

ESRC MGS DTP Annual Conference 2023



9th June 2023

Economic and Social Research Council – Midlands Graduate School – Doctoral Training Partnership



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ESRC MGS DTP Annual Conference 2023

Hello All,

We are delighted to welcome you to the ESRC Midlands Graduate School DTP Conference 2023, which is kindly being hosted by Aston University this year!

We hope this conference will provide a supportive and thought-provoking space for doctoral researchers to come together and share their work. This event should be a great place to network with people with a diverse range of interests and experiences across the MGS doctoral training partnership and beyond.

We are excited to welcome 61 postgraduate students and early career researchers to present their work with us today both in-person and online, as well as the host of researchers in attendance.

We would like to say a massive thank you to: our presenters today for being willing to share their expertise in such wide-ranging research topics, our wonderful volunteers for spending the time to help facilitate this event, and of course the various members of the ESRC DTP Network who have advised, organised, and helped disseminate information about the conference – we could not have hosted this event without you!

Here's to a great day, with plenty of research, networking, and learning!

The MGS DTP Conference Team 2023



Yuan Feng
Katarina Mentzelopoulos
Zack Palmer
Dipti Rathi
Shanglin Xin

Conference overview

Registration

Once you arrive, please make sure you register at the desk as you enter the main conference area at the Conference Aston Hotel in the Aston Business School building. If you have any questions or queries during the conference, you can find a conference volunteer or organiser in dark blue T-shirts throughout the day.

Registration will be open from 8:30–9:30am.

Here you will be able to confirm your attendance, enjoy free coffee, and pick up some free goodies and your name badge so everyone knows who you are - feel free to add any social media handles! You can tag us on twitter @MGSCon2023

Note: You will also need the name badge to get food, so make sure you don't lose it!

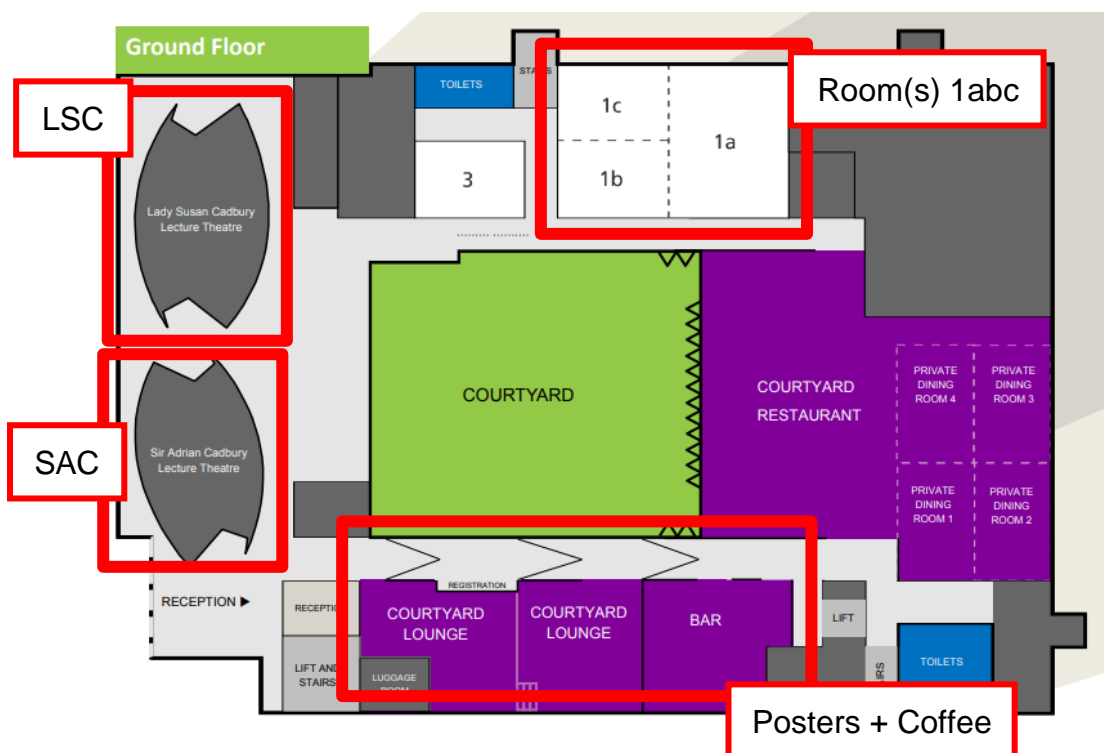
Welcome and introductions

Once everyone has registered, we will start with some introductions in **Room 1abc** at **9:30am**, including a welcome by the Aston Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research, Prof Simon Green. After that, we'll hear from our brilliant Keynote Speaker, Dr Laura Loyola-Hernández – more details on page 3!

Different presentation sessions

After our introductions and the Keynote presentation, you will have the choice of four rooms full of exciting presentations throughout the day. More details of what is on in each room can be found on our timetable (page 6), with each room also having a dedicated section to give you an overview of what you can expect.

