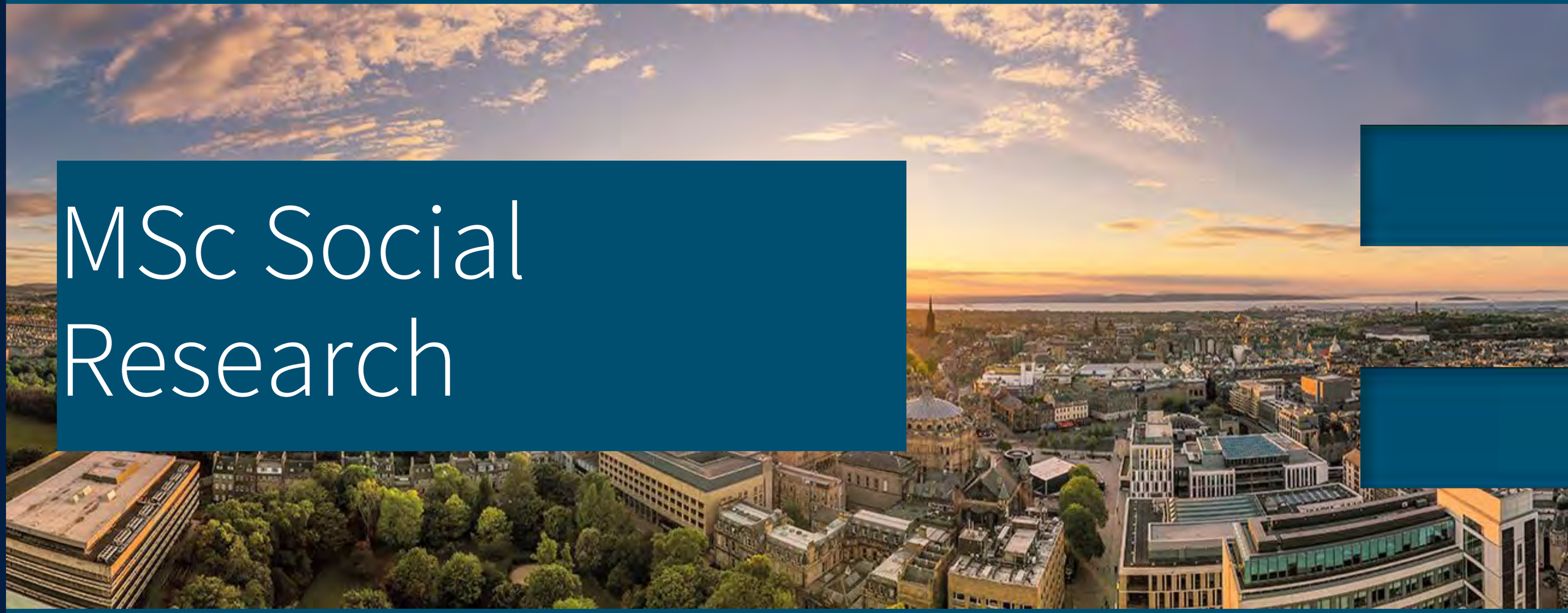
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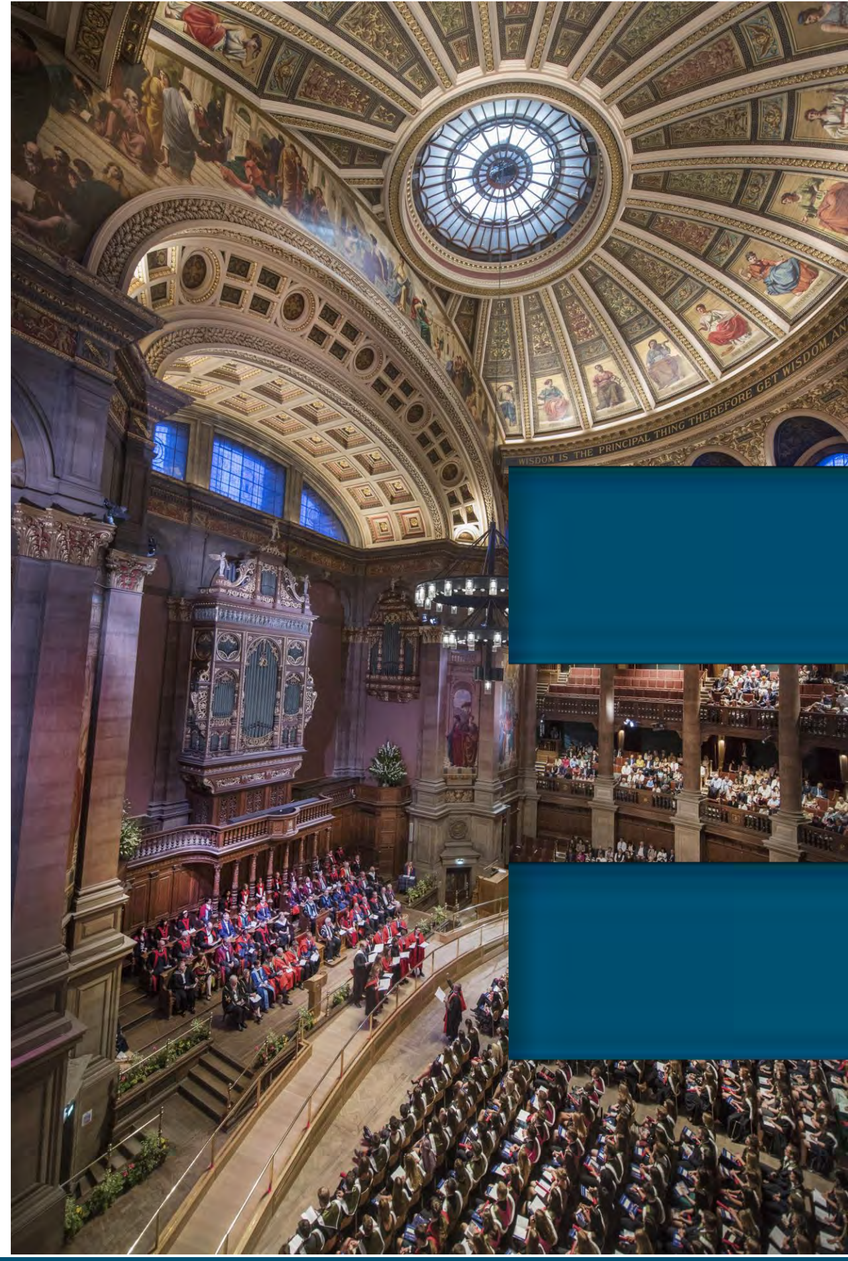
MSc Social Research

