

DISCIPLINE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Research Interests and Topics for 2026

To contact staff to discuss possible project supervision: Email staff members on name.surname@wits.ac.za

| Name & Position | Research Interests / Areas of Expertise | Suggested Topics for Research in 2026 For example “The Relationship between organisational justice perceptions and workplace deviance behaviours” |
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| Bain, Katherine (Prof) Associate Professor U314 | Attachment theory, psychoanalytic theory, developmental theory, parent-infant psychotherapy, mentalisation and reflective function, parenting and how any of these intersect with culture | Specific topics for 2026 (these can be adapted to suit student interest/needs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The challenges experienced by parent-infant psychotherapists in South Africa - Motherhood/Fatherhood on social media - Depictions of motherhood/fatherhood/infancy in the media - Aspects of motherhood experience (identities, shame, maternal guilt etc.) - Intergenerational transmission of trauma - Endings and interruptions in psychotherapy - Therapist self-disclosure |
| Booth, Lyndall Associate lecturer U225 | Critical social psychology, specifically the role of social media in expressing/enabling social tensions and failures Power and prejudice | Social media, disproportionate outrage and the expression of prejudice Global warming denialism and reactions to ‘woke’ social media content |
| Bradbury, Jill (Prof) Associate Professor U219 | Jill Bradbury works at the intersection of narrative psychology, identity theory and cultural-historical psychology. She is interested in intergenerational processes of learning and change, particularly in | Professor Bradbury would be interested to supervise qualitative research projects exploring questions related to: 1) Narrative, representation and life histories; |

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| | <p>contexts of socio-political transformation and global demands for social justice. She is a lead researcher on the NEST (Narrative Enquiry for Social Transformation) research network.</p> | <p>2) Educational transformation and Social justice; 3) Intergenerational family histories, childhood and youth; 4) Vygotskian theory, Consciousness, memory & imagination. 5) Diversity and Identity Construction. (Students may choose to work with existing NEST data sets: older generation narrative interviews, and survey data and material generated through action research with youth.)</p> |
| <p>Cockcroft, Kate (Prof) Professor U313</p> | <p>Broadly: Cognitive neuroscience; cognitive psychology; neuropsychology. Specifically: The cognitive processes that underpin learning such as working memory, language proficiency, and executive functions. I am interested in how cognitive processes that underpin learning such as working memory, language proficiency, and executive functions develop in typical bilingual and multilingual children, as well as in children with neurodevelopmental disorders, and also how they are represented in the mature, adult cognitive system. Related to this is an interest in the fair assessment of cognitive abilities, ways of boosting working memory, creativity and executive functioning, and how executive functioning may be related to resilience. Reasonably flexible with regard to topics that fit in with my research interests. Potential students must be comfortable with quantitative research and design techniques.</p> | <p>Specific projects: An exploration of the relationship between working memory and creativity – related or unrelated processes? How early can we assess executive functions? An exploration of cognitive flexibility in 3-year-olds. How ecologically valid are standardised tests of working memory? How creative are large language models in AI?</p> |
| <p>Darsot Ammarah</p> | <p><u>Areas of interest:</u> Organisational psychology and the psychology of work. Understandings of uncertainty and how it's interpreted.</p> | <p>1. Understanding how farmers in the Eastern Cape understand and make sense of uncertainty (climate uncertainty)</p> |

