

## Dr Michael Larkin BA PGCert Phd

Senior Research Tutor for Clinical Psychology  
Senior Lecturer in Psychology  
Course Director MRes Clinical Psychology

[School of Psychology \(/schools/psychology/index.aspx\)](/schools/psychology/index.aspx)

### Contact details

Telephone **+44 (0)121 41 46036** (tel:+44 121 41 46036)

Email [m.larkin@bham.ac.uk](mailto:m.larkin@bham.ac.uk) (mailto:m.larkin@bham.ac.uk)

Twitter [@ipanalysis](http://twitter.com/@ipanalysis) (<http://twitter.com/@ipanalysis>)

University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham  
B15 2TT  
UK

### About

My main roles involve teaching, supporting and supervising research on the clinical psychology doctorate, and organising the MRes Clinical Psychology course. I also supervise PhD students using qualitative research methods to explore experiences of psychological distress, recovery, relatedness and caring. My research interests are in these same areas.

### Qualifications

BA (Joint Hons) English Literature & Psychology; PGCert (Social Science Research Methods); PhD (Psychology).

Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, MBPsS, Fellow of the NIHR School for Social Care Research.

### Teaching

I teach on the Clinical Psychology doctoral program, the MRes Clinical Psychology program, and the MSci Applied Psychology program.

### Postgraduate supervision

I have previously supervised PhDs by Michelle Palmer, Kuljit Heer and Rita Meneses to completion. I am currently working with the following PhD students: Tara Morrey, Jalix Lees, Sara Tookey, Divya Chadha, Phil Bushell, Jenny La Fontaine, Stephanie Kewley, and Fiona Lerigo. I also co-supervise some other doctoral students within the University, supporting them on phenomenological aspects of their wider projects (e.g. Meltem Budak, Emma Clarkson, Margaret Amankwah-Poku, Chris Wagstaff, Juliane Kloess). In addition, I supervise MRes placements and projects, and DClinPsy doctoral research projects.

### Research

I currently run a funded project for the [NIHR School for Social Care Research \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/dsa/clinical/projects/asc-ld/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/dsa/clinical/projects/asc-ld/index.aspx). I am also involved in funded projects for Epilepsy Action, NOTA, and an [action research project on hospitalisation in early psychosis \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/psychology/news-events/2013/26Apr-larkin-inpatient-psychiatric.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/psychology/news-events/2013/26Apr-larkin-inpatient-psychiatric.aspx), conducted in partnership with Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust. I am involved in several of the University's interdisciplinary Institute of Applied Studies research initiatives ('[Interpersonal Narratives and Recovery \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/ias/workshops/2013/interpersonal-narratives-and-mental-health.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/ias/workshops/2013/interpersonal-narratives-and-mental-health.aspx)', 'Communicating Mental Health,' and '[Health and Happiness \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/ias/workshops/2012/health-happiness.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/ias/workshops/2012/health-happiness.aspx).') These programs build on links to colleagues in other Schools, notably [Prof Lisa Bortolotti \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/philosophy/bortolotti-lisa.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/philosophy/bortolotti-lisa.aspx) (whose AHRC '[Epistemic Innocence \(https://sites.google.com/site/epistemicinnocence/\)](https://sites.google.com/site/epistemicinnocence/)' project I will be contributing to) and [Prof Heather Widdows \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/philosophy/widdows-heather.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/philosophy/widdows-heather.aspx) in the School of Philosophy, and [Dr Jerry Tew \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/social-policy/tew-jerry.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/social-policy/tew-jerry.aspx) in the School of Social Policy. From next year, I will also be contributing to Lisa Bortolotti's [PERFECT \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/ptr/departments/philosophy/news/2013/project-perfect.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/ptr/departments/philosophy/news/2013/project-perfect.aspx) project. I am a member of the local Mental Health Research Network's new Clinical Research Group on 'Mental Wellbeing, Public Mental Health and Recovery,' the [Centre for the Study of Global Ethics \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/globalethics/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/globalethics/index.aspx), and the University's service-user research group, [Suresearch \(http://www.suresearch.org.uk/\)](http://www.suresearch.org.uk/).

The topics and approaches which link these activities are:

Phenomenology and psychological methods; Relatedness & recovery; Culture & wellbeing (esp. re: psychological distress); Making sense of embodied experiences (e.g. empathy); Making sense of anomalous experiences (e.g. loss of control); Young people & families coping with distress & change; Experiences of psychological interventions & services; Working with interpreters.

### Other activities

I edit a webpage about [Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis \(IPA\) \(http://ipacommunity.tumblr.com/\)](http://ipacommunity.tumblr.com/).

I host this twitter feed: [@ipanalysis](http://twitter.com/@ipanalysis)

I am the West Midlands representative for the IPA network. [Email me \(mailto:m.larkin@bham.ac.uk\)](mailto:m.larkin@bham.ac.uk) to find out about Experiential Psychology meetings in the West Midlands Group.

Find details of [IPA training events \(http://www.ipa.bbk.ac.uk/news/events\)](http://www.ipa.bbk.ac.uk/news/events).

### Publications

## Published

- Dennis, N. L., Larkin, M. and Derbyshire, S. W. G. (2013), 'A giant mess' – making sense of complexity in the accounts of people with fibromyalgia. *British Journal of Health Psychology*. doi: 10.1111/bjhp.12020
- Vincent, F., Jenkins, H.M., Larkin, M. Clohessy, S. (2012). Asylum-seekers' experiences of trauma-focused cognitive behaviour therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder: A qualitative study. *Behavioural and cognitive psychotherapy*. 41:5, 579-593. **Published online: 16 July 2012 dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1352465812000550** (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1352465812000550>)
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- Rouf, K. Larkin, M., & Lowe, G. (2011). Making decisions about Parental Mental Health: an exploratory study of Community Mental Health Team staff. *Child Abuse Review*, 20: n/a. doi: 10.1002/car.1172
- Larkin, M., Eatough, V., & Osborn, M. (2011). Interpretative phenomenological analysis and embodied, active, situated cognition. *Theory and Psychology*, 21:3, 318 – 337. DOI 10.1177/0959354310377544
- Rostill, H., Larkin, M., Toms, A., Churchman, C. (2010). A shared experience of fragmentation: making sense of foster placement breakdown. *Clinical Child Psychology & Psychiatry*. doi:10.1177/1359104509352894
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- Palmer, M., Larkin, M., De Visser, R., Fadden, G. (2010). Developing an interpretative phenomenological approach to focus group data. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 7:2, 99 – 121. DOI: 10.1080/14780880802513194 [BPS QMIP Early Career Prize for MP]
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