



2025 Annual Conference
Wednesday 23 - Friday 25 April
University of Manchester



SOCIAL — TRANSFORMATIONS

Special Events for Early Career and Postgraduate Sociologists

The BSA Conference has a number of sessions designed to welcome our Postgraduate and Early Career delegates. There are more informal sessions and developmental sessions designed to give delegates a variety of different types of sessions at the conference. All are welcome and we hope you will join us for one of these sessions.

The BSA has a Postgraduate Forum that organises events throughout the year. Convenors James Frederick Green, Karen Tatham, Justice Aina, Vera Spangler and Luna Fu will be at the conference to speak to anyone interested in the forum. More information about the forum activities is available on [their webpage](#).

The BSA also has an active Early Career Forum run by convenors Sarah Burton, Garrett Grainger, Kathryn McEwan, who will also be at the conference to organise the Early Career Events that are taking place and meet delegates. More information about the Forum activities is available on [their webpage](#).

Wednesday 23 April

PAPER SESSION 1 - 09:00-10:30

Early Career Forum Special Event - Room 1.219

Annual Conference Quiz and Best Sentence in Sociology Competition

Sarah Burton, Garrett Grainger, Kathryn McEwan

(Robert Gordon University, Wrexham University, Newcastle University)

This event will be a fun, engaging in-person sociology quiz, with an inclusive pre-conference 'Best Sentence in Sociology' competition to allow broader participation. Light refreshments will be provided.

Postgraduate Forum Special Event - Room 2.220

How to Survive and Thrive at a Conference

James Frederick Green, Karen Tatham, Justice Aina, Vera Spangler and Luna Fu

(University of Worcester, University of Leeds, University of Durham, University of Surrey)

Attending a conference can be both exciting and overwhelming, but with the right approach, you can make the most of the experience. PGR Forum Presents: How to Survive and Thrive at a Conference is the perfect starting point for postgraduate researchers looking to build confidence and maximise their time at the event. This informal session will cover key strategies for networking, tips on engaging in discussions and asking questions, and practical ways to ensure you leave with valuable connections and insights. Join us for a relaxed and supportive session—light refreshments will be provided!

PAPER SESSION 3 - 15:30-17:00

Journal Special Event - Lecture Theatre A

Navigating the Publishing Process: Insights from Journal Editors

Vicki Harman, Robert Meadows, John Solomos

(University of Reading, University of Surrey, Warwick University)

To publish in academic journals, it's hugely helpful to have a clear understanding of what makes a strong submission and how the editorial processes operate. This session, led by experienced editors of *Ethnic and Racial Studies* – John Solomos – and BSA Journal *Sociology* – Vicki Harman and Robert Meadows – will provide invaluable insights into factors that influence the journey of a paper within a journal.

The editors will cover topics such as what makes a good manuscript; what editors are looking for in their initial editorial assessment; and the rationale behind desk rejections, so that attendees develop a sense of why some papers do not proceed to peer review and what you can do to increase your chances of getting out to peer review. The editors will also cover engaging with peer reviewer comments, being a peer reviewer and learning from that experience to support your own writing practice.

With ample time for audience questions, this session provides an opportunity for delegates to gain behind-the-scenes insights into the publishing process.

Thursday 24 April

PAPER SESSION 4 - 09:00-10:30

Early Career Forum Special Event - Room 2.217

The Problems and Potentials of Teaching and Researching the Far-Right and Extremism: A Masterclass with Dr Aaron Winter

Aaron Winter

(University of Lancaster)

This interactive and collaborative workshop, led by Dr Aaron Winter (University of Lancaster), provides space for us to collectively explore and discuss how we research and teach topics around the far-right and extremism - including terrorism, populism, securitization, migration, and racialisation. We'll look at the challenges of this, especially in the context of insecure early career jobs, and what approaches we can take for best practice, ethically and strategically. This is a forum for sharing ideas and taking advice from Aaron Winter's long career in the area; we ask that attendees are actively engaged in either teaching or researching one or more of the listed topics (or a cognate topic) so you can participate fully.

PAPER SESSION 5 - 11:00-12:30

Journal Special Event - Room 4.204

Work, Employment and Society: An Introduction, an Invitation and Some Insights into what Makes a Great Paper

Laurie Cohen, Marek Korczynski

(University of Nottingham)

This session is a celebration of the sociology of work and employment. Our plan is to tell you bit about Work, Employment & Society: the kinds of things we publish, what we see as important and how we work together. We will also talk about how you can get involved in the WES community. Drawing on our experiences as Editors-in-Chief for the last three years, we will offer some insights into what makes a great WES paper. The session will be interactive, with opportunities for questions and discussion.

PAPER SESSION 6 - 13:30-15:00

Monograph Publishing Special Event – Room 2.218

From PhD Thesis to Monograph: A Workshop for PhD Students and Early Career Scholars

Théo Leschevin, Caroline Oliver, Shuang Qiu, Louise Ryan, Katherine Twamley

(Université Paris Cité, University College London, University of Keele, London Metropolitan University)

This interactive workshop is intended to give guidance and support to early career scholars who are considering writing a monograph based on their PhD thesis. It will be led by three of the editors of the BSA Routledge Sociological Futures book series, drawing on their experiences as editors and authors. The workshop builds on a webinar hosted by the BSA online in June 2024, to which around 100 people attended.

In the workshop, we will cover: the differences between a thesis and a monograph; the merits of a monograph as opposed to other outputs; how to go about selecting a publisher; the processes of submitting a proposal; and tips for 'converting' the thesis into a monograph.

The workshop will be interactive, with opportunities for attendees to ask questions and discuss their own nascent publication plans.