



Draft Programme: Everyday Deaths

British Sociological Association's Death, Dying and Bereavement Study Group Annual Symposium

10 December 2026, 9.30am - 5pm, The University of Bath.

Session 1: 'Invisibilised death experiences'

'My invisible bank of grief: when death and loss become your everyday in academic work', *Professor Erica Borgstrom, The Open University*

'Making everyday dying visible: Creative social worlds of care and recognition', *Dr Kathryn McEwan, Northumbria University*

'Knowing Dying Through Movement: Hospital Porters and Everyday Death in Acute Care', *Dr Anne-Marie Raftery, University of Salford*

'The Last Hands: Voluntary Gravedigging, Everyday Death and Community Care in Rural Ireland', *Dr Ciara Henderson, Trinity College Dublin*

'Still Here: Necrography and the Everyday Deaths of the Structurally Abandoned', *Dr Felix Kaplan, Zefat Academic College*

Session 2: 'Death and creative technologies'

'Affective death denial: a paradigm of everyday death, (re)produced in material promoting in-memoriam giving', *Catriona Brickel, University of Bath*

'Everyday materials and the representation of ordinary death', *Haitian Liu, University of Dundee*

'Portraying Death: Student Nurses' Experiences of Dying, Grief and Professional Socialisation in Clinical Practice', *Victoria Whaley, Liverpool John Moores University*

'Who speaks for the dead? Cultural narratives of grief, family and commerce in attitudes to AI 'Ghostbots' in China and the UK', *Elvira Perez Vallejos, Jiayu Wang, Yizhen Wang, University of Nottingham and Imperial College London*

'Death by Large Language Model: asking better questions and keeping the human in the loop', *Clive King, Aberystwyth University*

Session 3: 'End of Life Experiences'

Older people's everyday deaths: a call for sociological advocacy', *Dr Bethany Simmonds, Aberystwyth University*

'Dying well' perspectives from non-religious older adults', *Dr Joanna Malone, University of York*

'Exploring social death in the palliative and end-of-life experiences of people with learning disabilities', *Ned Redmore, The Open University*

'The problem of understanding dying as a 'normal', 'ordinary' or 'natural' process in palliative care', *Dr John MacArtney, University of Warwick*

Concluding Remarks on 'Everyday Deaths' *Professor Emma Kirby, University of New South Wales*