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| | User perceptions and understanding. Qualitative studies | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Assessing how complex information is transferred from expert to user. 3. Assessing language barriers and its impacts on understanding complex information. |
| Esprey Yvette (Dr) | <p><u>Areas of interest:</u> The intersection of identity in psychoanalytic psychotherapy – race, gender, class, sexual orientation Relational psychoanalytic psychotherapy and the identity/presence of the therapist Qualitative transgender studies</p> <p><u>Methodological leanings:</u> Autoethnography, qualitative research, reflexivity</p> | <p>Specific projects for 2026:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding the experience of parents of transgender children 2. Exploring the subjective experience of transgender youth 3. Exploring psychoanalytic therapists' understanding of difference in the room - race, gender, sexual orientation |
| Ferreira-Corr eia, Aline (Dr) Associate Professor U220 | <p>Broad areas of interest:</p> <p>Clinical neuropsychology: specific focus on movement disorders and rare genetic diseases.</p> <p>Cognitive psychology: specific focus on cognitive assessment, development of norms for non-WEIRD contexts.</p> <p>Metacognition and AI: the relationship between the use of AI and metacognitive capacity.</p> <p>Cognitive failures in healthy adults.</p> | <p>Projects I would like to supervise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Health literacy in Parkinson's disease: this protocol has been designed 2- Use of AI research supervision and its relationship with metacognition (in collaboration with Computer Sciences). 3- Explore the experiences of cognitive failures in young healthy adults and potential links to social media engagement and AI use. 4- Development of norms for the Symbol-Digit Modality Test (data partially collected). 5- Subjective understanding of neuropsychological rehabilitation and access to this care within the allied professions and people with acquired brain injury. 6- Health literacy and access to care in Huntington's Disease (in collaboration with NHLS). This is only for students registered for MA by dissertation. |
| Gani Salma | <p><u>I am interested in:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mental health risk of university students or young adult populations | Any quantitative study related to interests. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic success and support utilisation in the university context • Mental health, stress and coping during life transitions | |
| Gqweta, Ntokozo | <p><u>Areas of interest</u></p> <p>Trauma and traumatisation</p> <p>Intersection between masculinity and traumatisation</p> <p>Gender and Violence</p> <p>African Languages and psychotherapy</p> <p>Using psychoanalytic/psychodynamic theory to understand group dynamics and group work</p> <p>Psychodynamic assessment, diagnosis and treatment of behavioural challenges</p> <p>Men and mental health</p> | Open to projects around the provided topic areas. |
| Graham, Tanya (Prof) Associate Professor U214 | <p>Critical perspectives on child and youth development</p> <p>Intersections of social asymmetries and psychosocial issues affecting health and wellbeing in communities</p> <p>Critical community psychology theory, practice, pedagogy and knowledge production</p> <p>Intersections of critical community psychology, developmental psychology and psychoanalytic theory</p> | <p>Specific topics for 2026:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Diversity, race and gender in knowledge production 2. Contemporary topic trends in published work in community psychology 3. Scoping review of approaches to community practical supervision 4. Perspectives on community psychology curricula in professional graduates 5. Supervisor's experiences of community supervision in professional training |
| Hassem, Tasneem (Dr) Lecturer | <p>I am interested in digital mental health more specifically:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Enhancing public mental health access and care through the digital space 2) Online psychological assessments | <p>Specific topics for 2026:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Systematic review of online general mental health screening tools for SA 2. Systematic review of Depression self-help tips 3. Exploring emerging adults mental health in Africa (secondary data) |

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| | <p>3) The use of mental health blogs and online support groups</p> <p>Ethics in Research</p> | <p>4. Exploring perceptions of anxiety within South African population</p> <p>5. Exploring the implementation and use of the Ubuntu ethical framework in research</p> |
| <p>Human, Leonie (Ms) Senior Tutor U218F</p> | <p>Research related to family systems and parental involvement.</p> <p>Family relations, parenting and fatherhood.</p> <p>Aging and longevity.</p> <p>Resilience and achievement.</p> <p>Indigenous knowledge systems.</p> <p>South African traditional healing.</p> <p>Alternative healing modalities.</p> <p>Critical psychology and intersectionality with a focus on racialised and gendered identities.</p> | <p>Open topics in the areas of interest such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parents' involvement in child-care. 2. Adoptive fathers' experiences of fatherhood. 3. Experiences of parents in single-parent headed households. 4. Family relations 5. Working mothers' or fathers' experiences of child-care. 6. African Traditional Healing (Not topics related to psychosis or mental illness) |
| <p>Israel, Nicky (Dr) Senior Lecturer U309A</p> | <p>Creativity, innovation, and problem-solving; social media use; mental health; teaching and learning; cognitive psychology; programme evaluation and research design; psychometrics; aspects of organisational/ industrial psychology</p> | <p>Possible topics for 2026 (quantitative, qualitative, mixed-method, review) include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social media use and mental health/ emotional intelligence 2. Creativity and social media use/ GAI use 3. Mental health literacy in university students/ employees 4. Cognitive flexibility/metacognitive skills/mindfulness/personality, and creative behaviour/innovative behaviour/ problem-solving/ creative self-efficacy 5. Academic procrastination, perfectionism, and attitudes towards GAI-generated writing/ plagiarism 6. Flexible work arrangements and burnout/ work engagement/ work-life balance 7. Any topics related to my general research interests |

