**Postgraduate Social Research Programs**

**Birkbeck, University of London**

**Pre-Arrival Readings**

2024-2025

**\*\*\* On Social Science Research \*\*\***

Howard Becker, *Tricks of the Trade* (1998): A great book to show you what good social research looks like

Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein, *They Say I Say* (2021): A great book to show you how to conduct literature review

Matt Grossmann, *How Social Science Got Better* (2021): A great book to think about what social science really does

Thomas Mullaney and Christopher Rea, *Where Research Begins* (2022): A great book to help you think through your dissertation topic

Christopher A. Bail, “Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?” (2024): A great review article to discuss how AI can transform social research

**\*\*\* On Social Research Methods \*\*\***

Charles Wheelan, *Naked Statistics* (2012)

David Spiegelhalter and Anthony Masters, *Covid by Numbers* (2021)

Sally Campbell Galman, *Shane, the Lone Ethnographer* (2018)

Svend Brinkmann, *Qualitative Inquiry in Everyday Life* (2012)