

# MSc RM: Programme Meeting

## Meeting Details

Time: Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr, 1:00 – 2:00.

Location: Online (Teams) – link circulated with calendar invite.

Invited:

- Amy Barron (Pathway Lead: Human Geography)
- Haleema Sadia (NVivo)
- Martyn Edwards (Quant)
- Nahielly Palacios Gonzalez (Reflexivity)
- Negar Monazam Tabrizi (outgoing Pathway Lead: International Development)
- Pauline Prett (Qual)
- Tom Fryer (Programme Director)
- Vaidehi Tandel (Pathway Lead: PPEM)
- Yaxin Hu (Student Representative)

## Agenda

Introductions

1. Actions from last meeting; update on Semester 1 (Tom)
2. Updates from Semester 2 CUDs (Pauline, Haleema, Tom)
3. Pathway Lead updates (Pathway Leads)
4. Dissertations (Tom & Pathway Leads)
5. Student Representative report (Yaxin)
6. Recruitment for 2026/27 (Tom).
7. Any other business

# Minutes

## Attendees:

- Haleema Sadia
- Martyn Edwards
- Nahielly Palacios Gonzalez
- Pauline Prevett
- Tom Fryer
- Vaidehi Tandel
- Yaxin Hu

Apologies: Amy Barron, Negar Tabrizi

## Actions from last meeting and update

### Completed Actions:

- TF, PP, NPG met to discuss linking PGR and MSc RM
- Support with marketing the MSc. TF, AB.
- Update Handbook for Development Fieldwork. TF
- Email Jonny to set up canvas page. TF
- Ad hoc events to continue to be circulated by email. All.
- Email to be sent to SEED PGRs in January about auditing Semester 2 courses (Qual; Quant; NVivo). TF.

### Outstanding/Continuing Actions:

- Ensure RLD and RR don't clash with SEED PGR training. TF
- Add information about International Society to WW. TF
- Pathway Leads to send TF key seminar series or events in department. AB; VT; NMT

### Updates:

- Course moderation and marking was successfully completed from Semester 1. Grades fell outside standard expectations – this was justified at the Exam Board.
- Held a dinner at the end of Semester 1.
- Semester 2 event – students, staff and alumni lunch on 27 May. Currently 15 sign-ups.

## Update from Semester 2 CUDs

### Qual:

- 8 PGT students, 6 auditors.

### NVivo:

- 5 PGT students, 16 auditors.

### Quant:

- 7 PGT students, 5 auditors.

IRM:

- 3 students

## Pathway Lead Updates

VT shared that new to the role, learning more about the Programme. All progressed on dissertations.

TF shared that all has progressed on dissertations.

## Dissertations

Timeline:

- Students submitted a dissertation proposal by the start of Semester 2.
- Students were then allocated supervisors in early Semester 2.
- Ethics application deadline for the course has been set at 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026.
- Deadline for submissions: 28<sup>th</sup> August 2026

Expectations:

- Students are entitled to five supervisions, before end of July. Where departments have different expectations (GDI has 4), TF will offer additional supervisions.
- Students are entitled to have feedback on three chapters. Where departments have different expectations (HG has 1), TF will feedback on additional chapters.
- Supervisors act as primary marker; TF acts as secondary marker. Marked according to rubric.

## Student Representative Report

General feedback:

- Noticed some positive changes – e.g. more seminars and talks have been invited.
- Appreciate the opportunity to connect with alumni at the event.
- Overall, semester 2 feels more linked to research methods – this has been positive. The semester seems more applied, i.e. more about how methods link to the research problems that people are interested in.

Areas for development:

- More concrete examples of dissertations.
- More support on mixed methods.
- Deadlines are too tight – and the workload is high.
- Dissertation: practical advice on how to narrow down research questions, and examples from previous examples.

Responses and actions:

- All thanks YH for work as Student Rep – really valuable to see this feedback.
- Add content to Dissertation Canvas on forming research questions. TF
  - HS to send TF PowerPoint on research questions.
  - PP to send TF resources linking RQs and analysis in qualitative work, and a paper on research questions.
- TF to circulate email to share that dissertation examples are on Canvas.
- All teaching staff to reflect on date of formative assessments – do these balance: 1) being far enough into course to enable a proposal for the summative assessment, but 2) early enough that students get feedback as early as possible.

## Recruitment

Verbal update.

Shared process of engagement with offer holders, adapted from best practice in MA TESOL. Involves reaching out to offer holders to initiate a conversation, and offer congratulations on their offer. Hope that this builds authentic relationships and also translates to greater rates of registration.

## Any other business

Conversation about medium-term plans for EVDV70011.

PP shared PGR training will be 3-weeks in S1, then 1-week in S2.