

Research themes

A series of broad research themes underpin the research activities of the School.

- [Comparative political systems and public policy \(/schools/government-society/research/themes/comparative-political-systems-public-policy.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/themes/comparative-political-systems-public-policy.aspx)
- [Governance and the state \(/schools/government-society/research/themes/governance-state.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/themes/governance-state.aspx)
- [International politics and security studies \(/schools/government-society/research/themes/international-politics-security-studies.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/themes/international-politics-security-studies.aspx)
- [Social and political theory \(/schools/government-society/research/themes/social-political-theory.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/themes/social-political-theory.aspx)

Comparative political systems and public policy

Key research groups:

- [European studies \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/european-studies.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/european-studies.aspx)
- German politics
- Comparative politics and democratisation
- [Environmental politics \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/environmental-politics.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/environmental-politics.aspx)

Research projects:

[Translation across borders: exploring the use, relevance and impact of academic research in the policy process \(Jan 2014 - Mar 2015\) \(/schools/government-society/research/projects/inlogov/2014/translation-across-borders.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/projects/inlogov/2014/translation-across-borders.aspx)



This project seeks to explore and suggest ways to address the frustrations which attempts to translate research into policy can bring. A focus of concern for academics is the fidelity of translation to their research findings. For policy-makers, the focus is often the function of the translation for the demands they are seeking to address.

[Evaluation of Community Organisers and Community First programmes \(Nov 2012 - Feb 2015\) \(/schools/government-society/research/projects/inlogov/2014/evaluation-community-organisers-community-first-programmes.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/projects/inlogov/2014/evaluation-community-organisers-community-first-programmes.aspx)



The evaluation will assess the delivery and social impact of both programmes, providing continuous learning and relevant insights for programme development.

More information: [Comparative political systems and public policy \(/schools/government-society/research/themes/comparative-political-systems-public-policy.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/themes/comparative-political-systems-public-policy.aspx).

Governance and the state

Key research groups:

- [British politics and the state \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/british-politics/index.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/british-politics/index.aspx)
- Public administration
- [International political economy \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/international-political-economy.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/international-political-economy.aspx)

Research projects:

[Network governance and low carbon transitions in European cities \(Nov 2014 - Oct 2017\) \(/schools/government-society/research/projects/inlogov/2014/network-governance-low-carbon-transitions-european-cities.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/projects/inlogov/2014/network-governance-low-carbon-transitions-european-cities.aspx)



How can European cities transition to a low carbon future? What are the governance challenges in creating environmentally sustainable cities? Can ideas about 'network governance' enhance adaption to climate change by improving interaction between citizens, businesses, associations and governments?

[Do flexible institutions enhance democracy? A comparative analysis of public governance innovations in Brazil and the UK \(Jul 2014 - Jul 2016\) \(/schools/government-society/research/projects/inlogov/2014/do-flexible-institutions-enhance-democracy.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/projects/inlogov/2014/do-flexible-institutions-enhance-democracy.aspx)



The purpose of this exploratory research is to bring complementary expertise from the UK and Brazil to the analysis of democratic innovations - the global search for new ways in which societal, economic and cultural problems can be resolved through the direct involvement of citizens, civil society organisations, and other parties.

More information: [Governance and the state \(/schools/government-society/research/themes/governance-state.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/themes/governance-state.aspx).

International politics and security studies

Key research groups:

- [Security studies \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/security-studies.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/security-studies.aspx)
- [Diplomacy, state-building \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/diplomacy-negotiation.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/diplomacy-negotiation.aspx)
- Security and development

Research projects:

[Coastal Ecosystem Services for East Africa \(/schools/government-society/research/projects/idd/2014/costal-ecosystem-services-east-africa.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/projects/idd/2014/costal-ecosystem-services-east-africa.aspx)



This project draws on previous research experience, including from Swahili Seas, to find ways to increase the number of communities that can benefit from PES schemes and the range of ecosystems and ecosystem services that can be protected. A key concern in seeking to upscale pro-poor coastal PES schemes is the need to identify and understand potential barriers and supporting mechanisms within different levels of governance.

[Networking for fisheries co-management on Lake Victoria, East Africa \(Jun 2014 - May 2016\) \(/schools/government-society/research/projects/idd/2014/networking-fisheries-co-management-africa.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/projects/idd/2014/networking-fisheries-co-management-africa.aspx)



This research will contribute to co-management theory and practice by investigating the personal networks of fisheries stakeholders to find out who, and what types of relationships, influence fishers' behaviour. Relationships to be investigated might include who is consulted to gain information on where to fish, to whom fishers turn to borrow money or find employment. Such relationships influence fisherfolk behaviour and, in turn, attitudes to and engagement with co-management.

More information: [International politics and security studies \(/schools/government-society/research/themes/international-politics-security-studies.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/themes/international-politics-security-studies.aspx).

Social and political theory

Key research groups:

- [Political and social theory \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/social-political-theory.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/social-political-theory.aspx)
- [Gender and feminist theory \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/gender-feminist-theory.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/gender-feminist-theory.aspx)
- [International relations theory \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/international-relations-theory.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/research/groups/international-relations-theory.aspx)

Research projects:

[Male and Transgender Sex Work in the UK and Netherlands \(2011 - 12\) \(/schools/government-society/research/projects/polsis/2011/male-transgender-sex-work-uk-netherlands.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/projects/polsis/2011/male-transgender-sex-work-uk-netherlands.aspx)



The proposed research seeks to contribute to academic and policy debates about commercial sex by advancing empirical and theoretical knowledge in the under-explored area of male and transgender sex work.

More information: [Social and political theory \(/schools/government-society/research/themes/social-political-theory.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/research/themes/social-political-theory.aspx).