Below you can find a map of the venue with the relevant room locations outlined in red:



Our theme this year

Doing Research Differently

The year 2023 sees a time of great change both within and beyond our research community. Alongside the changing face of the British university system, we as individual researchers face unique challenges as we journey through our independent doctoral projects. However, we also have a unique opportunity to use innovative approaches to drive change, support a better future, and build community-centred Universities.

As such, we have invited researchers to share how their work approaches research differently to drive change. This can be any change, from social change to pushing the methodological, philosophical, or theoretical boundaries of their field.

Our Keynote Speaker... Dr Laura Loyola-Hernández

Research interests

Dr Laura Loyola-Hernández is a feminist political geographer. Her interests are decolonial thought, feminist political geography, critical race studies, policing, migrant rights and social media activism with a focus on Latin America and the UK. She is also interested in the impact of critical pedagogies and scholar activism within university settings.

Keynote presentation

Dr. Loyola-Hernández will deliver the keynote speech based on the below abstract:



What does it mean to “do research” within the neoliberal colonial project that is the university? Who determines what research is? How are researchers held accountable to communities outside the university? How can we address structural inequalities which have played a key role in excluding marginalised communities from entering university and continuing to postgraduate degrees? It is imperative that we reflect on ways in which we can do research differently given the drive to ‘decolonise’ the university. These top-down approaches can feel like opportunities, particularly for racially minoritised individuals and Global South scholars to apply other alternative methodologies and epistemologies that are not Eurocentric. Yet, often we encounter pushback from within our departments and can have violent experiences stemming from these interactions. We will come together and explore these fundamental questions.

Timetable

Time	Coffee area	Room 1a	Room 1bc	SAC (Sir Adrian Cadbury Lecture Theatre)	LSC (Lady Susan Cadbury Lecture Theatre)
8:30–9:30	Check-in & coffee break				
9:30–10:30		Welcome / Keynote			
10:30–11:00	Poster viewing & coffee break				
11:00–12:00		History & Museum Studies (15-minute talks)	Psychology (15-minute talks)	Applied Linguistics (15-minute talks)	Research Methods (15-minute talks)
12:00–13:00		Foreign Policy (15-minute talks)	Literature & Media (15-minute talks)	Sociology (15-minute talks)	Reflection: Research Methods and Sociology (15-minute talks)
13:00–14:00	Lunch				
14:00–15:00		Authoritarian/Totalitarian States (15-minute talks)	Business & Politics (15-minute talks)	Education & Exploration (15-minute talks)	Lightning talks
15:00–16:00		Taxation & Banking (15-minute talks)	Business Case Studies (15-minute talks)	Workshops	Lightning talks
16:00–16:30	Posters & Coffee				
16:30–17:00		Closing			

Time	Room 1a
8:30–9:30	Check-in and coffee
9:30–10:30	Welcome talk and Keynote presentation
10:30–11:00	Poster viewing & coffee break
11:00–12:00	<p><u>History and Museum Studies</u></p> <p>The history of Muay Thai and the (un)changing of Thailand <i>Arjin Thongyuukong</i></p> <p>“Rage would be my favourite colour” – A creative, feminist methodology for exploring the emotional experiences of socially engaged heritage workers <i>Holly Bee</i></p> <p>Visions of Coventry’s post-war future: Planning documents and the envisioning of urban futures <i>Eleanor Cook</i></p>
12:00–13:00	<p><u>Foreign Policy</u></p> <p>A new methodological and theoretical framework to understand UK foreign policy towards China 1979 to 2014 <i>Rong Wei</i></p> <p>Imagining foreign policy: Creative storytelling about the self and international relations <i>Sofie Roehrig</i></p> <p>Are British Chinese silent in political participation in the UK? <i>Shuling Zhao</i></p>
13:00–14:00	Lunch
14:00–15:00	<p><u>Authoritarian/Totalitarian States</u></p> <p>Political research in authoritarian contexts <i>Evelyn Strongylakou</i></p> <p>Saudi Arabia: A democratic future awaits? <i>Maddison Onions</i></p>

15:00–16:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Taxation and Banking</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Time taxes and avoidable structural injustice <i>Gah-Kai Leung</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Understanding migration differently: Justifying a brain drain tax for Nigeria <i>Mohammed Abdullahi</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Re-conceptualising bank financing for urban Women-led Small and Medium Enterprises (WSME) <i>Priscilla Vito</i></p>
16:00–16:30	Poster viewing & coffee break
16:30–17:00	Closing