Dr Carin Runciman | Programme Director

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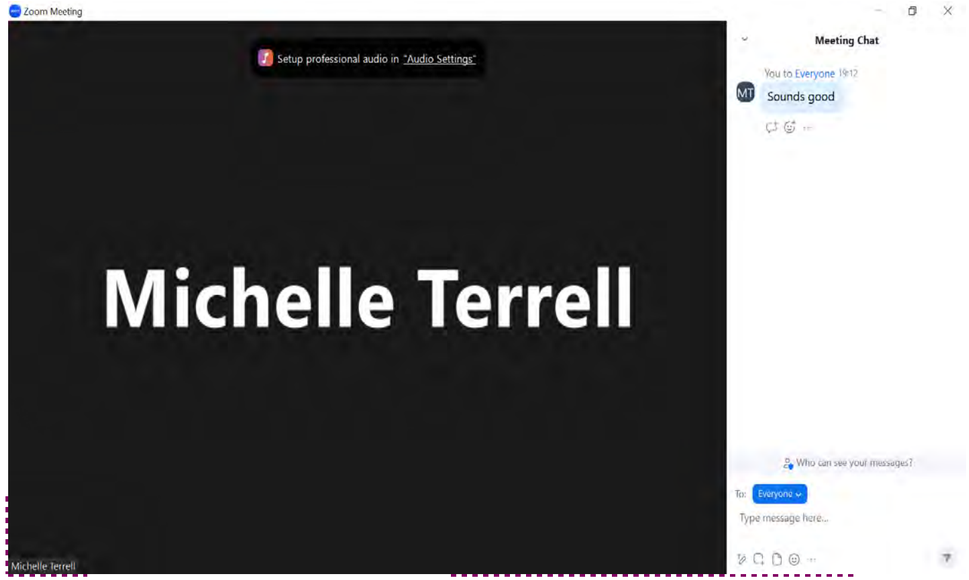
Welcome live from Edinburgh!

