

Research project:
Situated Practice: Co-producing a socially engaged urban pedagogy

Participant Information Sheet

About this study

This study is part of my research on the PgCert Academic Practice in Art, Design and Communication at UAL.

I am conducting an enquiry into three pedagogical approaches for framing a socially engaged teaching and learning practice. The first is a set of introductory tasks inviting students to consider their identities and then to share these with others within a small group and later to the entire studio. The second is a co-produced manifesto that sets out the principles for how students will approach the site, its residents and other collaborators. The third approach is locating the design studio on Broadwater Farm Estate for the majority of the first semester. The pedagogical 'moves' take place in the order set out above as a way of preparing students for a structured situated learning outside of the university.

I am interested in collecting feedback from the students, my co-tutor, and the design studio's collaborators, Haringey Council and Wheel Tots, particularly on their expectations, experiences and reflections on the studio basing itself on site for most of the first semester, which I refer to as 'Situated Practice'. 'Participatory Action Research' (PAR) has been used as an approach to developing the enquiry. PAR is defined as a research method that places participants as co-researchers where all parties are contributing to the research process and learning together.

My research will document, evaluate and analyse the experience of participants as the Situated Practice is carried out. The methodology will be a mixed method of qualitative and quantitative to gain a broader understanding of participants' experience of these three teaching approaches and to take an evaluation that reflects on all three. Depending on the stakeholder group: student, co-tutor, external collaborators, the methods will include a questionnaire, an in-depth focus group, observations, conversation via Miro, questions via email, a studio register of attendance and photography. Responses will be analysed thematically.

What does it mean to take part?

If you take part you are consenting to taking part in a questionnaire or conversation via Miro or questions via email depending on whether you are a student, tutor or external collaborator. The questionnaire designed specifically for gathering students' responses will be anonymised. For students that opt to take part in the questionnaire, you will be provided the option to opt-in and follow-up on your responses by participating in a focus group that might open up opportunities to collaboratively improve the three pedagogical approaches. The focus group may take between 45 minutes to 1 hour. I will record the focus group and transcribe. The data will be used as the basis for academic analysis.

If you choose to take part, you will be free to withdraw your participation at any point. You will not be obliged to give any reason for deciding not to take part.

Will my participation be kept confidential?

'Confidentiality' relates to the extent of how the information you provide will be disclosed to others, whilst 'anonymity' relates to ensuring that you cannot be identified from the information once disclosed. I will provide confidentiality and anonymity.

Your anonymity is very important. The information about you will be confidential to me, as the researcher. You will not be identified individually anywhere in the research. If I quote anything you have said in an interview, it will be anonymous. An example might be: 'Tutor A said 'The project is...''.

How the information that you provide will be stored?

All data collected will be uploaded to a Microsoft OneDrive folder that is encrypted. All information collected where participants have provided consent will be retained for 3 years. I will assign randomly generated numbers to each participant and to the data they provide, so that personal identifiers are separated from data collected. Aside from data collected from the focus group sessions, which would be run as a group activity and therefore difficult to remove individual contributions, the participants will have options to consent at any time before the research is presented to PG Cert tutors as a completed project. Any data which consent has been withdrawn will be destroyed within 48 hours of request.

What will happen to the results of the research project?

Analysis from the questionnaire, the in-depth focus group, observations, conversation via Miro and questions via email - including quotations from you – will contribute to an academic dissertation. Your words may also be used in academic reports, papers or conference presentations. These may appear online.

Thank you for your contribution and participation in this study.

Contact for further information:

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