

# methods@manchester

Your summary of methods news

September 2025

Welcome to the first Methods News of the new academic year.

Methods News is the regular newsletter from methods@manchester and provides a summary of our events and activities.

For those of you who are receiving Methods News for the first time, methods@manchester is a flagship initiative in the Faculty of Humanities, which highlights the University of Manchester's strength in research methods and approaches in the humanities and social sciences. Methods@manchester aims to encourage and support interdisciplinary and innovative methodological developments.

In this edition we introduce our new administrator, promote the latest episode of our podcast, announce some activities taking place in 2025/6, and reflect on our activities and events from the past year in our Annual Report.

*Emma and Jordan*

Prof. Emma Banister (Director of methods@manchester)

Jordan Chaplin (Administrator for methods@manchester)

Connect With Us

## Introducing our new administrator

Last semester, methods@manchester said goodbye to Daniel who is pursuing a new career opportunity. We wish them well in their new role.

At the end of July we welcomed Jordan Chaplin to the University of Manchester and methods@manchester, as our new administrator. Jordan joins us from Durham University, where she covered a range of department and research institute administration.

Jordan will be your main point of contact for methods@manchester. She is based in the Humanities Doctoral Academy, so you may see her sometimes if you are visiting the Ellen Wilkinson building. You can contact Jordan at [methods@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:methods@manchester.ac.uk).

## 2024-5 methods@manchester year

We have recently released our [Annual Report](#). This report provides an overview of the past year including the methods@manchester Summer School which you can read more about via the link below.

We'd love to hear what you think, perhaps you'd be interested in contributing to our programme or have an idea for a session that you think will benefit the methods@manchester community?

Let us know by emailing [methods@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:methods@manchester.ac.uk)

[Summer School Article](#)

## Events and Activities

### Coming Soon:

Dates for the below activities are TBC, but will be announced on our socials and in our newsletter.

### Qualitatively Eliciting the Voices of Non-Speaking Neurodiverse Young People

This Methods NW Methods Lab event will be hosted by University of Manchester PGR Freddie Jones

### 'Lost and Found in Translation' Series

Led by Dr Ruth Abou Rached, this series of collaborative workshops will feature PGR speakers from across the Methods NW partnership.

## Methods Fair 2026

This year's Methods Fair will take place on Wednesday 27 May. Not sure what the Methods Fair is? [Read about last year's Fair here.](#)

## artsmethods@manchester

Are you a University of Manchester PGR with an interest in arts and humanities? artsmethods@manchester is an academic programme of talks, workshops, training and events which explore approaches to arts research methods and their dissemination.

In semester 1, they will be running a programme on Core Methodology and Core Theory. All workshops can be booked via the Training Calendar. Upcoming events include:

### Theoretical Frameworks

Monday, 6 October - Ellen Wilkinson Building

## Textual Analysis

Monday, 13 October - Ellen Wilkinson Building

[artsmethods Events](#)

## Methods Talk

### Our latest podcast episode has just dropped!

In the sixth episode of Methods Talk, we speak with Dr Amir Raki, Dr Ilma Nur Chowdhury and Prof. Judy Zolkiewski about their work designing research using a strength-based approach.

Amir (University of Liverpool), Ilma (University of Manchester) and Judy (University of Manchester) collaborate on a project focused on the charity sector. A key methodological concern of their work is to adopt an approach where the organisations they work with feel involved throughout the research design process. In this episode they reflect on elements of co-production and their previous methods@manchester workshop for voluntary and community sector workers.

You can find the episodes on [Spotify](#) and other podcast providers, as well as the [podcast videos on our website](#). You can also [watch the videos on our YouTube](#).

[Find us on Spotify](#)

## Methods North West

Methods North West brings together the collective strength, depth, and breadth of methodological expertise across the North West Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership (NWSSDTP) consisting of the Universities of Manchester, Liverpool, Lancaster, Keele, and Central Lancashire.

[Methods North West website](#)

## Lunchtime Sessions

The Methods North West online lunchtime seminar series runs on Thursdays 12pm - 1pm, and features methods-related work and discussion across, and beyond, the partnership.

[Visualising Multivariate Data with Topological Data Analysis Ball Mapper](#) with Dr Simon Rudkin

**Thursday, 9 October**

Visualise data without losing multi-dimensional information. This seminar will explore the method, algorithm, and why you need to consider data visualisation.

## Contribute to the seminar programme

If you are a researcher (including experienced PGRs) who would like to contribute to the lunchtime seminar series, please see our [Call for Contributions](#).

[Methods NW Lunchtime Sessions](#)

## More Events at Manchester

### From Entities to Edges: A Practical Introduction to Knowledge Graphs

Friday, 17 October, 9:30-1:00pm

Drowning in CSVs and tangled datasets? This workshop shows you how to tidy up, connect, and query your data with knowledge graphs. Learn how to organize complex information more effectively and build efficient, research-ready data structures for social science.

This workshop is organised by the Cathie Marsh Institute for Social Research and Mitchell Centre for Social Network Analysis.

[Book a place now](#)

## National Centre for Research Methods

The National Centre for Research Methods delivers training and resources at core and advanced levels, covering quantitative, qualitative, digital, creative, visual, mixed and multimodal methods.

### Upcoming Events include:

[Mediation and Moderation Analysis Using R](#)

Friday, 3 October

Dr Alexandru Cernat, University of Manchester

[Digital life, tech change and attitudes to AI](#)

Wednesday, 19 November

Athina Vlachantoni, University of Southampton, Roshni Modhvadia, Ada Lovelace Institute, Mark Elliot, University of Manchester

[Upcoming NCRM Events](#)

## PGR Community Space



## **New Blog: Stitching at the End of the World: Rethinking Privacy Through Textile Practice at Manchester Museum**

PGR student Lydia Donohue (Social Anthropology) reflects on the workshop she recent ran, “Stitching at the End of the World”. This workshop paired hands-on textile making with discussion of privacy, surveillance, and autonomy in the digital era. Participants created phone pouches from Electromagnetic Shielding fabric, blocking devices from the mobile network.

This event was funded by a Methods North West Methods Labs grant.

[Read the full blog](#), written by Lydia Donohue

### **Are you ready to share your innovative work?**

Methods News would love to draw attention to the innovative work that is taking place within our PGR community; providing a regular flexible space for methods-related pieces or profiles. Fill in the form below and we can support you with this.

[PGR Community Submission Form](#)

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