- Audio Check
- Presentation
- Question and Answer
- Next steps



Audio check (Zoom)

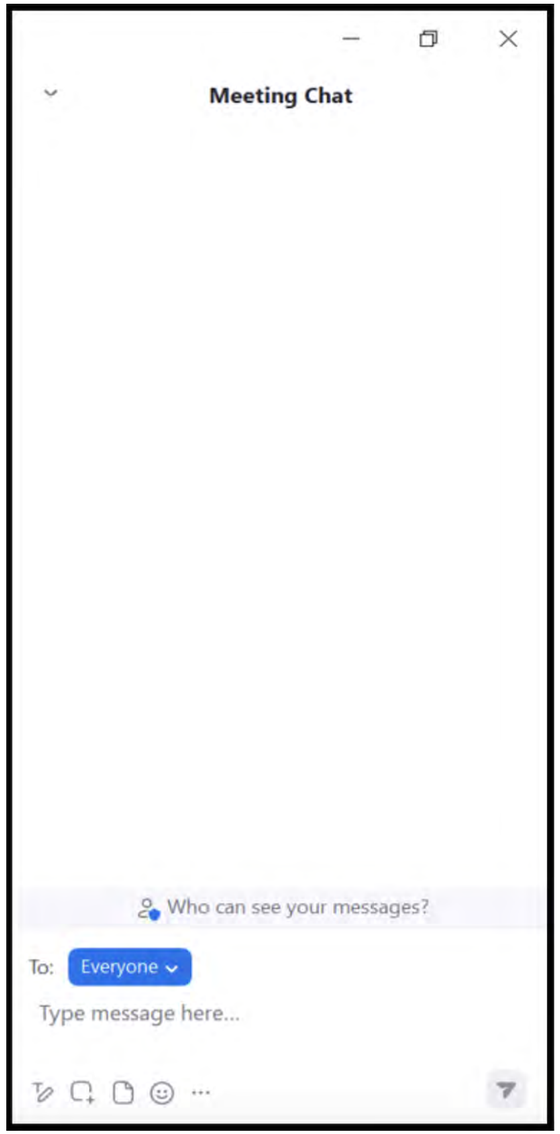
- In this session your microphone will be muted, but you should be able to hear the speaker
- Can you hear the presenter speaking?
- Please type **yes** or **no** in the “Text chat area”



