2020 SPINE Online Course

Introduction to Realist Methodology
4-5 and 25-26 November 2020

Course Description:

Realist Methodology helps us develop our capacity for recognizing the observable and hidden forces that produce outcomes in complex interventions. Using the approach, we can better understand *how* complex interventions work, *for whom* and *in which circumstances*. In this four 3-hour online sessions, students will be introduced to the fundamental principles of realist methodology and will acquire an understanding of the step-by-step approach to conducting a realist evaluation or realist synthesis.

Session 1 and 2 (4th and 5th of Nov) will provide an overview of realist methodology including key principles from realist philosophy including the important concept of retroduction as well as guidance on developing programme theories and context-mechanism outcome configurations. Two hands-on exercises will be provided to facilitate the learning process.

Session 3 and 4 (25th and 26th of Nov) will advance concepts introduced in day one with a focus on understanding mechanisms, CMO configuring and middle-range theories. Session 3 will focus on steps for conducting a realist synthesis and in Session 4 we will focus on steps for conducting a realist evaluation.

The course will conclude with guidance points about the pragmatic aims of realist methodology and most important take-home points for improving the quality and efficiency of realist methodology outputs.

Preparation: Students are encouraged to review the freely available webinars on the homepage at www.realistmethodology-cares.org to provide orientation to the workshop. The following journal articles are also recommended as preparatory reading:

Jagosh J. (2020) Retroductive Theorizing in Pawson and Tilley's Realist Evaluation. Published online on February 24th, 2020. doi: 10.1080/14767430.2020.1723301

Jagosh J. (2019) Realist Synthesis for Public Health: Building an Ontologically Deep Understanding of How Programmes Work, For Whom, and in Which Contexts. Annual Review of Public Health: 40(1).

Jagosh J, Bush PL, Salsberg J, Macaulay AC, Greenhalgh T, Wong G, Cargo M, Green LW, Herbert CW, Pluye P. (2015). A Realist Evaluation of Community-Based Participatory Research: Partnership synergy, trust building and related ripple effects. BMC Public Health, 15(725).

Facilitator Biography: Justin Jagosh, Ph.D is an independent consultant, mentor and trainer for Realist Methodology in the tradition of Pawson and Tilley. He is the Director for the Centre for Advancement in Realist Evaluation and Synthesis (CARES), which began in 2014 at the University of Liverpool (UK). His specialized skill is in showing people how they can improve their retroductive thinking capacity to master the potential of applied scientific realism. In doing so he offers bespoke consultation and training to clients internationally who are learning to use the approach. More information can be found at: www.realistmethodology-cares.org.

Dates of online sessions	Location
4th and 5th of November 2020 25th and 26th of November 2020	Online (further details will be communicated on due time)
Schedule of the online sessions	Commitment and Credits
17h00-20h00 CEST	1 ECTS

Target Group and Eligibility
Doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows, faculty members and researchers from Nursing Science and healthcare disciplines interested in learning in which context of research realis review can be applied. Participants should have successfully completed graduate level courses in research methodology and be familiar with health research concepts.

Registration – Deadline October 14th 2020 (places are limited)
- Registration: via email to Laura.Rio@chuv.ch with a Copy of higher degree or letter from PhD supervisor

Course Fees*
- Regular fee: CHF 560
- PhD students not affiliated with SPINE or PPHS**: CHF 360
- INS- and UNIL Alumni: CHF 360
- PhD students affiliated with SPINE (INS, UNIL) and PPHS: Free

*The course fee includes course materials. Registration is conditional upon full payment of fees.
**To qualify for the PhD fee, applicants are required to submit a letter from their supervisor stating their actual position as a doctoral student

Payment

Through invoice

Payment of fees should be received at the latest by October 14th 2020.

Terms, Conditions and Cancellation Policy

• Seating is limited to 20 participants. All participants must commit to attend the four online sessions. Applicants are selected on a first come first serve basis. Only complete applications are considered. Notification of acceptance will be emailed within 3 weeks of the closing date.
• In case of cancellation, a written notification must be sent. A service fee of CHF 50 will be charged. Refund will no longer be possible after October 15th 2020.
• The organization does not accept liability for personal injuries or for loss or damage to property belonging to participants sustained either during or as result of the course. The organization reserves the right to make minor program modifications, decline applications, or cancel the course in case of insufficient registrations at the closing date.

Contacts and Questions
Regarding registration: Laura.Rio@chuv.ch , member of SPINE Committee
Regarding the course: Anne-Sylvie.Ramelet@chuv.ch , Co-Director of SPINE

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