partnership is pleased to present 'Publishing as a PhD student', delivered by Professor Darren Smith (Loughborough Institutional Lead) on Wednesday 5th March. Darren is currently the editor of three journals and will share his perspective on beginning your publishing journey as a PhD researcher.

The session will cover:

- Why publish your research as a PhD student?
- Identifying journals and tailoring your articles for submission
- Being strategic about publications as a PhD student

Lunch and other refreshments will be provided. Find more info and register here by 21st February: https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/mgsdtp/news/seminars/publishing

Managing fatigue as a PhD candidate (Thursday 6th March, 12:00 – 1:30pm, Online)

The demands of a PhD can incur high levels of physical and mental fatigue, which can severely impact creativity, concentration, and morale. In this session, Chris will speak about basic but effective strategies to combat fatigue, including sleep, nutrition, physical activity, and fatigue monitoring tools. Chris will be in touch with Microsoft Teams invitations closer to the session date.

Nearing the End of Funding

For students approaching the end of their funding the following advice should be noted and may be useful for planning your finances:

Stipend Payments: Your stipend payments are paid to you in advance so if your funding end date is 30th September then your last stipend payment would be issued at the end of August.

Early Thesis Submission: Additionally, please note that if you should submit your thesis earlier than your funding end date your stipend payments will stop even if you have time remaining on your studentship award. If any overpayments are made to you in error, then you will be expected to repay them. This also means that any additional funding such as RTSGs will not be approved and expenses occurring after thesis submission cannot be reimbursed, regardless of whether it had been granted approval.

Thesis Submission: Once you have submitted your thesis, we ask can please contact the ESRC DTC at ESRCdtp@warwick.ac.uk to notify us.

End Dates: As ESRC DTP funded students you have a funding end date, stipend end date and registration end date. These end dates can become out of sync if there have been periods of suspension and leave. If you would like to check your end dates, please email the DTP team.

ESRC DTP Writing Club

Join your fellow ESRC DTP students for a dedicated writing session in the Wolfson Research Exchange every Thursday, 10am-1pm. You should have already received a calendar invite for these sessions running weekly from 6th February. Tea, coffee, and biscuits will be provided. We hope you'll find it useful to get together and write, regardless of your current stage. More information here: https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/esrcdtp/news/writingclub/

RES Doctoral Training Programme

The RES Doctoral Training Programme includes workshops on skills necessary for PhD students in Economics and masterclasses in important areas of Economic research. All the sessions are designed to support candidates in their PhD journey. The Programme runs throughout the academic year, on Wednesday afternoons:

- Wednesday 5th February - Research Advances in Development Economics
- Wednesday 12th February - How to Get Published
- Wednesday 19th March - Empirical Narrative Analysis
- Wednesday 26th March - Reconciling research and teaching during a PhD

For registration links and more information please visit the [RES DTP website](https://res.dtp.org.uk) or email doctoraltraining@res.org.uk

Feminist Decolonial Praxis: Ethics, Identity, and Methodologies in Global Research Workshop

The Feminist Decolonial Praxis workshop will take place on the 12th March 2025 at the University of Warwick. The workshop is aimed at Academics, PhD and MA students invested in fostering equity in academia and is focused on addressing inequalities, building support systems, and creating inclusive and safe environments for researchers. It will also feature a keynote session on “*Creating Safe Spaces in Academia*,” by Dr Romina Istratii and Dr Adrija Dey. Contact Women in Political Studies (WIPS) and the Department of Politics and International Relations (PAIS) for more information.

Artificial Societies Symposium

You are invited to register for the upcoming Symposium “*Artificial Societies: Confronting Social Engineering After the Techlash*” taking place at the University of Warwick on Friday 7th March 2025.

The aim of the symposium is to bring together scholars, researchers, practitioners, and activists to explore interdisciplinary perspectives on social engineering in contemporary societies. The event will also include panel presentations by researchers from different backgrounds and disciplines, including Early-Career researchers and PhD candidates, to foster dialogue across fields such as design, engineering, medicine, computer science, and sociology. With a focus on stories of re-purposing, response, and resistance to the growing engineering of the social, this event aims to spark critical discussions at the intersection of technology and society.

Book here: [the Registration/Submission Form](#).

Me, Myself and AI

Postgraduate Researchers across the University of Warwick are invited to apply to [Business, Manufacturing & Innovation Spotlight](#) 2024/25 interdisciplinary competition entitled ‘Me, Myself and AI’, which will explore artificial intelligence’s roles and effects on business, manufacturing and innovation. This is an exciting opportunity for collaboration with postgraduate researchers from other departments / disciplines, and for your work to be celebrated at our Annual [Business, Manufacturing & Innovation Spotlight](#) event in Term 3.

- We welcome applications from postgraduate research students in all departments, whether you are an existing team or an individual

- We encourage submissions on a range of relevant themes exploring AI's role and impact on Business, Manufacturing and Innovation, and in various formats: from images and videos; physical artefacts; written work (essays, poems, songs...). We will particularly favour creative submissions
- Senior academics and practitioners will work with you to develop and assess your submission, and your work will be displayed online and at our event in Term 3
- The winners will receive a total monetary prize of £1000, to be split equally among members of your team
- [Find out more online](#), or [email the team](#) to discuss your planned application

Wellbeing

On a final note, the current theme of the Wellbeing team is *Balancing Things*. Finding a work life balance can sometimes feel tricky. During busier times of the year, it can feel overwhelming, and it might feel difficult to find time to have a break. A useful acronym to help you find a work life balance for you is ACE – Achievement, Connection, Enjoyment. We need a balance of all of these in our daily routines. It doesn't need to be an even split each day or even week. Across the year different areas will be more of a priority, but when one area is significantly lacking, we start to notice it quite quickly.

You may want to consider exploring Wellbeing's [Work Life Balance](#) self-help resource for further tips and strategies to enable you to manage your personal and academic lives more effectively. If you struggle to identifying opportunities outside your academics, please do check out the Wellbeing [What's On](#) page. If you would like to speak to someone at Wellbeing and Student Support, you can have a brief consultation with a Wellbeing Adviser. Please access the [Wellbeing Portal](#) to join a queue for a brief consultation with an Adviser, Monday to Friday from 10am to 3pm. Consultations can be face to face in Senate House, or online. They both require you to join the queue online when you are available.



With our best wishes,

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