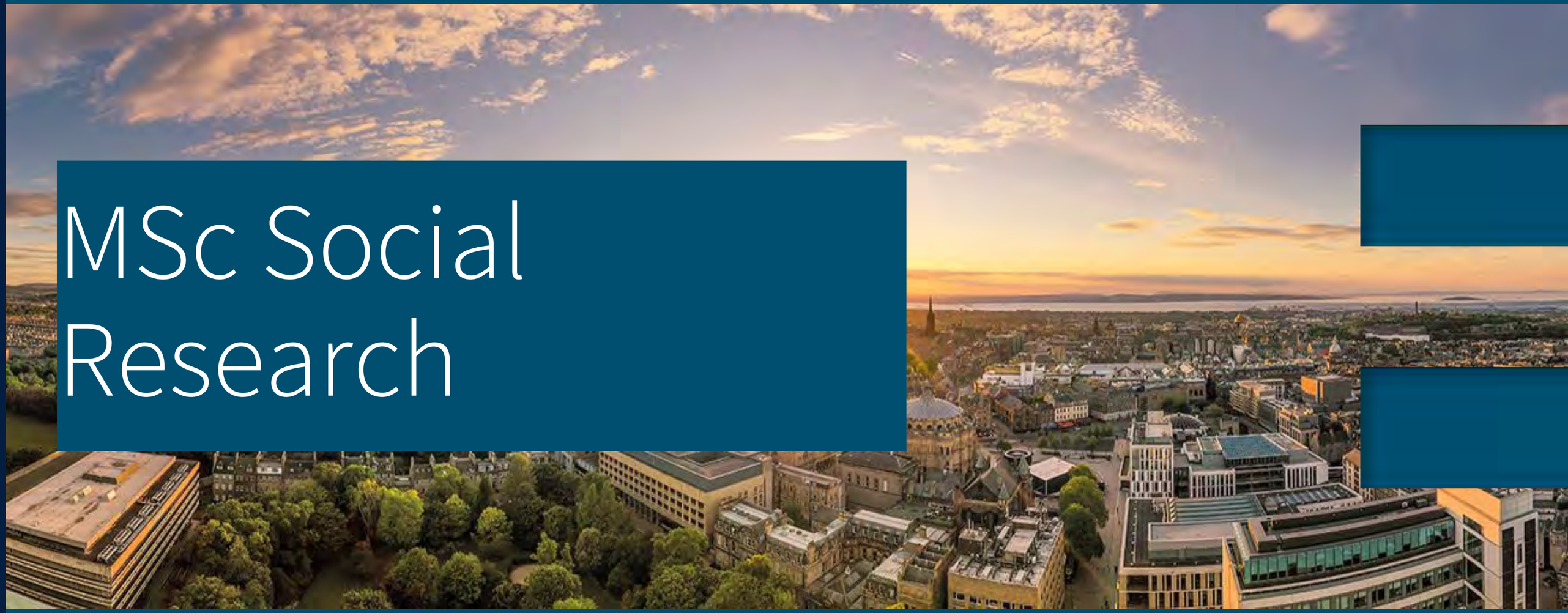
- If you can’t hear:
  - Check your Audio/visual settings in Zoom
  - Try signing out and signing back into the session
  - Type into the meeting chat box and a moderator will try to assist you

Asking Questions

- Please hold all questions until the end of the formal presentation.
- Questions should be posted in the chat area found in your Zoom Panel or you can unmute to ask your question.
- We will work through your questions one- by-one at the end of the session.



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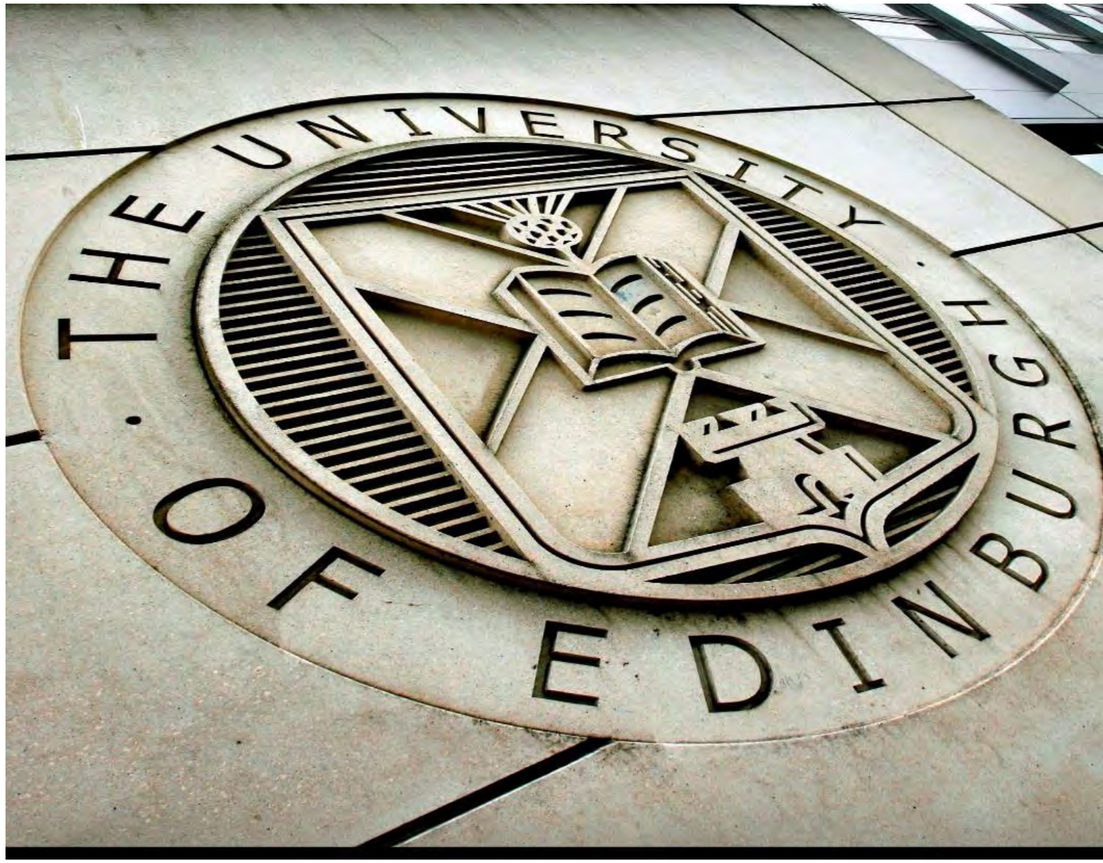
MSc Social Research