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| <p>Harvey, Clare (Prof) Associate Professor U308</p> | <p><u>Disability studies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychological and critical theory on disability. • Social, psychological, physical experiences of disabled individuals. • Meaning making that disabled and able-bodied people attach to disability labels. <p><u>Motherhood</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motherhood identities and experiences. • Identities and experiences for mothers who have a sick or disabled child. • The process of attachment to a child with a disability or illness (physical and/or psychological). <p><u>Gender studies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Particularly around marginalised gender identities and experiences. <p><u>Marginalised identities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including, but not limited to, the areas of disability; mothers; psychologists; gender. <p><u>Sibling relationships</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Particularly when one sibling has been given a medical and/or psychological diagnosis or is disabled. <p><u>Psychosocial theory</u></p> | <p><u>Suggested Topics</u></p> <p>I am interested in supervising qualitative research projects, discourse analyses and systematic literature reviews.</p> <p><u>Possible projects:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) Psychosocial aspects of disabled motherhood experience. 5) How is disability understood in various cultures and race groups in South Africa? (Students could limit this to one specific group) 6) A discourse analysis of existing public data (blogs, websites, art etc.) on the experience of disability. How disabled people write about themselves. 7) A discourse analysis of existing public data (blogs, websites, art etc.) on disabled mothers. What is said about this group of mothers? 8) Studies in which students collect data by conducting individual interviews in one of my areas of interest. |
| <p>Jithoo, Vinitha (Dr) Senior Lecturer U228</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Psychology (including HIV, TB, CHD, paediatric psycho-oncology, health practitioner variables related to wellbeing), • Gender based violence • Marital & family systems, | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9) Psychosocial issues impacting mental health and physical wellbeing. 10) Mental health literacy, help seeking and health communication. 11) Gender based violence 12) How life stressors impact family dynamics; motherhood, sibling dynamics, family communication and interpersonal relationships. 13) Student mental health and well being |

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| <p>Kern, Anwynne (Dr) Senior Lecturer U209</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Educational Psychology course review and development ● Inclusive Education | <p>Possible projects for 2025 include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educational Psychology Alumni reflections regarding the efficacy and relevance of the educational psychology training 2. Trace the professional journeys of Educational Psychology Graduates to understand where they are now. 3. A systematic review on the available literature on interventions for child victims of transgenerational violence which links to a M. Ed team project. |
| <p>Kiguwa, Peace (Prof) Associate Professor U206B</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Race and racialization, critical studies ● Critical gender and critical masculinity studies ● Spatial geographies and lived identities (e.g. Township studies) ● Affect Studies ● Discourse Studies ● African feminist psychology studies ● Critical Psychology | <p>I currently supervise qualitative research Projects on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Violence (and its intersection with social identities such as race, class, gender and sexuality). 2) Project: African Futures project focusing on 'People' - researching people's lives across different contexts, focused on world-making practices, intersectionality, and affective and discursive formations. 3) Theoretically and conceptually, I work across range of feminist, affect, discourse and critical psychological approaches. |
| <p>Kunene Zinhle U329</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Labour market ● Organisational behaviour and effectiveness ● Mental health in the workplace ● Psychometric assessments for hiring practices ● African psychology ● Work-life balance in the modern era of work | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Discouraged work-seekers experiences of searching for employment in the South African labour market |
| <p>Laher, Sumaya (Prof) Professor U306B</p> | <p>I am the PI at the ASRIA lab where we focus on 4 thematic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment Policy and Practice - Personality Assessment in South Africa - Culture and Mental Health assessment - Technology in health and assessment | <p>Some specific topics include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Exploring adolescent mental health in South Africa (Quantitative – data already collected) 2) Exploring the relationship between climate change/food security/employment/SES and mental |