Time	Room 1bc
8:30–9:30	Check-in and coffee
9:30–10:30	Welcome talk and Keynote presentation
10:30–11:00	Poster viewing and coffee break
11:00–12:00	<p><u>Psychology</u></p> <p>Social jetlag and mental health in young people using the Millennium Cohort Study <i>Michaela Pawley</i></p> <p>New methods in social decision neuroscience: Using animal foraging models to understand human prosociality in resource scarce environments <i>Paul Vanags</i></p> <p>A mixed methodological approach to determine the efficacy of digital technologies in educating marginalised, out-of-school children <i>Bethany Huntington</i></p>
12:00–13:00	<p><u>Literature and Media</u></p> <p>Liminal disabled tweens' identification with Disney animations in Algeria <i>Selma Aitsaid</i></p> <p>Children, identity and the media: How child audiences use favourite screen media texts to engage with their Saudi national identity <i>Noor Alareifi</i></p> <p>Social media live events as a health communication tool: Interaction in an Egyptian breast cancer awareness campaign <i>Basma Salem</i></p>
13:00–14:00	Lunch Break
14:00–15:00	<p><u>Business + Politics</u></p>

14:00–15:00 ctd.	<p>The importance of context on user engagement with videos: Insights from YouTube <i>Zizhou Peng</i></p> <p>Influence of market orientation on entrepreneurial intention and value creation in SMEs <i>Sadaf Tallia</i></p> <p>From violence to sustainable peace: Building resilience to the Boko Haram insurgency in North East Nigeria <i>Ibrahim Machina Mohammed</i></p>
15:00–16:00	<p><u>Business Case Studies</u></p> <p>Promoting collaborative mentoring and Sustainable Development Goal Eight (8) amongst businesses: Empirical evidence from Africa <i>Timilehin Olasoji Olubiyi</i></p> <p>Refugee entrepreneurship and business support services: A critical realist study <i>Nicole Mudzongo</i></p> <p>Study on liquid workforce in the Indian IT sector <i>Rajthilak Radjakichenane</i></p>
16:00–16:30	Poster viewing and coffee break
16:30–17:00	Closing

Time	Sir Adrian Cadbury Lecture Theatre
8:30–9:30	Check-in and coffee
9:30–10:30	Welcome talk and Keynote presentation
10:30–11:00	Poster viewing & coffee break
11:00–12:00	<p><u>Linguistics</u></p> <p>Progress beyond the ‘academic bubble’? Possibilities and challenges of conducting transformative critical research in language education <i>Zening Yang</i></p> <p>Investigating healthcare practitioner’ communication from an intercultural pragmatic perspective in Saudi hospitals <i>Badryah Alalawi</i></p> <p>Emotion and public opinion of the Beijing 2022 in China: A social media content analysis of Chinese netizens <i>Mengying Niu</i></p>
12:00–13:00	<p><u>Sociology</u></p> <p>Understanding the role of social prescribing in transitions of young people categorised as not being in education, employment or training (NEET) into work, in a global pandemic context: A case study of the experiences of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) NEET young people in Leicester, United Kingdom <i>Robert Gonouya</i></p> <p>‘Do your own research’: QAnon’s agnotology <i>Jack Wilson</i></p>
13:00–14:00	Lunch Break
14:00–15:00	<p><u>Education & Exploration</u></p> <p>What’s in a page? Exploring representations of international academic partnerships through analysis of university webpages <i>Robyn Shreeve</i></p>

	<p>Having the time to care: Primary school exclusion in the West Midlands <i>Megan Whitehouse</i></p> <p>Participatory research with proxies: Exploring the musical preferences of people with profound intellectual disabilities <i>Rosie Rushton</i></p>
15:00–16:00	<p><u>Workshops</u></p> <p>Drawing on your research <i>Tanya Gleadow</i></p> <p>How the heck did I get here? - Physically and metaphorically speaking <i>Emma Astra Aldwinckle</i></p>
16:00–16:30	Poster viewing and coffee break
16:30–17:00	Closing

Time	Lady Susan Cadbury Lecture Theatre
8:30–9:30	Check-in and coffee
9:30–10:30	Welcome talk and Keynote presentation
10:30–11:00	Poster viewing & coffee break
11:00–12:00	<p><u>Research Methods</u></p> <p>Unleashing the power of playfulness in serious settings: Using play to enhance strategy-tools-in-use <i>Rebecca Lu</i></p> <p>Reconsidering the productive impact of financial compensation on the research relationship in qualitative social science research <i>Jo Kreft</i></p> <p>What is visibility? A multi method approach exploring elite women cricketers' attitudes and perceptions of media visibility <i>Hannah Thompson-Radford</i></p>
12:00–13:00	<p><u>Reflection (Research methods and sociology)</u></p> <p>Beyond self-reflection: Doing the deep cultural work <i>Michael Bukur</i></p> <p>Make the most of ourselves during and after the Covid-19 pandemic <i>Tien Thuy Quach</i></p> <p>Should I research this? Incorporating the position of participants in reflexivity <i>Gabrielle Stapleton</i></p>
13:00–14:00	Lunch Break
14:00–15:00	<p><u>Lightning Talks</u></p> <p>Significance of accounts receivable management in a business organization: A case study of Lantmannen Unibake UK Limited. <i>John Akpan</i></p>

