

Michael Bukur

Madrid, ES ✉ michael.bukur@nyu.edu

Education

Loughborough University LOUGHBOROUGH, UK

October 2021 – present

School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences (SSEHS), PhD

University of Westminster LONDON, UK

January 2019 – January 2020

Cultural and Critical Studies, MA; Distinction

New York University NYC, USA

September 2015 – January 2019

Media, Culture, and Communication, BSc; Producing, Minor; Magna Cum Laude

Professional Experience

Universidad Politécnica de Madrid: Visiting Researcher MADRID, ES

October 2023 – present

- Conduct and analyze participant feedback via observations and semi-structured interviews for the running races San Silvestre Vallecana and the Valencia Marathon, understanding the central value proposition and key improvements needed for an enhanced event experience.

Applied Inspiration: Research Assistant REMOTE, UK

February 2023 – present

- Conduct program evaluations through the collection and analysis of customer perspectives via interviews and focus groups, while also leveraging feedback quantitatively through surveys.
- Analyze stakeholder-provided secondary data related to organizational design and structure, internal reporting metrics, and strategic planning to tailor recommendations for enhanced customer success.
- Craft comprehensive research reports to communicate findings and recommendations directly to clients for effective implementation.

Loughborough University: Research Assistant LOUGHBOROUGH, UK

January 2022 – July 2022

- Collaborated with Professor Cristian Vaccari to review literature and compile longitudinal census data from Understanding Society and the British Household Panel Survey.
- Analysed variables via R to explore the links between media, politics, and health and wellbeing to support a future funding application.

Teaching Experience

Freelance: Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL) REMOTE, GLOBAL

October 2021 – present

- Tailored conversational lessons for children, adolescents, and adults, specializing in academic and business English. Expertise in English exam preparation (Cambridge, Duolingo, TOEFL, EOI) alongside general fluency and proficiency enhancement.
- Utilize innovative, culturally sensitive teaching methods that focus on students' experiences and interests. Boost their confidence to effectively use English in a range of personal and professional situations and contexts across the world.

Loughborough University: University Teacher LOUGHBOROUGH, UK

January 2022 – present

- Research Methods: Data Analysis (Spring 2023)
Co-led undergraduate review lab sessions which included using SPSS to facilitate statistical analyses of case studies and key issues in sport, exercise, and health sciences.
- Conceptualising Sport (Spring 2022, Spring 2023)
Co-created and delivered undergraduate seminars and marked essays to support learning related to the integration of core philosophical concepts and theories in sport science.
- Sport & Social Sciences (Spring 2022, Spring 2023)
Co-created and delivered undergraduate seminars and marked essays to support learning related to the application of core concepts and theories in the social sciences to sport.
- Research Skills and Methodologies (Autumn 2022)
Delivered seminars which trained undergrads in core research methods with a particular focus on qualitative and mixed methods including research design and analytical approaches.

Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (AFHEA): AdvanceHE UK

September 2023

- Awarded a national teaching fellowship which recognises effectiveness of practice in teaching and support of learning in British higher education.

Spanish Ministry of Education: Language Assistant MADRID, ES

October 2020 – June 2021

- Implemented immersive language and cultural education sessions with secondary school students at a bilingual public school in the Community of Madrid across the subject areas including Art, Biology, English, Music, Physical Education, Social Studies, and Technology.
- Coordinated debate training sessions to develop critical thinking and reasoning skills.
- Facilitated political and scientific discussions across various contemporary topics such as freedom of speech, the role of monarchy, and the use of gender pronouns.

120 hours TEFL (TESOL) Masterclass – TQUK Endorsed Level 3: One Education UK

April 2020

- Completed a 120hr masterclass which explored concepts in linguistics and pedagogical approaches to language education to become certified to teach English as a foreign language.

Publications & Outputs

Bukur, M and Ashurst, S. (2022). 'Football: For Fairies or Future Heroes?', Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Blog, Loughborough University.

Bukur, M. (2022). "'We love gay': Yassification and Appropriation in Mainstream Culture', LGBT+ Staff Network Blog, Loughborough University.

Bukur, M. (2017). 'Bridging the Gap: Celebrities and Fans', From Plato to Pixels: Honoring the Past. Celebrating the Present. Shaping the Future. Villa Roma Resort & Conference Center, Callicon, 13-15 October, New York State Communication Association.

Bukur, M. (2014). 'Love Letters: Da Region', *HuffPost*, BuzzFeed, Inc.

Administration

Queer East Midlands Film Festival: Director LOUGHBOROUGH, UK

November 2022 – present

- Created and coordinate a grassroots film festival focused on stories of queerness and identity with a particular focus on the U.K. and the East Midlands.
- Received over 1000 submissions in the inaugural year with shorts and features from experienced and novel filmmakers from across the world.

Loughborough Open Research Collective: Executive Committee LOUGHBOROUGH, UK

November 2021 – December 2023

- Networked and led events and training with university stakeholders and leaders in the field of open research to facilitate knowledge sharing and cross-institutional conversations via hybrid events and social media engagement.

Pint of Science: Events Manager LOUGHBOROUGH, UK

December 2022 – September 2023

- Organized a community science event which brought together university academics and experts in conversation with over 100 community members for three days of talks and presentations.

UNESCO Sport, Physical Activity and Education for Development Network LOUGHBOROUGH, UK

December 2022 – September 2023

- Led community workshops and events around mobility infrastructure, multilingual knowledge sharing, sustainability, and LGBT+ sport to advance knowledge, policy, and practice in the sport and physical activity industries.

Loughborough LGBT+ Staff Network: Collaborations Lead LOUGHBOROUGH, UK

August 2022 – September 2023

- Developed strategic collaborations and events with university, industry, and community partners to improve the LGBT+ staff experience.

Awards

STAR Award for Outstanding Contribution (Doctoral Researcher)

July 2023

- Recognized by the Loughborough University School of Sport, Exercise and Health Science for outstanding contributions to the school over the 2022-2023 academic year.

Doctoral Travel and Developmental Bursary

May 2023

- Awarded £1000 in funding for key developmental opportunities which was then used to travel and live in Madrid, Spain for six months to undertake a research stay and a subsequent research project at the Polytechnic University of Madrid to explore the development of popular running races in Spain.

Sport and Exercise Research and Innovation Fund

November 2022

- Received £100 in Amazon vouchers via an internal call at Loughborough University for a participant incentive for completing a questionnaire about physical activity habits for my PhD project.

Doctoral College Kickstarter Travel Fund

June 2022

- Awarded £1000 in funding from the Loughborough University Doctoral College to live in London for a summer to facilitate a more embedded, ethnographic approach to data collection for my PhD project.

Loughborough University PhD Studentship

October 2021

- Awarded a Loughborough University three-year full studentship to undertake research related to how to better engage individuals and groups of lower socio-economic status in health and wellbeing.

Skills

- **Languages:** English (native), Spanish (B2)
- **Programming:** R, HTML (basic)
- **Software:** Google Suite, Microsoft Suite, Notion, NVivo, InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere Pro, Qualtrics, WordPress