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| | Visit https://asria.africa/ for further information | health (scoping review or quantitative study) 3) Exploring conceptualisations of mental illness in African cultures 4) The use of technology to support mental health interventions |
| Langa, Malose (Prof) Professor U226 | Risk-taking, HIV/AIDS, suicide, substance abuse, trauma, violence in youth as well as masculinities | Specific projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - exploring multiple voices of masculinity amongst boys - Adolescent boys' talk about sex, HIV and fatherhood - Men's talk about HIV/AIDS and women - Boys' understanding of school violence - Boys and men's talk about gender equality - Girls' talk about boys - Young men and violence - COVID-19 and masculinities - Police violence and black men - violent protests and democracy <p>General interests Masculinity; Fatherhood; Trauma; Violence</p> |
| Makongoza, Matamela (Dr) Tutor U332 | Intimate partner violence Young people and substance abuse Gender, race, and sexuality African feminists and psychological theories | Qualitative research projects that focus on: Gender studies, mental health, and the lived experiences of young people or women. A recent qualitative research interest in developmental language disorder. |
| Sonia Mbowe, u332 | Media & social media, learning difficulties, parental involvement in children's schooling, access to mental health services, African Psychology and IKS, knowledge creation | Qualitative research that focuses on the listed research interests |
| Marchetti-Mercer, Maria (Prof) Professor U333 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emigration/immigration especially related to family life ● Training of psychologists/family therapists ● Use of genograms in professional training and psychotherapy | Migration and the care of aging parents The role of technology in maintaining family ties in migrant populations (national, international and transnational) Impact of migration on families Transnationalism |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Psychotherapy especially Family therapy ● qualitative approaches ● Mental health issues ● Italian diaspora | <p>Mental health impact on adults who migrated as children</p> <p>The impact of loadshedding on mental health (ongoing project)</p> <p>Second/third generation migrants & diasporas</p> <p>HALF LOAD IN 2025</p> |
| Mathebula Mpho (Dr) Lecturer | <p>I am interested in the areas of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gender studies: Gender based violence, resistance to oppression, ● Affect Studies ● Women and protests ● Health Psychology ● Intersectionality ● African feminist psychology studies | <p>I would be interested in supervising projects on:</p> <p>Experiences of helpers/maids as one of the marginalised groups</p> <p>Affect Studies</p> <p>Intersectionality Studies</p> |
| Mayaba, Phindile (Dr) Lecturer U212 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● African languages in the psychological assessment of intelligence ● Integrating African languages in the training of psychologists ● Cultural and linguistic identity of amaZulu ● Bakhtinian dialogism and selfhood | <p>Interested in supervising qualitative and mixed-methods research in any of my areas of interest.</p> |
| Mayisela, Simangele (Dr) Senior Lecturer U213 | <p>Qualitative research with Theoretical Approaches: Psychodynamic, Vygotskian - Cultural Historical Activity Theory and African Critical Theories</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Trauma, Anxiety and Depression related to effects of early and childhood experiences of violence 2) Childhood depression and externalising behaviours, as well as agency; related to childhood experiences of violence, father absence and (dis)connections. 3) Interventions for transforming violent child discipline strategies; child-assault by teachers and parents 4) Psychotherapy, play therapy and counselling 5) Internalisation and Identification with the violent attachment figure in adolescents 6) Intergenerational trauma, systemic violence and domestic violence and |

