2 – 6 July 2018

A popular one-week programme offered by the Human Rights Centre at the University of Essex covering a range of qualitative and quantitative methods in human rights research.

The Essex Human Rights Summer School is an essential course for human rights professionals, researchers and postgraduate students. Now in its fifth consecutive year, the programme will run from 2 - 6 July 2018 at the Colchester campus.
Overview

The Human Rights Centre is delighted to announce the 2018 programme of its pioneering summer school on Human Rights Research Methods.

Methodological rigor is vital in making robust assertions about human rights. Now in its fifth year, our popular one-week programme on Human Rights Research Methods caters to this growing demand for greater attention to methodology in human rights research.

Taught by an international faculty of leading academics and practitioners, this year’s Summer School will be held from 2-6 July 2018 at University of Essex’s Colchester campus. It will cover a range of qualitative and quantitative methods in human rights research that are essential for human rights professionals, researchers and postgraduate students.

Learning Outcomes

In taking this course, participants will:

- Acquire a strong understanding of the key methods used in human rights research and the way in which they can be used on their own or in combination (mixed methods);
- Learn to design research projects with a strong methodology, including for grant applications and to have optimal impact on policy and practice;
- Attain a strong understanding of how to ensure that the research meets ethical standards including in NGOs without ethics committees;
- Gain a strong appreciation of qualitative interviewing techniques including issues involved with interviewing victims and affected communities and carrying out research on sensitive human rights topics;
- Learn how to interpret data gained through interviews;
- Become ‘literate’ in carrying out quantitative research and collecting, processing and using data;
- Understand how to do research in different countries and researching in closed and challenging societies;
- Learn how to design and carry out comparative country research;
- Learn about emerging methods such as experiments and the use of social media; and
- Understand how to measure the impact of policies and practices based on human rights.

“Human Rights methodology is something that’s been very much unattended to...this summer school really closes a gap”

Professor Margaret Satterthwaite, Professor of Clinical Law, New York University
The following topics will be covered:

- Qualitative Data Analysis
- Interviewing Survivors of Human Rights Violations
- Single and Comparative Case Studies
- The Use of Focus Groups
- Conducting In-Country Research
- Human Rights Indicators
- The Role of Databases
- Socio-Economic and Administrative Statistics
- Surveys
- Counting Rights Violations
- Experiments
- Measuring the Impact of the Right to Health
- Documenting Harm and Claiming Reparations
- Choosing between Quantitative and Qualitative Methods
- One-on-One Clinics

Teaching Faculty

The summer school will be taught by a combination of Essex and external human rights academics and practitioners. The team includes:

- Judith Bueno de Mesquita, School of Law and Deputy Director, Human Rights Centre Clinic;
- Dr Richard Carver, Senior Lecturer in Human Rights and Governance, CENDEP, Oxford Brookes University (tbc);
- Barbora Cernusakova, Researcher at Amnesty International and University of Manchester;
- Dr Cosette Creamer, Benjamin E. Lippincott Chair in Political Economy and Assistant Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science and School of Law, University of Minnesota;
- Sam Dubberly, Human Rights, Big Data and Technology Project, University of Essex (tbc)
- Dr Carla Ferstman, Senior Lecturer, School of Law, University of Essex;
- Dr Lisa Handley, Visiting Research Academic, CENDEP, Oxford Brookes University
- Professor Paul Hunt, Human Rights Centre and School of Law, University of Essex and former Senior Human Rights Advisor to the World Health Organisation Assistant Director-General; UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health and Rapporteur of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
- Dr Patrick Lown, EssexLab, Department of Government, University of Essex;
- Esther Major, Amnesty International and former Consultant for WHO;
- Professor Lorna McGregor, School of Law, Director Human Rights Centre and Co-Director, Human Rights, Big Data and Technology Project. Member, Equality and Human Rights Commission;
- Dr Róisín Ryan-Flood, Department of Sociology, University of Essex;
- Professor Clara Sandoval, Human Rights Centre, Director, Essex Transitional Justice Network, and Senior Lecturer, School of Law, University of Essex;
- Dr Ahmed Shaheed, Human Rights Centre and School of Law, University of Essex. UN Special Rapporteur on the Freedom of Religion or Belief (2016-19); and
- Dr Gary Williams, Research Development Manager, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Essex.
Fees

Course fees for the Essex Human Rights Summer School are as follows:

- External participants – £950 (£855 with early bird discount)
- University of Essex postgraduate students, staff and alumni - £820 (£738 with early bird discount)

Bookings made before or on Sunday 20 May 2018 will be eligible for a 10% early bird discount. (Please note that accommodation is not included in this fee)

Accommodation

Accommodation is available at our Colchester campus in en-suite single student bedrooms with shared kitchen facilities at £55 per night on a bed and breakfast basis. Accommodation is available for the duration of the summer school only.

To book accommodation, please go to https://kx.essex.ac.uk/BnB/ and type in the promotional code HRC2018 to ensure you receive the discounted rate applicable to Human Rights Summer School participants.

Further information

For further information on the Essex Human Rights Summer School, including details of how to book a place and terms and conditions, please visit www.essex.ac.uk/hrc/summerschool or email hrcsummerschool@essex.ac.uk