

Postgraduate Social Research Programs

Dr Chao-Yo Cheng

Plan for today

- ▶ Program structure and requirements
- ▶ Learning resources and training opportunities outside BBK
- ▶ Academic life at postgraduate level
- ▶ Q&A

Program structure and requirements

- ▶ Four 15-credit **research methods** modules (60 credits in total)
 - Qualitative Social Research Methods and Qualitative Research Design
 - Introduction to Quantitative Social Research, Applied Social Data Analysis in R and Advanced Topics in Quantitative Social Research
 - Experiments in Social Science
- ▶ Two 30-credit **theory/subject** options (60 credits in total)
 - MSc and PG Diploma: Investigating the Social World and Masterclass in Social Research
 - MRes: Options from your subject area
- ▶ **Social Research Dissertation** (60 credits), including four dissertation workshops

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AUTUMN	<u>Introduction to Quantitative Social Research</u> SSPO239H7 <i>Laszlo Horvath</i> 15 credits 6PM - 9PM				<u>Qualitative Social Research Methods</u> SSPO242H7 <i>Laura Richards-Gray</i> 15 credits 6PM - 7:30PM
SPRING	<u>Applied Social Data Analysis in R</u> SSPO240H7 <i>Laszlo Horvath</i> 15 credits 6PM - 7:30PM		<u>Investigating the Social World</u> SSPO263S7 <i>Chao-Yo Cheng+</i> 30 credits 6PM - 9PM		<u>Qualitative Research Design</u> SSPO243H7 <i>Laura Richards-Gray</i> 15 credits 6PM - 7:30PM
SUMMER	<u>Advanced Topics in Quantitative Social Research</u> SSPO241H7 <i>Chao-Yo Cheng</i> 15 credits 6PM - 7:30PM			<u>Masterclass in Social Research</u> SSPO019S7 <i>Chao-Yo Cheng</i> 30 credits 6PM - 9PM	<u>Experiments in Social Science</u> SSPO245H7 <i>Barry Maydom</i> 15 credits 6PM – 7:30PM

Compulsory and Core SR modules, 2024-2025

Program structure and requirements

- ▶ We offer flexibility such that you can
 - Choose to finish your study full-time or part-time
 - Audit modules and/or take modules outside your subject area
 - Progress to MSc/MRes after you finish PG Certificate/Diploma
 - Exit with PG Cert/Diploma if you start with MSc/MRes
- ▶ We will revisit your module choices and/or your plan at/after Birkbeck with the program director in 1:1 progress check meetings

	Methods (60 credits)	Theory/Subject (60 credits)	Dissertation (60 credits)
PG Certificate	V		
PG Diploma	V	V	
MSc and MRes	V	V	V



Studying at Birkbeck

- ▶ Each module has a handbook, with detailed description of contact points, aims and objectives, learning outcomes, syllabus, and assessment requirements
- ▶ Most modules will be taught by pre-recorded lectures combined with in-person seminar or tutorial (for quantitative modules)
- ▶ You will need to finish the readings before you come to in-person sessions and actively engage in class discussions and activities
- ▶ Student will have the chance to provide constructive feedback (course representatives and module evaluation)

Moodle: Birkbeck's Virtual Learning Platform

- ▶ College services and and/or program information, see **Orientation-Surviving and Thriving at Birkbeck**
- ▶ Course materials, including module handbooks, lecture recordings, readings and handouts
- ▶ Dissertation module, where you can find information about Dissertation Guidance and workshop materials

MASTERCLASS IN SOCIAL RESEARCH (2022_23)



Course Settings Participants Grades Reports More ▾

Overall progress % 1 ⚙



Welcome!



Your Studies



Assessment



"Pieces-of-the-Craft" Workshops



Week 1: Doing "Better" Social Research



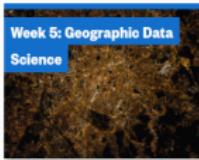
Week 2: Surveys



Week 3: Social Network Analysis



Week 4: Natural Language Processing



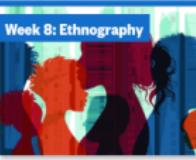
Week 5: Geographic Data Science



Week 6: Reading Week



Week 7: Mix Methods: Merits and Pitfalls



Week 8: Ethnography



Week 9: Discourse Analysis



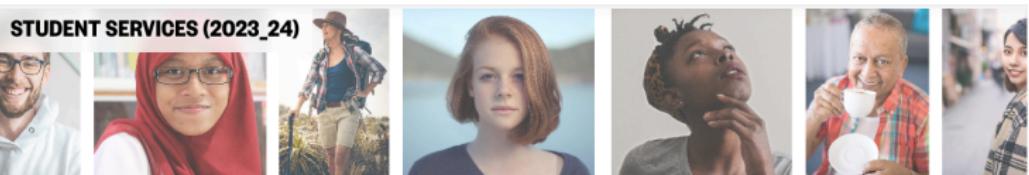
Week 10: History and Archives: Data and Quantification



Week 11: History and Archives: Visual, Material and Environmental



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Start of Term 2023/24 	Welcome 	Wellness Support 	Report, Response, Resources 	Student Advice
Staying Safe 	Study Skills 	Funding and Bursaries 	Careers & Enterprise 	IT Facilities
Library 	International Students 	Student Accommodation 	Feedback 	Contact us

LOGIN TO MY BIRKBECK

Enter your username (or email address) and password to access our online services or sign up to apply for a course, enrol on a short course or engage with Birkbeck.

