



# Work and Learning Research Centre SIG

Dr Paula Nottingham

Prof Carol Costley Director



Middlesex  
University  
London

# Introduction - websites

**CERS**  
CENTRE FOR EDUCATION RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

NEWS · UPCOMING EVENTS · OUR RESEARCH · DOCTORAL STUDY · RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT · ABOUT · NEW HE SIG

## WORK AND LEARNING

WORK AND LEARNING -

Sig Overview

News

Upcoming Events

Past Events

Current Research Projects

Archived Research Projects

Affiliations

CONTACT -

OUR VISION IS:

- To lead, nationally and internationally, in practice-based research and learning in work.
- To be the centre of choice for research, development and consultancy within our focus areas.
- To be a key constituent of the Middlesex University excellence in innovation in research and development in professional learning.

OUR RESEARCH FALLS INTO FOUR AREAS:

- Approaches to pedagogy and curriculum development for work-based learners and professional practice researches, including learning interventions within the workplace. Specifically the study of process and underpinning frameworks that enhance and embed organizational and individual learning in the work place to improve performance and impact. Framework for conceptualizing change in work and innovative and responsive methodologies for practitioner research.
- Theoretical and Ethical Aspects of Practice-Based Studies. Bringing philosophical ideas to bear on professional developmental issues including transdisciplinarity ethics, values, and epistemologies of change.
- Approaches to Change and Development in Work

Professor Carol Costley

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studying with us during coronavirus in 2022

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## Work and Learning Research Centre

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Director of the Work and Learning Research Centre

Prof Carol Costley  
Professor of Work Based Learning

MDX joint top institution globally for work-based learning research, study finds 11/11/2020

Coaching at Middlesex

The Doctorate in Professional Studies

Networks

Transdisciplinarity Our approach

PhD in Professional Studies / Work Based Learning

Visiting Professors

Selected funded Research Projects

Special editions and collected works in Work and Learning

Welcome to the Work and Learning Research Centre. Our research, engagement and knowledge exchange in work and learning is internationally renowned as leading in the production of knowledge in the field.

Our staff research sits firmly in the sphere of Education and has a pan-university remit. Since its establishment in 1997 our work has been influential in applying theoretical perspectives from education and practice theories to empirical studies in the creation, translation and use of knowledge and innovation.

**Our research**

Research in the theoretical and ethical aspects of practice-based studies, especially the spaces that connect higher education with work practices brings philosophical ideas to bear on professional development including transdisciplinarity, ethics, values, and epistemologies of change.

We have been particularly successful in research which informs professional learning through a cross-disciplinary higher education curriculum that acknowledges the transdisciplinary nature of work (paid and unpaid). For undergraduates this encompasses the work integrated learning of placements, other work-related learning and degree apprenticeships. For professionals undertaking post-graduate degrees we have researched and developed curricular and pedagogies appropriate for researching professionals who have existing expertise in their own professional practice.

Our research recognises the strong associations between Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, and how knowledge is conceptualised, conducted, and evaluated. Consequently we developed responsive methodologies for practitioner-research and engaged with the purposive role of experiential knowledge in the evaluation of research that gives relevance to change initiatives.

**Postgraduate research**

Our postgraduate researchers have a practice orientation, seeking to develop their own or their professional area of practice (see examples). Their transdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder engagement with academic and professional networks takes on challenges that cut across curricula and face current professional issues often to enhance the social good.

The Research Centre's research and development in doctoral curricula relevant for professional learning (example) provides our Professional Doctorates and Practice-based PhDs with integrated, practice-based approaches, aiming to enhance the exchange and translation of knowledge with considered outcomes and engagement. The Centre's international leadership and reputation is signified by our facilitation of the International Association for Practice Doctorates and chairing the International Conference on Professional and Practice-based Doctorates

**Our doctorate pathways**

Master/ Doctor of Professional Studies

Master/ Doctor of Professional Studies by Public Works

## WORK AND LEARNING

Connecting with a networked community of practice associated with the  
and Universities Association for Lifelong Learning and the University  
Vocational Awards Council

