



Conducting research
with the Leeds Clinical
Psychology Training
Programme



Going to
cover..



Service evaluation projects
(SEPs)

and

Thesis supervision, including a
new pilot scheme for 2024

Service Evaluation Projects

- **The academic context**
 - A Year 2 research assignment, in which trainees become a 'researcher for hire' to a service and undertake an evaluation of some aspect of service delivery.
- **Purpose, scope and size of the project**
 - SEPs are typically conducted to assess how well a service is functioning and fulfilling its intended purpose and aims. Typical topics explored in SEPs are how accessible a service is, how effective it is and how well it is serving it needs of its users.
 - SEPs conducted by trainees need to be of a sufficient scope and size to ensure it can fulfil the requirements of the trainees' assessment.
 - Size and scope can be judged alongside DClinPsychol tutors; however, typically we're looking for the trainee to conduct some original data collection or if using routinely collected data, the data needs to be of a sufficient size to conduct some meaningful analysis.
- **The timeline**
 - Commissioning opens in August each year, projects advertised to trainees in October, projects typically allocated by November and completed by the following November.



Service Evaluation Projects

- **Good questions to consider when commissioning a SEP**
 - Has the service been in existence long enough for there to be sufficient data available to the trainee?
 - What is the potential pool of participants? Would there be sufficient data if only 40% of the pool participated (based on research conducted on online survey response rates).
 - Are there any known barriers to recruitment?
 - Do I have the support of my organisation (e.g., R&D department)
 - How will the trainee obtain the data?
 - Are there any ethical challenges the trainee needs to consider (e.g., specific needs of the population).
 - If I unexpectedly left the service, could I easily hand the evaluation/trainee liaison over to another member of staff?



Supervision of doctoral theses

- **Two ways to get involved:**
 - Field supervision (next projects start January 2024)
 - Academic supervision via an honorary university contract (pilot scheme from Autumn 2024)



Field supervision of Doctoral thesis

- **The academic context**
 - The trainees' largest research assignment which spans the entire programme. The trainee prepares a 40k thesis detailing the project and undertake an oral examination to defend it in the summer of their final year.
- **Field supervision**
 - Defined as providing specialist input on a thesis project from the 'field' (place of employment). In this role, you are not ultimately responsible for trainees' academic progress, but can inform the projects development using your expertise.
 - The benefit of field supervision to projects can be enormous; but can include improvements to how clinically applicable or informed a project is; how feasible it is; and improve dissemination.
- **Commitment**
 - Can be negotiated according to your availability. Some FS attend every supervision (every 6 weeks) and review written work; however, some fulfil more of a consultancy role.
- **The timeline**
 - Project ideas advertised to trainees in December, projects typically allocated by February and the project is completed 2.5 years later



Field supervision

- **Good questions to consider when considering becoming a DClinPsychol field supervisor**
 - Are there employees* within the University of Leeds (UoL) who share similar topic interests to me? (*not necessarily confined to the DClinPsychol team, although it can be beneficial to look here if this is your first supervisory experience)
 - Do I have any challenges/dilemmas I'm facing in my clinical area that would benefit from a research study? (the scope of the project can be worked up with the trainee and UoL staff member)
 - What sort of time commitment can I offer to the trainee and the wider supervisory team for meetings?
 - Do I want my involvement to be confined to expertise consultancy or would I like to take an active role in the academic tasks (e.g., reviewing ethics applications and thesis drafts)



Academic supervision – Pilot scheme 2024

- Context of increased training places and trainees' hopes for more diversity in research projects/supervision -> desire and need to innovate
- We plan to pilot extending academic supervision outside substantive University employees to a small group of local psychologists in Autumn 2024
- This role would suit anyone who enjoys research, wants to further develop their research skills/supervision and has the flexibility in their work to accommodate the role
- First intake will be **4 local psychologists** who have research interests aligned with members of the core team and express interest in the role
- The local psychologists will be buddied with a member of the core-team and together the dyad will supervise their first 3-year project together, jointly taking responsibility for the trainee's academic progress





The commitment

The commitment	What you'll be offered
<p>Time – 3 year relationship</p> <p>2 x 1 hr every 6 weeks (trainee supervision + buddy meeting)</p> <p>Document review</p> <p>Training</p>	<p>Training package</p> <p>2 x half day University courses</p> <p>Access to regional PQT research training</p> <p>Experiential learning with buddy</p>
<p>Accountable for trainees' progress (shared with buddy)</p>	<p>Honorary university contract (with full library access)</p>

Dclin team research interests



Trauma

Diverse sexualities and
genders

Health Psychology

Therapeutic process

Eating/weight difficulties



Helpful links

Staff list at Division of Psychological and Social Medicine, at UoL (where the DClinPsychol programme is based)

[People | School of Medicine | University of Leeds](#)

If you're interested in being a field supervisor for our incoming cohort, project ideas will be advertised in January 2024, so there is time to approach a staff member and co-develop an idea

Please get in touch with me (R.A.Yeates@leeds.ac.uk) if you'd like to talk about the academic supervision 2024 pilot project