

METHODS | NORTH WEST

Methods North West Methods Labs 2025-26

Call for Contributions

[Methods North West](#) invites contributions to our regular [Methods Labs events](#). We normally fund **up to £2000** to cover all or part of the costs of a Lab.

Methods Labs offer opportunities for researchers adopting social science and humanities research methods and approaches to come together to work intensively for a concentrated period of time around particular methods or methodologies. Normally running for half or full days, Methods Labs formats are flexible.

Methods Labs should address innovative methodologies, novel applications of existing methods, and fresh perspectives on traditional social science techniques from all perspectives. Our core priority is to support PGR access to spaces where it is possible to explore, collaborate and contribute to new developments in, across, and beyond the social sciences. Rather than adopt a prescriptive approach, we invite proposals for Methods Labs in any and all areas and particularly from PGRs and ECRs, as well as more established researchers. We especially welcome contributions that address the [Interdisciplinary Societal Challenge](#) themes:

1. Climate Change, Sustainability and Global Resilience: Toward Equitable Futures.
2. Addressing Health, Wellbeing and Social Care Challenges.
3. Digital Transformation: Advancements in Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence and Society.
4. Governance, Democracy and Equitable Futures: Revitalising Economies, Building Socially Just and Inclusive Organisations and Communities.
5. Cognitive, Social and Cultural Processes in Human Development and Learning.
6. Understanding Conflict, Violence and Global In/stability

Methods Labs may be closer to traditional seminars, workshops or master classes but in recent years have also taken more creative forms (e.g. hackathons, data fests, datathons exhibits, models, performances and live curated displays with new technologies). Whatever the form, the emphasis will be on involving attendees in direct and engaging ways.

Collaboration between institutions on the Methods Labs is desirable but not essential.

Interested parties should contact their institutional Methods North West Lead in the first instance to discuss their ideas for a Lab:

Keele University: Santiago Amietta S.Amietta@keele.ac.uk

University of Lancashire: Emily Cooper EMCooper2@uclan.ac.uk

University of Lancaster: Gary Potter G.potter2@lancaster.ac.uk

University of Liverpool: Michael Mair Michael.Mair@liverpool.ac.uk

University of Manchester: Emma Banister Emma.Banister@manchester.ac.uk

Eligible Costs: Methods NW will cover up to £2000 related to costs such as working remotely, training or web development, speakers' costs (fees, travel and accommodation), catering, venue hire, stationery costs (flip charts, pens etc.), travel costs for [NWSSDTP](#) students and other registered PGR students from any of the member institutions, specialist equipment and/or software.

Ineligible Costs: Administrative costs (It is expected that institutions will utilise their administrative staff support on a reciprocal basis or enlist the help of students for administrative tasks).