14:00–15:00 ctd.	<p>Influence of CPEC on Pakistan's development: Evidence from logistics sector <i>Mudasser Ali</i></p> <p>Can a public-private education policy transform the lives of children from disadvantaged backgrounds? Private school inclusion via India's Right to Education Act <i>Inderjit Bains</i></p> <p>Socially prescribed perfectionism, punishment sensitivity and reward sensitivity predict decision rumination in athletes: a three-way interaction <i>Sajjal Syed</i></p> <p>Gender in Song ci with sport activities <i>Jiixin Zhang</i></p> <p>How to make the recruitment of study participants more accessible <i>Iain Gowans</i></p>
15:00–16:00	<p><u>Lightning Talks</u></p> <p>Big boys, real men: How does everyday talk contribute to the communication of cis-heteronormative masculine constraints in early childhood? <i>Kathryn Jordin</i></p> <p>How Saudi language learners construct and negotiate their identities to achieve their learning goals <i>Meshal Alfaqiri</i></p> <p>International organisations as gatekeepers of epistemic (in)justice? A Critical Discourse Analysis on health data inequality within the World Health Organisation <i>Maria Weickardt Soares</i></p> <p>Online participatory observation to study COVID-19 Dis-/misinformation on Thai Facebook <i>Lalita Jitkaroon</i></p> <p>Understanding news media representations of rape: An analysis of the England and Wales news media <i>Ezgi Aral</i></p>
16:00–16:30	Poster viewing & coffee break
16:30–17:00	Closing

Poster sessions

There will be dedicated time throughout the day for dedicated poster sessions at 10:30 and again at 16:00. Posters can be found in the coffee area and will be on display all day for perusal.

We encourage conference delegates to have a look during coffee breaks and lunchtimes and to engage with the poster presenters throughout the day.

Poster details:

Exploring views on future directions of research involving nonbinary autistic people through lived experience

Charlotte Brooks

Post-Sentence discrimination: A comparative study

Rebecca Bull

Story writing for reframing trauma - Looking at metaphors people use in the narrative structure of their 'story'

Christina Christou

Waltzing along the participatory continuum

Helen Evans

How sustainable improvements can be made within United Kingdom food supply chains using Agriculture 4.0 practices

Stephen Manders

Phone consultations in primary care

Gilian Noord

Digital capabilities to reduce uncertainties for advanced services: A service network actors perspective

Dipti Rathi

An examination of the identities of Chinese female athletes with physical impairments: Marriage and social status

Kaixi Zhao

Meet our presenters

Below you can find out a bit more about all the presenters at our conference this year!

Mohammed Abdullahi (he/him) – University of Warwick (Economics, Developmental Studies and Employment Research)

Mohammed Abdullahi is an ESRC-funded PhD student at the University of Warwick Institute for Employment Research. His research is on the Return Migration of Nigerian Doctors in the UK. Mohammed holds a first-class Bachelor's degree in Business and Human Resource Management, a Master's in Human Resource Management and a Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching in Higher Education.

Selma Aitsaid (she/her) – University of Leicester (Disability studies and Media)

I am a final-year PhD student in the school of Media, Communication and Sociology at the University of Leicester. My key research interests are how disabled children from the Global South identify with a Global media corporation like Disney animations. Also, I want to examine the extent to which the postcolonial context has an impact on children's interpretation of animations.

John Akpan (he/him) – University of Bedfordshire (Accounting and Finance)

I am John Akpan, ACA, ACIB, FCILRM, from Nigeria with over 13 years of experience in the Finance and Banking industry serving in various capacities ranging from control functions to business development manager. I am a graduate of Accounting and recently completed my MSc. Accounting and Finance at the University of Bedfordshire, UK.

Badryah Alalawi (she/her) – University of Nottingham (Applied Linguistics)

Badryah Alalawi is a current PhD student in Applied Linguistics at the University of Nottingham. She holds an MA in Applied Linguistics from the University of Nottingham, as well. She is sponsored by Taibah University in Saudi Arabia and the Saudi Cultural Bureau in London. She is interested in pragmatics, intercultural healthcare communication and politeness.

Noor Alareifi (she/her) – University of Leicester (Media and Communication)

Lecturer in the Media department at Umm Al-Qura University, Saudi Arabia. Before I started studying PhD at University of Leicester, I was doing my Master's degree at the George Washington University, USA. Mother of three children and lives in Leicester.

Emma Astra Aldwinckle – University of Leicester (Media, Sociology and Communication)

If I finish my PhD on time, it will mark my 20th anniversary of being a mature student: a non-academic in an academic world. How the heck did I end up here? What can go wrong?! I'm influenced by real life and people, not theory. Tell a lie - David Graeber's "Bullsh*t jobs" (2018) is a great academic theory.

Meshal Alfaqiri (he/him) – University of Nottingham (Applied Linguistics)

Meshal Alfaqiri is a PhD student at the University of Nottingham. He is interested in second language identities, and second language learners' identities.

