

School of Education: Research Methodology Support Sessions 2026-27

Year One PhD: Semester One

	Time	Session Title	Content	Host	Date (Friday)	Venue
Session 1	2 – 6	The PhD Octopus or is it possibly a Squid?	Welcome to the messy world of the PhD. . .	Andrew Loxley	18 th September	4035
		A Critical Introduction to Educational and Social Science Research	Introduction to types & purposes of educational research – process & products			
Session 2	2-6	Navigating the Ahh to Zed of Research Design	Introduction to the different elements which make up a research design	Andrew Loxley	16 th October	3105
Session 3	2 – 6	The Literature Review Process for Doctoral Studies & Some thoughts critical	Accessing & Searching the Literature	Tom Farrelly & Andrew & Geraldine Fitzgerald	6 th November	Online
Session 4	2 – 6	Reflexivity & Research	The process of constructing reflexively ‘inclined’ research designs	Andrew	4 th December	3105

Year One PhD: Semester Two

	Time	Session Title	Content	Host	Date	Venue
Session 5	2-4	Traditions, Paradigms and Other Inconvenient Fictions	Overview of the 'ologies and the usual traditions: positivism, Marxism, feminism, critical realism, critical theory etc.	Aidan Seery	22nd January	3098
	4 – 6	The Ethics of Research	The role of ethics in doctoral research	Aidan Seery		
Session 6	2 – 6	Approaches to Educational Research: Visual Studies	Using images in research work – a quick look	Andrew	5 th February	3098
Session 7	2 – 6	Approaches to Educational Research: Narrative, Autoethnography, Ethnography	An introduction to some of the non-numerical and interpretivist forms of research	Andrew & Aidan	12 th March	3105
Session 8	2- 4	Approaches to Educational Research: Designing Case Studies & Experimental Designs	The case study as a mode of research, and experimental approaches to research	Andrew L	9th April	3105
	4 – 6	Ontology and Research	A return to the land of ontology	Andrew G		
Session 9	2 – 6	The Grand Student Zine Session	Show & Tell: A chance to see what you've all been getting up to!	Andrew L + Andrew G	14 th May	3105