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Studying Social Research at the University of Edinburgh

- Flexible and cutting-edge programme in one of the oldest and most international universities.
- A multidisciplinary approach to social science research.
- Affiliated with the Research Training Centre at the School of Social and Political Science



Programme Structure

Courses 2024-25

Compulsory courses

- Research Skills in the Social Sciences: Data Collection (semester 1)
- Core quantitative data analysis 1 and 2 or Multi-level modelling for the Social Sciences (with approval from the PD) (semester 1)
- Research design for societal challenges (semester 2)
- Dissertation (MSc) (semester 2 and the summer)

Courses 2024-25 continued

Select 60 credits from the following

- Humanities and Arts-informed Research Methods in the Social Sciences
- Analysing Qualitative Data
- The Documents of Life
- Internet, Society and Economy
- Gender, politics and representation
- Computational sociology
- Comparative Analysis of Social and Public Policy
- Longitudinal Data Analysis
- Multi-level Modelling in Social Science
- Bayesian Statistics
- Advanced Methods Workshops
- Social Network Research: Theories and Analysis
- Computational Text Analysis
- Evaluation Research Methods

With Quantitative Methods pathway

- Cutting edge advanced quantitative training delivered by experts
- Link advanced QM with substantive SPS options
- Work on a quantitative social research question in your dissertation
- Learn within Edinburgh Q-Step Centre
- Become an independent quantitative social scientist

Core (60 credits)

- Research Skills in the Social Sciences: Data Collection (semester 1)
- Core quantitative data analysis 1 and 2 or Multi-level modelling for the Social Sciences (with approval from the PD) (semester 1)
- Research design for societal challenges (semester 2)

Elective (40-60 credits)

- Multi-level modelling the Social Science
- Longitudinal Data Analysis
- Computational Text Analysis
- Advanced Methods Workshops

Dissertation (60 credits)

- Standard or placement-based

Suggested course structure – standard programme

Core	Methods specialisms (40 credits)	Social theory (20 credits)
• Research Skills in the Social Sciences: Data Collection. • Core quantitative data analysis 1 and 2 or Multi-level modelling for the Social Sciences (with approval from the PD) • Research design for societal challenges • Dissertation (MSc)	• Humanities and Arts-informed Research Methods in the Social Sciences • Analysing Qualitative Data • The Documents of Life • Longitudinal Data Analysis • Multi-level Modelling in Social Science • Bayesian Statistics • Advanced Methods Workshops • Social Network Research: Theories and Analysis • Computational Text Analysis • Evaluation Research Methods	• Internet, Society and Economy • Gender, politics and representation • Computational sociology • Comparative Analysis of Social and Public Policy

