

Are you doing participatory research or planning to do so?

Interested in learning about innovative ideas for participatory research from different disciplines?

Take part in a free ‘Participatory Research Innovation and Learning Lab’

Participatory Research Approaches

The aim of Participatory Research is to maximize the participation of those whose life or work is the subject of the research. In PR people with experience of the focus of the research influence decision making and shape that research. This differentiates it from other forms of research where people are invited to take part in research that has already been shaped without their involvement. (<http://ukprn.weebly.com>)

This approach can be used to investigate a wide range of topics and issues, for example, pollution, organic growing, domestic violence, migration, community history, sport, religion or entrepreneurship.

To explore and develop participatory research approaches further, the Centre for Social Justice and Community Action at Durham University is running a Participatory Research Innovation and Learning Lab (PRILL) series of events between March and July 2022.

These events are for:

- ❖ Durham University researchers (staff and postgraduate students) wanting to carry out/interested in/actually doing participatory research.
- ❖ Members of community and voluntary sector groups, other organisations and individual citizens with experience of, or interest in, participatory research.

These events are funded by UKRI Research England, which is driving the research impact agenda by investing in and exploring research approaches that can create and accelerate positive change in our society.

The events aim to:

- Develop understanding of the range of participatory approaches to research across all the Faculties at Durham University.
- Find out more about participatory research needs and opportunities across different disciplines, and develop critical and generative questions about participatory research that will feed directly into development of a University strategy for this approach.
- Build greater capacity for Durham University staff and students, members of community and voluntary organisations, citizens and other interested stakeholders to carry out high quality participatory research.

About us:

- The **Centre for Social Justice and Community Action (CSJCA)** has over 12 years of experience working with community researchers, practitioners, policy makers and academics from different disciplines to produce knowledge, toolkits and guidance for undertaking participatory research.
- **Facilitators** at each workshop will comprise a small team from the Centre, including Durham researchers Sarah Banks, Sui Ting Kong, Andrew Orton and Andrew Russell, and community facilitators Yvonne Hall, Gaynor Trueman and Sue Shaw, alongside postgraduate researchers.

Programme:

Making Research More Participatory: Opportunities, Challenges and Limitations

17th March 2022, 9.30-11.30am, register at: [Making Research More Participatory: Opportunities and Challenges Tickets](#)

This free online event will provide opportunities to share perspectives, experiences and examples of how research across diverse topics might be made more participatory. The event will also provide opportunities to discuss barriers, challenges and limitations associated with making research more participatory. If you are wondering whether a topic of interest to you could be researched in a more participatory way, and/or have experiences of participatory research to share, join this event to meet others with similar interests, share perspectives, and inform future learning events in the series.

Participatory Research Innovation and Learning Lab

Multiple dates, register at: [Participatory Research Innovation and Learning Lab Tickets](#)

The Participatory Research Innovation and Learning Lab (PRILL) is a series of workshops for Durham University researchers (including doctoral students) and members of community, voluntary and other organisations. Here we will learn from and inspire each other, and work together on innovative ideas to tackle ethical, practical and methodological challenges arising from doing participatory research in all disciplines.

In PRILL, you can



Learn and inspire: combine introductory level support and guidance with opportunities for advanced level experiential learning about participatory research



Connect: bring together participatory researchers from different disciplines to identify common challenges and problem solving



Innovate: exchange and experiment with innovative ideas with other participatory researchers in an encouraging and supportive space

Learning Labs are experiential workshops designed to enable people who are new to participatory research to learn more about approaches, methods, ethics and impact in this type of research. Participants will be able to discuss their challenges and learning needs as well as test out their project ideas with peers in the Learning Lab. A mixture of 'tutor' input, small group work and case studies of real life research, coordinated by Sarah Banks and colleagues.

Learning Lab I : What is participatory research, why do it, approaches, methods & ethical challenges.

Mon 28 March 2022, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm, Online, on Zoom.

Learning Lab II : Co-designing research, generating and analysing data together, co-creating impact & organizing for change

Tues 26 April 2022, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm, Teaching Learning Centre 113, South Road, Durham University.

Innovation Labs are workshops designed to engage with people with experience of participatory research, from both Durham University and partner organisations, to explore ethical, methodological and practical challenges and innovative ideas from existing/developing participatory research projects and experiment with new ideas within the Lab. Toolkits mapped on the challenges identified will be co-produced in the labs, coordinated by Sui Ting Kong and colleagues.

Innovation Lab I : Exploring innovative ideas for solving ethical, practical and methodological challenges arising from doing participatory research.

Tues 17 May 2022, 9.30 am — 12.30 pm, Online, on Zoom

Innovation Lab II : Consolidating innovative ideas and co-producing toolkits for participatory researchers.

Wed 8 June 2022, 1pm — 4pm, Teaching Learning Centre 113, South Road, Durham University.

Postgraduate Researchers' Forum on Participatory Research Methods

Meets each term, with the next meeting on: Thursday 3rd March 2022, 1pm-4pm.

Durham University postgraduate students can register for this next meeting via this [booking link](#).

This forum is intended specifically for postgraduate and early career researchers interested in, planning or undertaking research in community-based collaborative research settings. It enables them to meet one another and discuss plans and experiences in a cross-disciplinary, supportive environment. If you are a postgraduate researcher in a research partnership that actively involves a community group, voluntary organisation, a public body or business, then this is the forum for you! We very much encourage researchers from any part of the University who are thinking about, planning or actually doing participatory research. The next meeting will specifically discuss how participatory one's research can be, the relationship between participatory research and Participatory Action Research, and participatory approaches in online research.

For any queries about any of the above events, please contact socialjustice@durham.ac.uk