Mudasser Ali – University of Bedfordshire (Logistics)

My name is Mudasser Ali, and I am from Pakistan. Currently living in Cambridge, Cambridgeshire United Kingdom. I have completed my 4 years bachelor's in Finance as majors. Now, I have just completed my MSc in Accounting and Business Finance. I do have an experience as a Finance Assistant. The second author of this presentation is Dr. Sadaf Talia.

Ezgi Aral (she/her) – Loughborough University (Criminology)

Ezgi completed her BSc in the Department of Sociology at Hacettepe University (Ankara, Turkey) in 2011. Following graduation, she worked in different roles for many years, including, Corporate Communication Specialist and Executive Editor. While working as a Corporate Communications Specialist and Executive Editor, Ezgi started her MSc in the Department of Journalism at Gazi University (Ankara, Turkey).

Inderjit Bains (he/him) – University of Birmingham (Education)

I am a PhD Education student at the University of Birmingham and my research explores the role of the private sector in shaping experiences and outcomes for disadvantaged children in India. My area of research applies qualitative methods for investigating social and learning issues, and I am interested in how equity and inclusion are mediated through education policy and practice.

Holly Bee (she/her) – University of Leicester (Museum Studies, Work Studies)

Holly is a third year PhD student in the School of Museum Studies, University of Leicester, using a feminist framework to research the emotional experience of change-making and socially engaged practice in museums. She is passionate about finding routes towards compassionate and just working practices as a means to challenge oppressive structures and create space for joy, anger and connection.

Charlotte Brooks (she/they) – University of Birmingham (Disability Studies)

I am a 1st year PhD student in the Department of Disability, Inclusion and Special Needs at the University of Birmingham. Working under the supervision of Dr Prithvi Perepa and Prof Karen Guldberg, my research will be looking at the experiences of autistic nonbinary people in regards to autistic masking and education.

Michael Bukur (he/him) – Loughborough University (Exercise and Health Sciences, Qualitative Methods in Social Research)

Michael Bukur is a doctoral researcher in sport, exercise and health sciences at Loughborough University. His research focuses on how community health and wellbeing programmes can better engage individuals and groups of lower socioeconomic status. He specialises in programme evaluation and co-design, supported by an array of interdisciplinary qualitative and quantitative methodological approaches and skills.

Rebecca Bull (she/her) – University of Nottingham (Criminology)

I am a first year PhD student with an academic history in Criminology and Social Policy, who has studied at the University of Nottingham since 2017.

Christina Christou (she/her) – University of Birmingham (English Language and Linguistics)

Christina is an ESRC funded PhD postgraduate in the department of English Language and Linguistics, at the University of Birmingham. Christina has a BSc in Psychology and is a writing for wellbeing therapist. She uses counselling skills and expressive writing helping people express and process their trauma narratives. Christina is especially interested in the metaphors people use in their 'story'.

Eleanor Cook (she/her) – Coventry University (Art History)

Eleanor Cook is a Midlands4Cities funded PhD candidate at Coventry University. Her thesis 'At Home in Coventry' – produced in partnership with The Herbert Museum & Art Gallery – seeks to ascertain what 'home' meant to the diverse populations of post-war Coventry, querying the significance of public art, civic architecture, and material culture to the provisioning of home in the post-war period.

Helen Evans (she/her) – University of Birmingham (Education)

Helen Evans is a first year PhD student whose research interests weave around student voice, inclusive and participatory research, disability, neurodiversity, creative methods and accessibility of information. Having spent over 20 years working somewhere within the learning/intellectual disability sector, she is very much a practitioner-researcher. Helen hopes to infuse her research with art, poetry and song.

Tanya Gleadow (she/they) – Loughborough University (Education)

Tanya Gleadow is a PhD researcher at Loughborough University focusing on the use of externally-produced teaching materials and how teachers can be better supported by the tech industry. Previously she worked in tech developing low-cost hardware and delivering outreach activities to all ages. She is a prolific doodler and maker, and likes to play with lasers.

Robert Gonouya (he/him) – University of Leicester (Social Prescribing and Youth Unemployment)

Robert has substantive experience in project management, evaluation and research. He is a Doctoral candidate and teaching fellow at the University of Leicester's Business School. His research interests revolve around interventions especially focused on youth development, education, transitions into work, employability skills, human rights, health and wellbeing.

Iain Gowans (he/him) – Loughborough University (Research Methods and Ethics)

Iain has been involved with Para-sport over three decades. He swam for Great Britain at the Atlanta Paralympic Games in 1996 and was then a fulltime member of staff of the British Paralympic Association, before starting his PhD in 2021 on the integrity of the classification process in Para-sport at the Peter Harrison Centre for Disability Sport at Loughborough University.

