University of Birmingham

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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 docotoral 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)** . 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)** , 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)** ,' 'Communicating Mental Health,' and '**Health and Happiness (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)** (whose AHRC '**Epistemic Innocence (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)** in the School of Philosophy, and **Dr Jerry Tew (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)** 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)** , and the University's service-user research group, **Suresearch (http://www.suresearch.org.uk/)** .

The topics and approaches which link these activites 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/)** .

I host this twitter feed: @ipanalysis

I am the West Midlands representative for the IPA network. **Email me (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)** .

Publications

My H-index is currently 14. (http://scholar.google.co.uk/citations?hl=en&user=drR1NjkAAAAJ&view_op=list_works&is_public_preview=1)

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

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