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| | | <p>how these impact on learning and development</p> <p>7) Early childhood identification of support need, early childhood support provision, and inclusive education in early childhood</p> |
| <p>Milner, Karen (Prof) Associate Professor</p> | <p>Employee well-being; workplace health promotion; stress; psycho-social risk factors in the workplace; interventions to improve employee well-being; social innovation;</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Appreciative Inquiry's role in empowering marginalized identities in organisations through strengths-based engagement. 2) The impact of Appreciative Inquiry I on social innovation and civic engagement. 3) The role of Appreciative Inquiry in fostering inclusion and belonging in the workplace 4) The role of Appreciative inquiry in fostering meaning at work |
| <p>Mulaudzi, Mamakiri (Dr), lecturer U318</p> | <p>HIV prevention in young people Mobile health(mHealth) in HIV prevention and depression among young people Health related research (COVID-19 vaccine and prevention, TB, STIs, Substance use/abuse) Sexuality</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am interested in qualitative research methods in HIV prevention, mHealth, sexuality and health related research particularly among young people. |
| <p>Munro, Nicholas (Dr), Senior Lecturer, U222</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher education studies (student well-being; food insecurity among students; emotions in teaching and learning) • Health psychology (sport and health; vaccine confidence and communication studies; health communication strategies) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative studies of coping strategies used by students to manage food insecurity. • Quantitative studies (via survey) of extent of students' vulnerability to food insecurity, and related impacts on well-being and learning/academic achievement. • Thematic or discourse analyses of social media and online health communication strategies pertaining to vaccination programmes (e.g., school-based HPV vaccination programme, influenza). • Systematic reviews of (HPV) vaccine hesitancy (i.e., interrogating reasons |

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| | | for delays in acceptance or refusal of (HPV) vaccination). |
| Bongiwe Ncube Lecturer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual and gender minorities (with a particular focus on Black women) • Resilience in the South African context (multisystemic resources) • Intersectionality (intersecting identities and intersecting risks in the South African context - i.e., historically disadvantaged communities) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative research that focuses on the interests stated. |
| Uren, Sarah (Dr) Lecturer U227 | <p>Broad areas of research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching and learning • Professional training in psychology in South Africa • Psychotherapy • Psychotherapy supervision • Community and critical social psychology | <p>Interested in supervising qualitative research in any of the broad areas of interest, such as:</p> <p>Teaching and learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher Education in the Global South (critical issues) - Student voices - Innovative teaching practices <p>Professional training in psychology in South Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professional identity development of trainee psychologists - Psychotherapy supervision <p>Psychotherapy and counselling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experiences of psychotherapy/counselling - Countertransference/emotional responses in psychotherapy and lay counsellors <p>Community and critical social psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ageism, aging - Palliative care (caregiver experiences) - Gender |
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| Nkomo, Nkululeko (Prof) Associate Professor U336B | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical affect studies • Race, racialisation and racism • Black public humanities • Health subjectivities and identities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affect, subjectivities and identities • Understanding everyday racism • Biographical research • Personhood and the body |