Bethany Huntington (she/her) – University of Nottingham (Educational Psychology)

Beth is a final year ESRC PhD student at the University of Nottingham jointly based in the School of Psychology and N/LAB. She has a BSc and MSc in Psychology from Nottingham Trent University and has been a research assistant at both NTU and UoN. She is researching the impact of educational interventions in developing contexts.

Lalita Jitkaroon (she/her) – University of Leicester (Media and Communication)

Lalita Jitkaroon is a PhD candidate in the School of Media, Communication and Sociology, University of Leicester. Her research areas of interest are social media research, dis-/misinformation and digital literacy, and communication for development. Prior to pursuing the PhD study, Lalita has worked as a lecturer at Naresuan University, Thailand for 5 years.

Kathryn Jordin (she/her) – Loughborough University (Language and Social Interaction)

Following completion of her Masters in Social Science Research (Communication and Media) at Loughborough University in 2022, Kathryn is now a first year doctoral researcher at Loughborough University. Her research focus is on childhood interaction, with a specific interest in using conversation analysis and membership categorisation analysis to explore how normative gender constraints may be communicated in everyday talk.

Jo Kreft (she/her) – University of Birmingham (Memory Studies)

Jo Kreft is a 3rd Year M4C/AHRC funded Doctoral Researcher at the University of Birmingham. Her research focuses on the ways, in which civil society and grassroots activism in Germany is impacting the country's reckoning with its colonial past and present. Alongside her research, she teaches as a German language tutor at the Department of Modern Languages, University of Birmingham.

Gah-Kai Leung (he/him) – University of Warwick (Politics)

Gah-Kai Leung (pronounced 'GAR-kay') is a PhD candidate in the Department of Politics & International Studies at the University of Warwick. His doctoral research concerns the ethical and political issues in earthquake and tsunami risk management. He has general interests in social and political philosophy, the philosophy of social science, science and technology studies, applied ethics and disaster risk reduction.

Rebecca Lu (she/her) – Aston Business School (Strategy)

I'm a second year PhD student researching the role of materiality in the strategizing process. I'm passionate about exploring novel ways to strategize and the associated beneficial outcomes. Alongside my research, I deliver workshops and engage in teaching activities, where I encourage divergent and creative approaches to tackle challenges. Outside of my studies, I'm a keen pianist and bookworm!

Stephen Manders (he/him) – Aston University (Business - Operations and Information Management)

As a local ESRC research student with business operations and information expertise, I am applying my knowledge to a national and global crisis to meet the demands for food production and supply. As such, I wish to carry on my work in this field to help overcome such problems after my PhD as well as promote the topic within academia.

Ibrahim Machina Mohammed (he/him) – University of Warwick (Politics and International Relations)

I am a PhD student at the Department of Politics and International Studies (PAIS) at the University of Warwick. Before joining PAIS, I taught at the Department of Political Science at the Federal University Gashua in Nigeria. I obtained an MSc in Security, Leadership and Society from King's College London.

Nicolle Mudzongo (she/her) – Aston University (Entrepreneurship)

Nicolle Mudzongo is a PhD researcher with CREME at Aston University. Her doctoral research project, which involves collaboration with CREME's partner, examines refugee entrepreneurship and mainstream business support services. Nicolle's research interests include ethnic minority entrepreneurship, migrant and refugee entrepreneurship, and SMEs.

Mengying Ni (she/her) – Loughborough University (Sport, Communication and Social Impact)

Miss Mengying Niu is a third year PhD student in the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Science at Loughborough University. She focuses on analysing the sociocultural impacts of the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games for her PhD study. Her research interests include social impact of SMEs, event impact and legacy and sociocultural sport and Olympic studies.

Gilian Noord (he/him) – University of Nottingham (Interactional Linguistics)

Gilian Noord is a PhD student within the School of Sociology/Social Policy at UoN. His research interests and PhD project are focused on remote doctor-patient consultations in primary care and the particular interactional challenges arising in these conversations. He uses Conversation Analysis to analyse audio-recorded remote consultations in order to optimise the delivery of remote primary health care.

Timilehin Olasoji Olubiyi – Babcock University Ogun State Nigeria (Sustainability & Small Business Development)

Dr. T.O. Olubiyi is a well-known author, researcher, and business expert with high visibility on the internet. Dr. Timi Olubiyi, as he is affectionately known, is a seasoned professional of repute and a scholar of note. He has held several managerial positions with relevant expertise in the Nigerian financial industry, and academia, including public service.

Maddison Onions (she/her) – Loughborough University (Politics and International Relations)

Maddie had just begun her third year of her PhD at Loughborough University, where she is researching topics on democratisation, liberalisation and how these terms are understood, and in particular how they can be applied to Saudi Arabia. She previously studied her BA in International Relations & Politics and her MA in International Relations (Terrorism & Political Violence).