Username *

Password *

Log in

[Sign up](#)

[New user \(Sign up\)](#)

[Forgotten password](#)

[Set my password](#)

[IT Services](#)

[My Birkbeck for Staff](#)



Birkbeck Courses



Student Services



Study Skills



Birkbeck Library



Moodle



Ask



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Learning outside classrooms

- ▶ Birkbeck's Study Skills workshops
- ▶ Birkbeck's research centres and institutes
- ▶ Birkbeck's career services; opportunities on LinkedIn, jobs.ac.uk, and idealist.org
- ▶ Libraries within and outside Birkbeck, such as the Senate House, SOAS, UCL, and the British Library – check out **SCONUL**
- ▶ Additional events and resources (e.g., UoL colleges, Turing and NCRM) outside Birkbeck

Learning outside classrooms: Study Skills workshops



Birkbeck, University of London > Student services > **Study skills**

SEARCH MENU

STUDY SKILLS

We offer online and face-to-face advice, guidance and support to help all Birkbeck students develop the study skills they need for academic success at university. This includes:

- Study skills resources, including interactive guides, videos and recordings of past workshops in the [Study Skills Moodle module](#).
- Live [study skills workshops](#) which are offered multiple times a week during term time. There are many different topics, they are always free and you can attend as many as you wish.
- Specialist, subject-based help via our [Learning Development Tutors and resources](#).
- Access to personalised writing feedback and online tutoring via Studiosity in [My Birkbeck](#).

CONTACT US

If you would like further information or advice about study skills, please contact the [Student Advice Service](#) or [raise a query on Birkbeck's 'Ask' system](#).

If you would like further information or advice about subject-specific study skills or library services, please [contact our dedicated subject-specific tutors](#).

QUICK LINKS

- [Study skills workshops](#)
- [Birkbeck Study Skills \(Moodle module\)](#)
- [Learning development tutors and resources](#)

<https://www.bbk.ac.uk/student-services/learning-development>

Learning outside classrooms: Research centres and institutes



SEARCH

MENU

RESEARCH CENTRES AND INSTITUTES

Our interdisciplinary centres and institutes encourage collaboration within and across Birkbeck's schools and departments, by bringing together researchers from different subjects and disciplines. They are more formal than our [academic research networks, groups and societies](#), but there are many areas of overlap and collaboration between them.

Our staff regularly feature in the media. [Find out more about their research through our 'Birkbeck in the media' summary page.](#)

QUICK LINKS

- [Schools and departments](#)

RESEARCH INSTITUTES AT BIRKBECK



INSTITUTE FOR CRIME AND JUSTICE POLICY RESEARCH

Our aim is to improve criminal justice policy and to contribute to academic knowledge and public debate about crime and criminal justice.



BIRKBECK GENDER AND SEXUALITY

We provide a forum for innovative interdisciplinary collaboration and exchange in gender and sexuality studies.



INSTITUTE FOR HUMANITIES

We engage with important public issues through debates, lectures, seminars and conferences, to promote interdisciplinary research and collaboration.



INSTITUTE FOR DATA ANALYTICS

BIDA provides the focus and a platform for research that combines data from computing and pervasive technologies, and a wide range of academic disciplines.

<https://www.bbk.ac.uk/research/centres>



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Learning outside classrooms: Careers and enterprise



SEARCH MENU

Birkbeck, University of London > Student services > **Careers and Enterprise**

BIRKBECK CAREERS AND ENTERPRISE

We are your career partner during your time at Birkbeck and beyond. At every stage of your career journey we empower you to take ownership of your future, helping you to make the connection between your experience, education and future ambitions.

CONTACT US

If you want to contact us, you can [ask us a question](#) or [email one of our Careers Advisors](#).

CAREER DEVELOPMENT TOOLS



ACCESS YOUR CAREER PORTALS

Find out more about the online platforms you have access to that will accelerate your career.



YOUR CAREER PROGRAMMES

Find out more about dedicated career programmes that you can join.



DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS

Boost your career while studying and get access to valuable events, workshops and resources.

<https://www.bbk.ac.uk/student-services/careers-and-enterprise>



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Post-pandemic academic life

- ▶ **Active learning:** We embrace *interactive* learning. Come to in-person seminars/tutorials, having Watched the lecture videos and completed the readings or other preparation for the week
- ▶ **Stability with flexibility:** We aim for stability, but acknowledge the need for flexibility
- ▶ **Good communication:** We want to make this *fantastic*: Please be your own best advocate and give us feedback and constructive suggestions!
- ▶ **Safety:** We all want to keep you safe during your year at Birkbeck but need to work collaboratively with you to make that happen!

Key support and contact points

- ▶ Your program director: **Dr Chao-Yo Cheng** (c.cheng@bbk.ac.uk) for academic and research questions; office hours **between 3-5pm on Fridays** via Microsoft Teams (or by appointment)
- ▶ Your program administrator for admin/procedural questions
- ▶ Your **module conveners and/or tutors** (see Moodle pages)
- ▶ Your **dissertation supervisor** (TBD)
- ▶ Birkbeck's **Student Services** for different services provided by the College

ASK US A QUESTION

What is your query about?

- ▶ All student inquiries should first be submitted to the **Ask** system
- ▶ Unless instructed, students are suggested not email individual administrators
- ▶ If unsure or encountering exceptional circumstances, get in touch with the program director for advice



Stay curious, stay active and stay healthy!