

# Next Generation: **Social Sciences**

Free online talks by **Social Sciences** and **Psychology**  
PhD Students at The Open University

**14 – 21 June 2023**



# Welcome



I'm delighted to invite you to a season of free online talks, *Next Generation: **Social Sciences***, as part of a summer-long series showcasing research from across the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at The Open University.

These talks will make the ground-breaking research being carried out by PhD students open to everyone, in line with our core values of inclusivity, and lifelong learning for all.

This programme of talks offers a wealth of fascinating insight from up-and-coming researchers in the Schools of Psychology and Counselling, and Social Sciences and Global Studies – as the series name promises, they are our next generation.

Please join us for this exciting series, and meet the new faces in The OU's rich research community.



# About the series



## Next Generation: **Social Sciences**

Between 14 – 21 June 2023, join us for a series of free talks by PhD students in Psychology and Social Sciences about their current research.

The 30-minute talks are open to everyone and will include a short Q&A at the end.

All speakers have recently undertaken training in writing and delivering a lecture, as part of their postgraduate study and experience here at The OU.

The talks will also be recorded and made available later on the [FASS website](#), and [YouTube channel](#).

Sign up for talks through the links provided throughout the programme.

We look forward to seeing you there.



**Dr Luc-André Brunet**

Programme Organiser and  
Postgraduate Convenor, History

# Line-up

Weds 14 June - 7pm

*Prototypes and Stereotypes -  
Understanding how police culture is  
gendered*

**Ashleigh Bennett, Psychology**

Weds 21 June - 2pm

*The Datafication of the Citizen -  
Constructions of privacy in everyday talk*

**Emma Brice, Psychology**

Weds 21 June - 7pm

*What Do COVID-19 Responses tell us  
about the shadow price of liberty?*

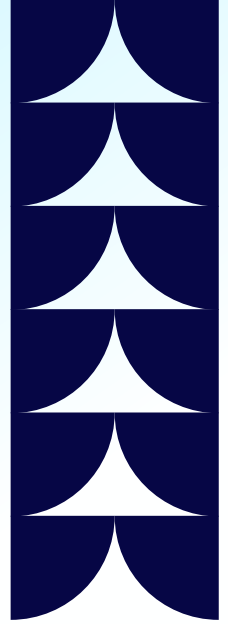
**Ben Watkins, Philosophy & Economics**



FASS PhD students do lots of really interesting research, ranging from Philosophy to Psychology, with real societal impact, and we want to acknowledge the great work that they do.

Kevin Shakesheff

Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation at The Open University



# Ashleigh Bennett

## Prototypes and Stereotypes – Understanding how police culture is gendered

Weds 14 June 7–8pm

[Sign up](#)



### About Ashleigh

Ashleigh Bennett is a Chartered Occupational Psychologist working in Government. She is interested in how organisations can become systemically inclusive.

She started her PhD part-time with The Open University, and the Centre for Policing Research and Learning, in October 2018.

### Supervisors:

Dr Lara Frumkin  
Prof. Rose Capdevila  
Dr Volker Patent

What makes an effective firearms and tactical officer? This talk will outline current research into the shared values, and underlying assumptions, about the 'ideal' worker.

Ashleigh will examine the prototypes and stereotypes at play and discuss how the current policing culture is framed by gender, as well as the impact on inclusion.

# Emma Brice

## The datafication of the citizen: Constructions of privacy in everyday talk

Weds 21 June 2-3pm

[Sign up](#)

Are we regarded as the sum of our data? And what repercussions does this have for privacy and citizenship?

This talk will examine how data privacy is constructed, and how this may impact our current cultural valuation of privacy, and our conduct as individual citizens.

Emma's research into data collection and surveillance has included focus groups and interviews with both laypeople and specialists in the fields of privacy and technology.



### About Emma

Emma Brice is a part-time PhD student in Social Psychology at The Open University. She chose the OU for the flexibility to study part-time, and from home, meaning she has been able to continue running her business.

Emma's research focus comes from a lifelong fascination with privacy. Growing up her favourite books were *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley, and *1984* by George Orwell – the questions raised around privacy by those books are more pertinent than ever.

### Supervisors:

Dr Eleni Andreouli  
Prof. Paul Stenner

# Ben Watkins

## What Do COVID-19 responses tell us about the shadow price of liberty?

Weds 21 June 7-8pm

[Sign up](#)

When can a technocrat or AI determine what's best for society? Proponents of Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA), the predominant tool for evaluating large-scale public investment decisions, think almost any social good or evil can be priced and compared – except for civil liberties.

This talk will discuss how even civil liberties can be priced, but the comparability premise of BCA is flawed, and Ben will make a case for clipping technocratic wings.



## About Ben

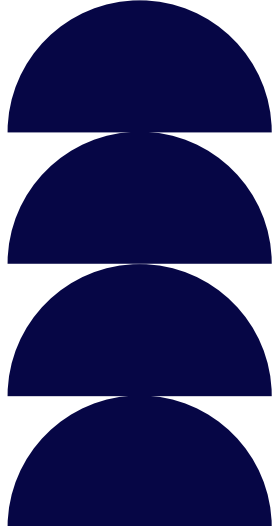
Ben Watkins is working on a PhD in Philosophy and Economics with The Open University. He is researching how AI and algorithmic decision support tools can help – or hinder – public choice.

After undergraduate and MSc studies at Oxford University, Ben worked on food security, nutrition, and disaster risk management, mainly in Africa. He chose the OU for the opportunity to teach students from diverse backgrounds, and for his supervisors.

He teaches at Tulane University, Louisiana, and has just co-founded his second technology start-up.

## Supervisors:

Prof. Paul Anand  
Prof. Derek Matravers



# PhD Study with FASS

We hope you will enjoy these lectures, and the window into our vibrant research culture in FASS that they provide.

From Art History to Psychology, our PhD students work closely with their supervision teams to produce a range of innovative and pioneering research, from novels to new data sets, from archival studies to fieldwork.

In the latest national Postgraduate Researcher Experience Survey, FASS achieved an overall satisfaction rate of 92% with particularly positive feedback for the support offered by the Faculty's supervisors.

If you're inspired to learn more about PhD study in FASS, use the links below or do write to me directly at [sara.haslam@open.ac.uk](mailto:sara.haslam@open.ac.uk).

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our speakers, and everyone supporting their excellent work.

[PhD Study](#)

[Contact us](#)

**Prof. Sara Haslam**

Director of Research Degrees,  
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences



# Next Generation: Social Sciences

## Project Team:

**Dr Luc-André Brunet**

Programme Organiser and  
Postgraduate Convenor, History,

**Prof. Sara Haslam**

Director of Research Degrees,

**Dr. Ursula Rothe**

Deputy Director of Research Degrees,

**Beth Hawking**

Communications Manager

## With special thanks to:

**Dr Vincent Trott (History) and Dr Simon Clarke (Psychology & Counselling)**

For providing training on writing and delivering a lecture, to our PhD speakers

**The FASS Comms Team**

For support in delivering this event

**Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation): Kevin Shakesheff**

For his support

**Prof Rose Capdevila, Associate Dean for Research, FASS**

For her support

