

## Realist Methodology Training Week: May 21 – 25, 2018

The Foresight Centre, 1 Brownlow St., Liverpool

For more information or to register please go to:

[www.realistmethodology-cares.org](http://www.realistmethodology-cares.org)

### **1. Introduction to Realist Evaluation and Synthesis.**

Monday May 21<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

Introductory 2-day workshop on realist methodology to help in understanding how complex interventions, programmes, or policies function given the interaction between mechanisms and corresponding implementation contexts. In this introductory workshop participants will learn the basics in realist philosophy, principles and practice including how to develop middle-range and programme theories, context-mechanism-outcome configurations and steps in the process of conducting a realist evaluation or synthesis.

### **2. Gaining Clarity From the Philosophical Foundations of Realist Evaluation.**

Wednesday May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 + follow up webinar on Thursday June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

This is a one-day in-person workshop + online webinar on the philosophical foundations of realist evaluation for students, researchers, commissioners, evaluation specialists and others. Gain clarity and understanding for conveying and writing about the philosophical foundations of realist evaluation. Participants will address and learn to articulate ideas from the following concepts and influential thinkers: 1. Falsifiable Programme Theory (Popper); Middle-Range Theory (Merton); Retroduction/Ontological Depth (Bhaskar); Abduction (Pierce); Demi-Regularity (Lawson); Morphogenesis (Archer) and the Context-Mechanism-Outcome configuration (Pawson and Tilley).

### **3. Enhancing Technique in Realist Qualitative Interviewing:**

Thursday May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Learn how to lead a theory-driven interview, collect rich and informative data while not "biasing" interviewee responses. Explore how to carry the realist interview into conversations that reflect ontological depth but remain trustworthy. Principles of realist methodology will be provided along with a look at key papers on realist qualitative interviewing (Pawson 1996, Manzano 2016) and will explore implementing principles and technique with examples. Participants will have the opportunity to present interview guides for feedback, and role play to enhance interview technique.

### **4. Conceptualizing and Visual Depiction of Complex Realist Analyses:**

Friday May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Explore various ways of conceptualizing and conveying complex realist analyses. We will begin by studying different ways in which the CMO configuration is used to visually depict generative causation and causal pathway analyses. Text-based depiction of findings using CMO configurations as well as other forms of visual modelling will be presented. Reflect on and practice conveying complex evidence in clear terms without compromising the integrity of the analysis. Build capacity to visually display realist theory-evidence configurations, improve analytical thinking and clarify realist methodological principles.

## **Other Events:**

### **Free Webinar:**

#### **5 Ideas from Realist Evaluation for Public Health and Primary Care.**

Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 12:00pm – 1:00pm (Australian Eastern Standard Time). To register click the 'webinar' tab at [www.realistmethodology-cares.org](http://www.realistmethodology-cares.org)

### **Free Seminar with Engage Liverpool:**

#### **Illuminating Blind Spots: Realist Evaluation, Innovation and an Architectural Understanding of Social Programmes.**

Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 1:00pm – 4:00pm, University of Liverpool, Foresight Centre. 1 Brownlow St, Liverpool.

To register please go to: <http://payments.liv.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/events-at-liverpool/cares-centre-for-the-advancement-of-realist-evaluation-and-synthesis/illuminating-blind-spots>