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MSc Global Mental Health and Society

Dr Anna Chiumento | Co-Programme Director
Dr Sumeet Jain | Co-Programme Director

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Agenda

- Introductions and global mental health at Edinburgh
- Why global mental health?
- MSc GMH and Society
- Approaches to teaching and learning methods
- Why Global Mental Health @Edinburgh?
- Input from current student
- Questions



Introductions

MSc Global Mental Health and Society



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Dr Anna Chiumento

Lecturer in Global Mental Health & Society

- Interdisciplinary background
- Global Mental Health field for 12+ years
 - Refugees, asylum seekers, forcibly displaced populations
 - Post-conflict/humanitarian mental health
 - Spanning life-course
 - Intervention development & testing
 - Methodological considerations in GMH research
- Qualitative applied social sciences
- Specialist interest in ethical / normative dimensions to GMH research and care

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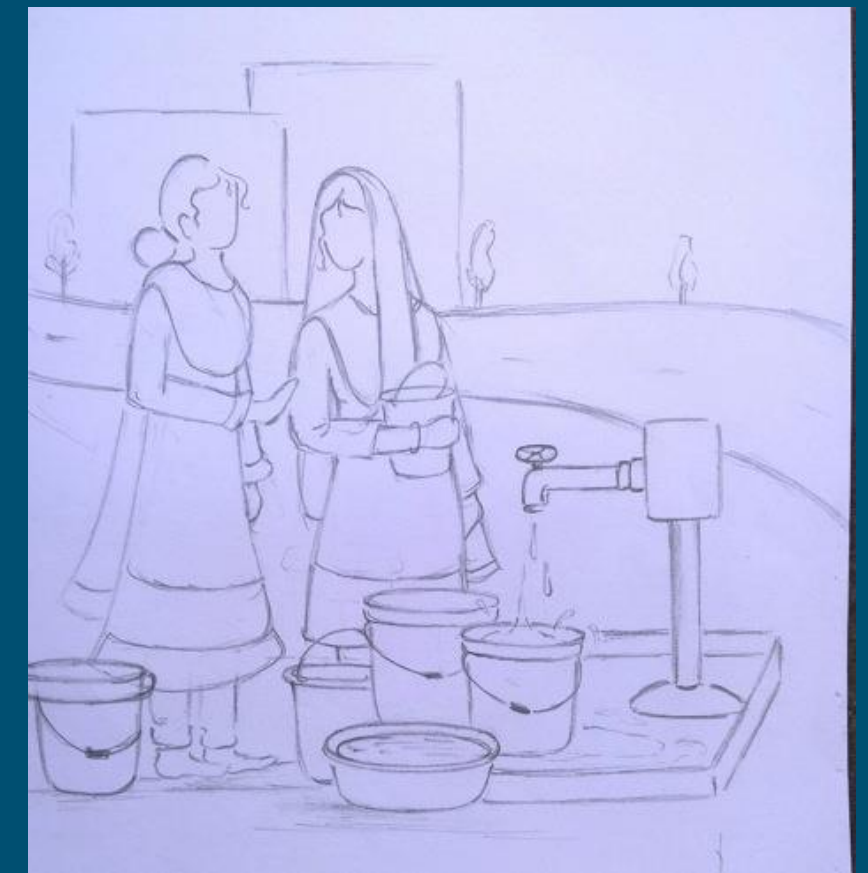
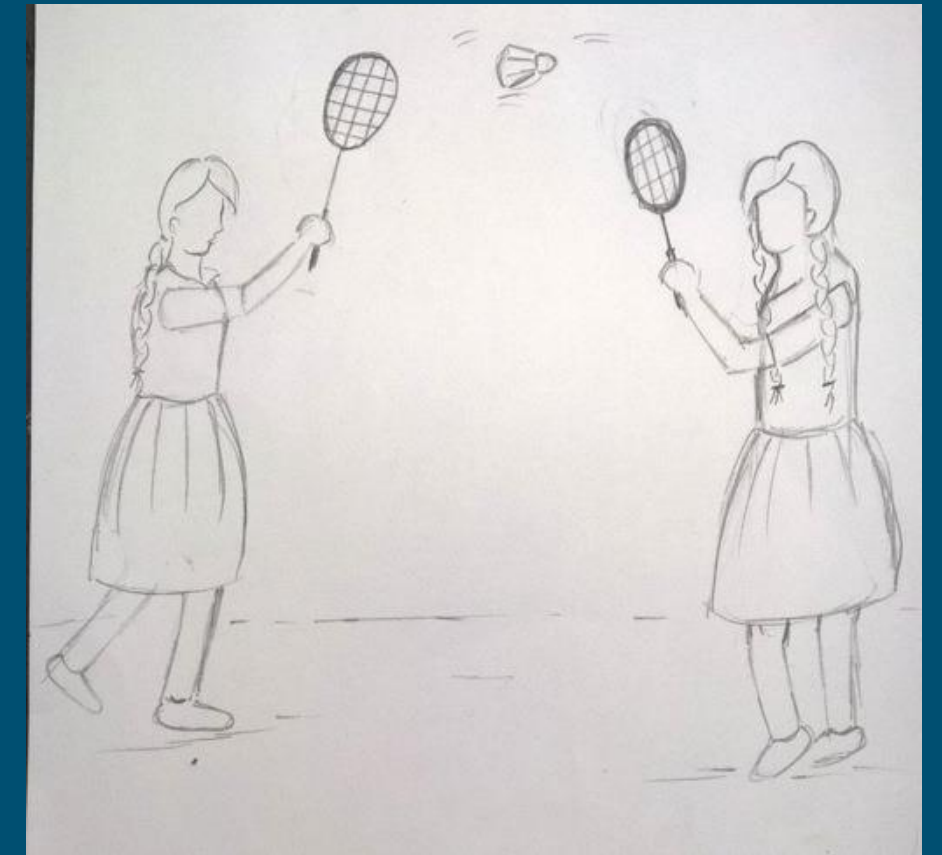
Social dimensions of global mental health