Michaela Pawley (she/her) – University of Warwick (Psychology)

I am currently a Psychology PhD student awarded a departmental fellowship scholarship at the University of Warwick specialising in how sleep contributes to mental health problems during adolescence. My research focus revolves around the role of social jetlag in this relationship, and the influence of other transdiagnostic factors, such as impulsivity and self-esteem. their university life. @BigBadBee

Zizhou Peng (he/him) – University of Warwick Business School (Video Marketing, Advertising, Affect and Choice)

Zizhou Peng is a doctoral student in Marketing Group at Warwick Business School. His current research uses advanced empirical quantitative methodology to analyse unstructured data such as text, image and video. He holds a BSc in Geophysics from the University of Edinburgh and a MSc in Business Analytics from Warwick Business School.

Tien Thuy Quach – University of Nottingham (Multidisciplinary)

I am originally from Vietnam and I am in my final-year PhD research at the School of Pharmacy and Centre for Additive Manufacturing, University of Nottingham. Along with doing research, I want to motivate the youth and support the vulnerable. I love mentoring, volunteering, and exploring new things. I will continue participating in different healthcare and community projects. Link: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/tien-thuy-quach/>

Rajthilak Radjakichenane (he/him)

Rajthilak Radjakichenane is a researcher in Human Resource Management and Organizational Behavior. He has worked at Higher Education Institutions in UK and India namely University of East Anglia, University of Bedfordshire, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore and BITS Pilani Hyderabad. He has worked in academic roles namely Course Coordinator (MBA), Tutor in Business, Pedagogical Research Associate, Research and Teaching Associate.

Dipti Rathi (she/her) – Aston University (Servitization, Information management)

Dipti is a 2nd year Doctoral Researcher at Aston, her research is in the area of servitization and advanced services. Also, she works as a Research Assistant at the University. Her previous experiences includes the role of Business Analyst and Tool Developer in Manufacturing industry.

Sofie Roehrig (she/her) – Warwick University & TU Dresden (Politics, International Relations, Foreign Policy, Migration and Refugees, Narrative Studies)

Sofie Roehrig is a PhD candidate at University of Warwick and TU Dresden. As a Research Associate, she studies framing in debates on migration and modern slavery. Her thesis explores normative claims of (feminist) foreign policy and foreign policy narratives of different actors. Sofie is a Visual Artist and facilitates expressive art workshops with refugee groups in Berlin.

Rosie Rushton (she/her) – University of Birmingham (Education)

Rosie is a researcher and music facilitator based in the West Midlands, where she has established herself as a specialist in music provision for individuals with learning disabilities. Rosie collaborates nationally in projects with schools, charities and communities in order to devise, facilitate and evaluate accessible and meaningful musical experiences.

Basma Salem – Loughborough University (Media and Communication)

Basma is a third-year PhD researcher in the Media and Communication Department at Loughborough University. She is researching the role of social media as a health communication tool in raising awareness about breast cancer in Egypt.

Robyn Shreeve (she/her)– University of Warwick (Education)

Robyn Shreeve is a PhD student at the University of Warwick, situated within the Department of Education Studies. Her research project is focussed on international academic partnerships between higher education institutions around the world, primarily through a case-study design. Other areas of interest include internationalisation initiatives, student experiences, engagement with global activities (both at home and abroad), and reflective practices.

Gabrielle Stapleton (she/her) – University of Nottingham (Sociology)

Gabrielle Stapleton is a Doctoral Researcher at the University of Nottingham who is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). Her current research focuses on migratory return and (re)integration in relation to the Windrush scandal.

Evelyn Strongylakou (she/her) – University of Warwick (Politics)

My research focuses on political legitimacy in 'less-than-perfect' democracies. I am currently researching how economic policies lead to a genuine belief in a ruler's legitimacy. I am also interested in the construction of national identities and how these affect a country's political life. In my spare time, I think about ways we can outrace autocrats through education and public engagement.

Sajjal Syed (she/her) – Loughborough University (Sport Psychology)

Sajjal is a doctoral researcher at Loughborough University. Sajjal's research examines individual differences in performance under pressure. Sajjal has made use of both quantitative and qualitative research methods in her PhD project. Sajjal graduated from the Royal Holloway University of London with B.Sc. in Psychology. Later, she pursued an M.Sc. in Sports and Exercise Psychology from Bangor University.

Sadaf Tallia (she/her) – University of Bedfordshire (Business Management)

Advanced-level PhD student and a Tutor in Business at the University of Bedfordshire. My research interest lies in entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship intention and SMEs' sustainable development. I have multiple research publications in local and international journals. Served as an associate editor in Organisational Culture, an international journal USA and currently serving as a peer reviewer at the British Academy of Management.

Hannah Thompson-Radford (she/her) – Loughborough University (Media and Communications)

Hannah Thompson-Radford is a final year PhD student at Loughborough University with an interest in sport, gender and media relations.

Arjin Thongyuukong (he/him) – Loughborough University (Sociology, History, Political Economy)

Arjin Thongyuukong is a PhD research student at School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences, Loughborough University. His in-progress thesis, "Bodies of professional Muay Thai boxers, Muay Thai networks, and the changing Thailand society", considers how Muay Thai boxers' bodies reveal the transformation of class relations in Thailand. The submitted presentation was developed from the historical part of the thesis.