Dissertation

- A single piece of independent and in-depth research. The 15,000 word dissertation allows you to focus on a preferred topic from within the field, normally based on a subject you have studied in one of your courses during the programme.
- You will be assigned an academic dissertation supervisor who will provide you with support and guidance while you research and write your dissertation.
- The dissertation is written in the summer months (April to August) after the taught courses are successfully completed

Standard Dissertations - examples

- Do Humanitarians and Academics Differentially Construct Accountability to Crisis-Affected People?
- Climate Change, Conflict and Migration in West Asia and North Africa
- Floating ‘Permanent’ Migrants: Determinants of Multiple Internal Migration Behaviours in China
- Managing Hybrid Social Media: A Case Study of Employees’ Boundary Management Strategies in WeChat

Placement based Dissertations - examples

A study of the role of youth work in equality, diversity and inclusion

How does the participation of children and young people affect the culture, structure and strategic direction of national organisations?

What are the implications of the new Social Convergence Framework for social integration in the EU?

Should Scotland introduce wealth taxes?

Submitting your course choices

- The teaching office will send you the course choice form in early August.

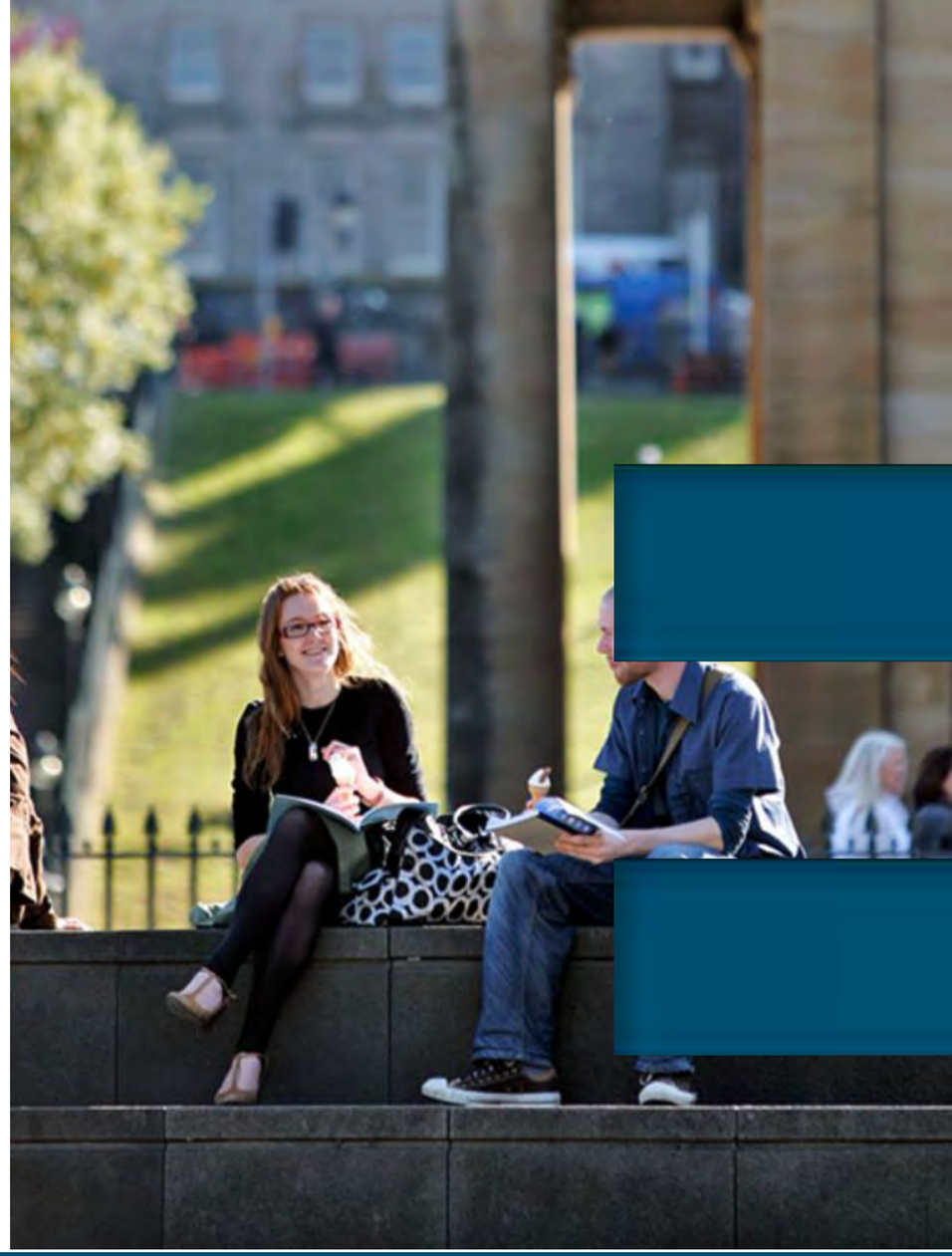
- If you want to get ahead, you can check your course options at - http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/24-25/dpt/drps_sps.htm