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| <p>Nkoana, Winnie Lecturer</p> | <p>Neuropsychology, neuroscience, cognitive neuroscience-Neurodisabilities/neurodevelopmental disorders (TBI, LDs, FASD, ASD, etc) young people in conflict with the law (YCWL), education in custody, screening of neurodisabilities in custodial settings/criminal justice system, Rehabilitation of YCWL, People living with brain injuries.</p> <p>Also interested in mental health and culture and neuropsychology of HIV</p> | <p>I am interested in Qualitative projects that explore;</p> <p>Education for YCWL with NDs (from perspective of YCWL or prison educators)</p> <p>Neurodisabilities and access to education in children and youth</p> <p>Experience of prison stakeholders who work with YCWL, including those with NDs</p> |
| <p>Owen, Michael (Dr) Lecturer</p> | <p>My current research interests include sexuality (particularly marginalised sexuality, in terms of psychotherapist identity), gender, intersectionality; and psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic psychotherapy</p> | <p>I would be interested in any projects that include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. psychotherapist identity, particularly around marginalised sexualities 2. psychoanalytic theory or practice 3. Relational psychoanalytic psychotherapy 4. Intersectionality in psychoanalytic psychotherapy |
| <p>Patel Ruby Lecturer</p> | <p>Developmental Psychology - with specific interest in infant mental early and early prevention. Psychosocial research into child headed households, risk and resilience. Adolescent studies related to HIV/AIDS, Adherence, Emotional challenges, grief, trauma and other mental health challenges</p> <p>Decolonial Psychoanalysis – with specific interest on how psychoanalysis maintain social asymmetries in practice.</p> <p>Critical Community Psychology – mental health activism in marginalised communities, role of indigenous healing systems, counselling services in marginalized communities, politics of HIV/AIDS, advocacy, systemic level barriers mental health in communities.</p> | <p>Decolonial Psychoanalysis – Race , Grief Trauma</p> <p>Affect, race and identities in psychoanalytic psychotherapy</p> <p>Migration, war related violence, trauma and its impact on young children .</p> <p>HIV related research</p> |

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| | IPA as a method of analysis – developing single case study method as research in psychoanalysis | |
| Peral, Sergio (Dr) Lecturer U305 | <p>Research Interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predictors and outcomes of proactive employee behaviours (e.g., job crafting, playful work design) • Test construction and validation • Careers, career wellbeing, career agility, career choices, work trends | <p>Specific Research Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conceptualising job crafting within the sporting context: Cape Town City FC case study (Qualitative, observational) • Understanding the relationship between job crafting and career well-being • Translation and validation of the Job Crafting Scale to isiZulu (would need to be an isiZulu speaking student preferably) |
| Pitman, Michael (Dr) Senior Lecturer U307 | <p>I am especially interested in empirical (including experimental, online and/or 'viral') investigations in the following topic areas:</p> <p>a. MI: Music Imagery (incl. earworms, effects of MI on cognitive performance, persistence of MI, experience sampling studies of MI)</p> <p>b. Music: Uses & effects of music in academic/work settings</p> <p>c. Psychopathology: Clinicians' assumptions about mind and brain in psychopathology and clinical work.</p> <p>d. Consciousness: the nature and variability of phenomenal conscious experience</p> | <p>In 2024, I am keen to supervise projects on:</p> <p>i. Consciousness: evidence of variability in conscious experience in popular media/ social media, and the implications for accounts of consciousness/ phenomenal consciousness.</p> <p>ii. Music: Use and impact of background music while studying/ working; interference and enhancement effects of music on cognitive performance.</p> <p>iii. MI: Experience-sampling and/ or online/viral studies of musical imagery, such as musical imagery on waking (MIOW).</p> <p>iv. I have listed two traffic-/ road-safety-related topic areas at the end of this document – students electing to conduct research on these topics may qualify for bursary assistance from a departmental endowment fund.</p> <p>Please feel free to sample some of my published research on my ResearchGate page.</p> |
| Rafaely Daniella (Dr) Senior Lecturer | <p>I am interested in the study of language and interaction. My focus is qualitative methodology that incorporates conversation analysis or discourse analysis. Conversation analysis is a highly</p> | <p>I am interested in working in critical methodologies, including discourse analysis and conversation analysis.</p> <p>Current project with existing data:</p> |