HOME · PRACTICE · APPRENTICESHIPS · RESEARCH · DOCTORAL STUDIES · INCLUSIVITY · EVENTS · NETWORK



RESEARCH

PRACTICE

NEWS

<https://mdxcers.com/work-and-learning/>

<https://www.workandlearningnetwork.org>

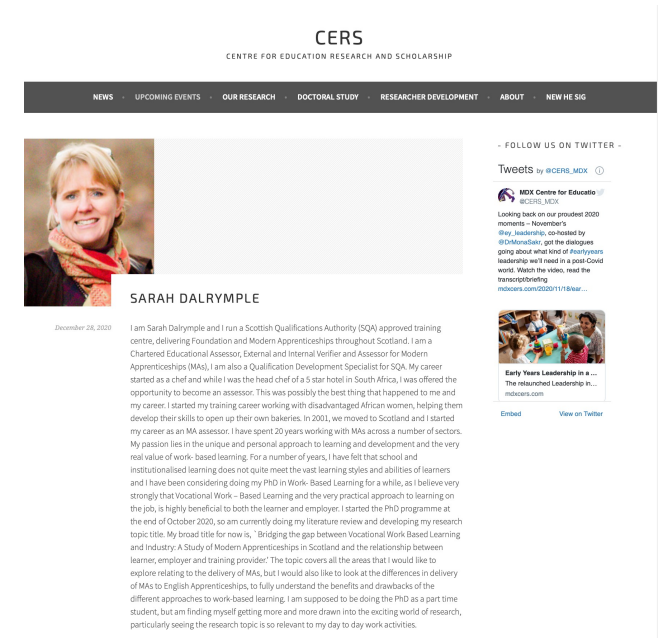
<https://www.workandlearningnetwork.org>

<https://www.mdx.ac.uk/our-research/centres/cers>

<https://mdxcers.com>

# Doctoral Programmes

- ➔ Information about the Work and Learning Doctoral programme is on the University Research Centre's web page [www.mdx.ac.uk/wbl](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/wbl)
- ➔ The W&L doctorates are Education Doctorates in that they are all registered in Education HESA codes and come under the Education unit of assessment for REF. The DProf (TD) is now managed by the Business School.
- ➔ Work and Learning offer:
  - the PhD WBL
  - PhD WBL by Public Works and the
  - PhD Professional Studies (with PDF)
- ➔ Current doctoral students are all part time adult learners with full time jobs, many are overseas and distance learning.



<https://mdxcers.com/2020/12/28/sarah-dalrymple/>

# Doctoral Programmes

- ➔ Forthcoming talks from Boud, Bravenboer and Costley on topics such as research being undertaken on placement assessment
- ➔ Academics in this area of practice liaise with the RDA research training sessions, like the Literature Review (Nottingham), presented on the Research Degrees webpages <https://unihub.mdx.ac.uk/study/types/research-at-middlesex/events-and-training>
- ➔ MyLearning resources like impact case studies - we invite our practice-based students to contribute to along with doc candidates from other unis that focus on impact outcomes. <http://www.ukcge.ac.uk/events/documents/icppd-impact-case-studies-92.aspx>
- ➔ RDP resources such as playlists and presentations [https://www.play.mdx.ac.uk/playlist/dedicated/1\\_lmsyiym/1\\_v092gz1d](https://www.play.mdx.ac.uk/playlist/dedicated/1_lmsyiym/1_v092gz1d)  
<https://mdx.mrooms.net/enrol/index.php?id=28655>



# Research Training

SIGN events include sessions about writing

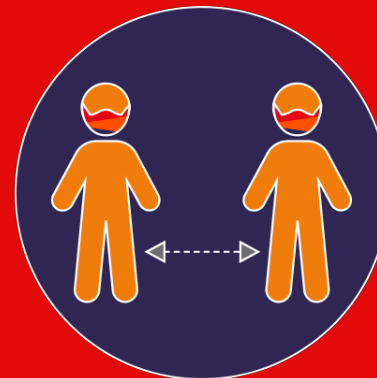


... and talks from our Visiting Professors.



# BE SAFE DURING CORONAVIRUS

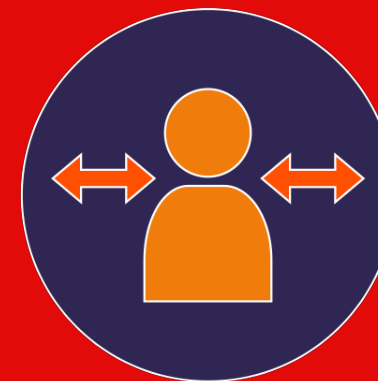
WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER



**KEEP YOUR DISTANCE**



**WEAR YOUR FACE  
COVERING**



**RESPECT THOSE  
EXEMPT FROM WEARING  
A FACE COVERING**



**WASH YOUR HANDS**



**STAY HOME IF UNWELL**