Studying and Learning

How we study & learn

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Case studies and exercises
- Self-led/Group Study
- Independent Research
- Dissertations



Support for learning and teaching

- Programme Director
- Student Advisor
- Dissertation supervisor
- Student Development office: https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/students/postgraduate/new-students/development-office
- Institute for Academic Development: https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-acadsc-development/postgraduate
- Peer study groups

Life at The University of Edinburgh

- 5 elected full-time Sabbatical Officers, 5 elected part-time Liberation Officers, and 8 part-time Section Representatives* to represent your needs and interests

- Over 450 student Societies, Volunteering Groups and Peer Learning and Support Schemes

*Section Representatives represent students from the following groups: Commuter Students, International Students, Mature Students, Part-time Students, Student Carers, Student Parents, University-wide PGT representative and University-wide Postgraduate Research Representative



Once you've started in September, you can run as representative of your programme, or even the School-wide Postgraduate Taught (PGT) Rep

Life at The University of Edinburgh

- Over 70 Sports clubs and teams
- Competitively-priced student gym membership
- City-wide student discounts
- Student counselling service
- Learning support and disability service
- The Advice Place



Student Development Office

- Workshops on professional, personal and academic skill building
- 1:1 skills coaching
- Cohort Building activities
- Funding opportunities to support development
- Edinburgh Award and Professional Development Certificates
- School-wide events and activities

Summer reading

If you would like to get ahead with some reading over the summer, I'd suggest:

This is an example, please add a couple of texts for your programme

- Chilisa, B. (2020). *Indigenous Research Methodologies* (Second edition). Los Angeles: SAGE.
- Gilbert, N., & Stoneman, P. (2016). *Researching Social Life*. London: SAGE.
- Vries, RD. (2018). *Critical Statistics: Seeing Beyond the Headlines*. London: Bloomsbury Publishing.



What happens next?

- Accept and meet conditions of offer
- Visa and immigration: StudentImmigration@ed.ac.uk
- Apply for accommodation: https://www.accom.ed.ac.uk/
- Check SPS New students webpage for info on accessing your timetable, welcome week and more

(Welcome Week starts Monday 9 September)



The student perspective

Talk to a current student

- Have you got a question you would like to ask a current student in the School of Social and Political Science?
- Chat with a student ambassador here:
  - www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/applicants/talk-to-current-students

The student perspective

- Our team of SPS student writers share their experiences and thoughts on the things that matter to them on our student blog.
- Check out the blog here:
  - blogs.ed.ac.uk/students-at-sps/

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Thank you
Any questions?

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Contact details for follow-up questions

We apologise if we did not get through all of your questions in the time allotted for this session. If you have further questions that have not been answered, please contact us:

Admissions: futurestudents@ed.ac.uk

Michelle:
Michelle.Terrell@ed.ac.uk

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