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| | <p>technical method that studies the sequential organization of talk-in-interaction. Discourse analysis includes a variety of approaches, including Foucauldian DA and critical DA, that examine social structures and the ways they constitute reality.</p> | <p>I am doing a study on Farm violence, land and dispossession (discourse analysis, using news reports from 1994 – present). I am open to other research ideas utilizing these methods. I have access to a range of conversational data that can be inductively developed for various research topics.</p> |
| <p>Thabiso Ramohlola (Mr) Lecturer U310</p> | <p>I am interested in broad areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Psychoanalytic theory and psychosocial approach ● Positionality, intersubjectivity, and marginality ● Emotional and unconscious dimensions of psychoanalytic work ● Therapist subjectivity and identity in clinical practice | <p>I would be interested in qualitative projects that include the research areas stated.</p> |
| <p>Rogers Shawn (Dr)</p> | <p>I am interested in how Bi/multilingualism affects cognitive processing. This includes a focus on language proficiency, Language of Learning and Teaching (LoLT), Executive functioning and working memory, in school aged children.</p> | <p>A more specific focus would include The influence SES has on language proficiency and Cognitive functioning (executive functioning and working memory) in SA schools.</p> |
| <p>Sheridan, Gillian (Dr) Lecturer U221</p> | <p>Broad areas of interest include psychoanalytic theory and psychotherapy; identity; motherhood; intersectionality and spirituality</p> | <p>Qualitative research projects that align with the research interests stated.</p> |
| <p>Soule, Alexa (Mrs) Lecturer U336</p> | <p>Broadly, my work focuses on neuropsychology, culturally fair assessment in the South African context, neurorehabilitation, and psychoeducation. More specifically, my research interests include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dementia research in South Africa, including risk factors, prevention, psychoeducation, and public healthcare | <p>I am interested in supervising quantitative or mixed-methods research in any of my broad areas of interest.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brain injury, concussion (including contact sports-related), and neurorehabilitation - Neurocognitive impacts of HIV, treatment adherence, and its intersection with ageing and dementia (beyond traditional HAND frameworks) - Development, adaptation, and validation of culturally fair neuropsychological assessments and dementia screening tools - Application of cognitive rehabilitation in low-resource settings - Innovative approaches to neurorehabilitation, including digital and virtual reality methods | |
| <p>Thatcher, Andrew (Prof) Professor U304</p> | <p>Professor Thatcher is currently researching the psychological factors around the adoption of sustainable technologies. This research looks at the combinatory effects of the affective qualities of the sustainable technology and the underlying psychological morals surrounding pro-environmental behaviour. Specific project details also include affect in the design of sustainable technologies, assessing wellbeing and productivity in green buildings, and the theoretical development of human factors and sustainable development.</p> <p>Traffic Psychology Project – may have associated bursaries that cover tuition fees</p> | <p>Possible topics for 2024 (quantitative, qualitative, mixed-method) include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Perceptions of “decent” work in marginalised communities 2. Representing uncertainty in forecasting to small-scale farmers 3. Perceptions of a systematic approach to integrate ergonomics and sustainability into organisations 4. Choice experiments of water availability in AMD-affected communities 5. Eco-anxiety amongst specific groups <p>Specific topics & supervisors as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr Michael Pitman – Quantitative/ observational studies of</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Earphone/ headphone use and pedestrian safety |

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| | | 2. Modes of student transport, perceived accident risk/ safety, and stress/ university adjustment |
| van Rensburg, Richard (Mr) Tutor U218C | Broad areas of interest include sexual and gender diversity and identity; secondary schooling experiences; social transformation in educational contexts; student transitions from secondary to tertiary levels; student experiences in higher education; innovative uses of qualitative research methods | Proposed projects can be qualitative, quantitative or mixed-method studies. Some suggested topics areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sexual and gender diverse students' experiences of university ● Learners' experiences of schooling and schooling space ● School teachers' experiences of support in their school contexts ● Experiences of psychosocial support staff working in school contexts ● Students' experiences of transitioning from high school to higher education ● Efficacy of mentorship in student success |
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