

Creative Methods Art/Practice-Based Research Seminar Series

This seminar series aims at establishing a dynamic hub, where inspiring discussions, reading groups and presentations concerned with art/practice-based research based in creative methods could flourish.

Please email Agata.Lulkowska@staffs.ac.uk to book your place.



Session 1: What is practice-based research?

27th October | 15:30-17:00

This session will introduce the series, the formula, guests and topics. It also initiates the discussion on the practicalities and nature of practice-based research. The session will attempt to answer the question of the scopes for practice-based research, what makes it different from regular research and purely creative practice. It will look at definitions, exception, expectations and variety of potential outputs.

Speaker: Dr Agata Lulkowska

Core reading: Linda Candy, Practice-Based Research: A Guide, 2006, Creativity & Cognition Studios, University of Sydney.

Case study: The act of killing (+ REF case study)

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Click here to join the meeting via [MS Teams](#).

Session 2: Creative Process meets academic rigour

24th November | 15:30- 17:00

This session will explore the questions of the process – how do you approach creative methods in art/practice-based research? What are the priorities and how to maintain the right balance between creative freedom and academic rigour.

Guest speaker: Assoc. Prof Michael Branthwaite
Core reading: (only sent to confirmed participants)

Click here to join the meeting via [MS Teams](#).

Session 3: Creative methods

15th December | 15:30-17:00

This session explores the wide range of creative methods which could be applied to practice-based research. It reflects on the processes to choose the most relevant methodology, practical application of some, processes, and the implications.

Guest speaker: Nicole Brown, UCL

Nicole Brown (2019): Identity boxes: using materials and metaphors to elicit experiences, *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*, DOI: 10.1080/13645579.2019.1590894

Abhigyan Singh (2011) Visual artefacts as boundary objects in participatory research paradigm, *Journal of Visual Art Practice*, 10:1, 35-50, DOI: 10.1386/jvap.10.1.35_1

Drawing on her understanding of and experience with Practice As Research as doing-thinking-being, Dr Nicole Brown presents on using objects and artefacts as creative methods for data collection and analysis. The presentation begins with an outline of methodological, practical and ethical reasons for the employment of object work and metaphorical representations before considering the research questions and foci best suited for these approaches. Nicole concludes with a consideration of the researcher's role and responsibilities when engaging with participants, stakeholders and the wider scholarly community in Practice As Research.

Core reading: <https://www.methodspace.com/blog/choosing-creative-methods-conversation-with-nicole-brown>

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Session 4: Transdisciplinary/post disciplinary

19th January | 15:30-17:00

Methodological quagmires in the post-disciplinary era.

Guest speaker: Prof. Carola Boehm

Core reading: TBC

Click here to join the meeting via [MS Teams](#).

Session 5: Who is it for and how can we communicate it?

23rd February | 15:30-17:00

With the traditional publications still defining many academic careers, it becomes a challenging task for researchers working with practice-based methods. Luckily, the emergence of alternative platforms for dissemination makes this task more attainable and relevant to various non-conventional outputs. This session explores the possibilities and challenges of practice-based focused online journals and other platforms focusing on alternative forms of research based in creative methods.

Guest Speaker: Dr Charlie Tweed

Core reading: TBC

Click here to join the meeting via [MS Teams](#).

Session 6: Research Impact: Making a Difference through Practice-Based Research

30th March | 15:30-17:00

This session focuses on research that leads to benefits beyond academia. It examines the challenges and opportunities for developing impact case studies based on practice-based research for the REF (Research Excellence Framework). Colette Dobson will discuss the impact of her collaborative research that addressed a need for better communication between patients and health care professionals about the sexual consequences of treatments for cancer. She will share her insights gained from the process of collecting impact evidence and developing a REF2021 impact case study.

Guest speakers: Colette Dobson, Visiting Research Fellow, Staffordshire University
Dr Jackie Reynolds, Research Impact Manager, Staffordshire University

Click here to join the meeting via [MS Teams](#).

Session 7: Moving image as research practice

27th April | 15:30-17:00 pm

This session looks into more details on film as a method for practice-based research.

Guest speakers: Paul Ottey and Assoc. Prof. Fiona Graham

Click here to join the meeting via [MS Teams](#).

Session 8: Reflective Practice

25th May | 15:30-17:00

Guest Speaker: Robert Marsden

Click here to join the meeting via [MS Teams](#).

Session 9: How do you prepare future practice-based researchers?

15th June | 15:30-17:00 pm

This session summarises all the series up to date, and reflects on the best way to train future practice-based researchers. It reflects on the qualities and skills needed for a successful researcher working with practical, creative methods and it hints at the possibility to develop a toolkit.

Speaker: Dr Agata Lulkowska

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