Paul Vanags (he/they) – University of Birmingham (Experimental Psychology)

Paul is an ESRC PhD student studying the psychological, computational and neural mechanisms of prosocial behaviour. He holds a BA in Chemistry, and Master's degrees in Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience and Social Science Research. He is supervised by Dr Patricia Lockwood and Professor Ian Apperly at the University of Birmingham.

Priscilla Vitoh (she/her) – University of Warwick (Law)

Priscilla Vitoh is a 3rd-year Doctoral researcher at Warwick Law School. She is a former Bank Relationship Manager specialising in Maritime Banking and Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SME) Lending. Her research integrates conceptual knowledge with empirical research methodologies to comprehend how social fields like national and international law, social norms, and business regulation affect women's access to Bank financing.

Rong Wei (she/her) – University of Birmingham (Politics and International Relations)

Rong Wei is a first-year PhD student in the department of Politics and International Studies in the University of Birmingham. She has MAs in Education, International Relations, and Social Research. She is currently researching British Foreign Policy towards China in the context of the historical development of Sino-UK relations.

Maria Weickardt Soares (she/her) – TU Dresden/University of Warwick (International Relations)

I am a research associate pursuing a joint doctorate (cotutelle) at the Technical University Dresden and the University of Warwick. My research focuses on global health, injustice/inequality, international organisations, and the global South. Over the past five years I have worked on various national and international projects on decolonial and humanitarian health and given lectures to undergraduate and graduates students.

Megan Whitehouse (she/her) – University of Birmingham (Education)

Megan Whitehouse (she/her) is a second-year, ESRC-funded PhD student at the University of Birmingham. Her qualitative research concerns primary school exclusion in the West Midlands.

Jack Wilson (he/him) – University of Warwick (Conspiracy theories, epistemology, digital culture and society)

Jack Wilson is a cultural theorist and PhD researcher at the University of Warwick's Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies. He is interested in the variegated articulations of far right and conspiracy theorist extremism, as well as questions of memory, temporality, and technological form.

Zening Yang (she/her) – University of Warwick (Applied Linguistics)

Zening Yang is a doctoral candidate in the department of Applied Linguistics, University of Warwick, UK. Her research interests include language teacher psychology, critical applied linguistics, and language teacher development. Her current project explores English teachers' espoused and enacted purposes of English teaching in rural China.

Jiaxin Zhang – Loughborough University (Chinese History)

Jiaxin Zhang is a Loughborough University doctoral college student Institute of political, historical and international relations

Kaixi Zhao – Loughborough University (Sports Sociology)

Kaixi is a current R3 PhD student doing research on identities of women athletes with impairments.

Shuling Zhao (she/her) – Aston University (Politics)

Shuling Zhao is currently a second-year Ph.D. student in Politics and International Relations at Aston University, UK. I hold a Master's degree in Education from the University of Sheffield and a Bachelor's degree in English Education from Sichuan Normal University, China. Shuling Zhao worked as a middle school English teacher for one year after completing her undergraduate degree for having a better understanding of what she has learned theoretically. Prior to pursuing her interest further after master study, she went on her research interest in Chinese political participation in the UK. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, hiking, and reading about current affairs.

How to find us

Details on travelling to the Aston Conference Centre can be found [here](#). Please find a summary below.

Travelling by Car + Parking

The Conference Aston Hotel is located on the Aston University Campus in Birmingham city centre at the address below:

Conference Aston – Conference Centre & Hotel
Aston Street
Aston University Campus
Birmingham
B4 7ET

Please use Car Park 5, which is accessed from Holt Street **using the postcode B7 4BH**. Instructions for how to pay are available within the car park. Only cashless payments are accepted. If this car park is full then please use the pay and display car park at the [Millennium Point Pay and Display](#), Curzon Street B4 7AP. There is more information available on the Aston University website [here](#).

Accessible parking is subject to availability and must be booked by emailing the hotel at mdcreception@aston.ac.uk. On completion of your online booking, you should receive a confirmation email with a map and access instructions. Please be aware of that Birmingham Clean Air Zone is now live; you can check [here](#) to see if charges apply to your vehicles.

Travelling by bus

A number of bus services operate to the University campus throughout the day. For further information, please visit the [National Express website](#) where a route planner to the Aston University campus is available.

Travelling by rail

New Street, Snow Hill and Moor Street train stations are all within a 10-15 minute walk from the venue or a 5-minute taxi journey. You can book your tickets via [Trainline](#) or the [National Rail website](#).

On foot from the stations: The conference venue has developed an interactive Google walking map from New Street and Snow Hill train stations, available for download from www.conferenceaston.co.uk/WalkWithGoogle.

Map of Aston University Campus

Location: Conference Aston Centre