- What does 'recovery' mean in northern India?
- What factors are important to support social inclusion of people with psycho-social disabilities?
- Two short films: shorturl.at/hnqtP

Dr Sumeet Jain

Email: sjain@ed.ac.uk

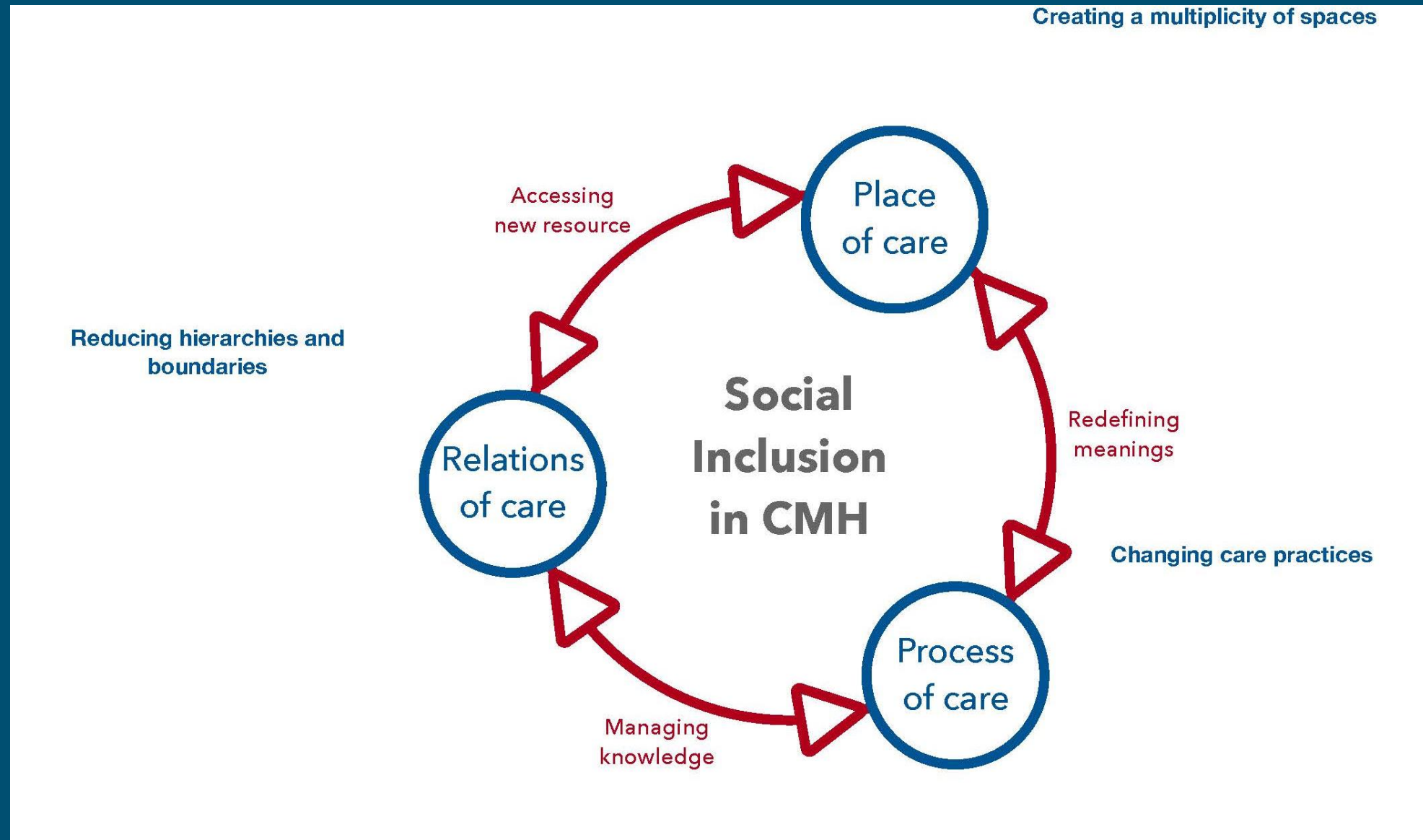
Twitter: @SumeetJain_SKB



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Social innovation in community mental health care in India



- What are innovative practices amongst Indian mental health NGOs?
- How can NGOs be supported to share grassroots knowledge and practices?

Global Mental Health research @ Edinburgh

- Community mental health in South Asia
- Maternal mental health
- Ethical dimensions of global mental health
- War, gender and relationships
- Trauma
- Migration (seeking asylum, gaining refugee status) and mental health
- Stigma and mental health
- Globalisation of pharmaceuticals
- Psychological interventions
- Social interventions
- Ethnographic and participatory methods
- Suicide Cultures research group
- Child and Youth Studies research group



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Why global mental health?

- How to address 'social suffering'?
- Social, structural and commercial determinants: mental health problems as inter-linked with poverty, inequality, and wealth.
- Mental health & well-being as development and human rights issues.



Key questions the programme aims to explore

- How are 'mental health' and 'distress' socially, culturally and politically constructed in different contexts?
- How do we theorize the intersections between social and economic development and mental health?
- What are effective interdisciplinary approaches to addressing the mental health / development interface?
- How can interdisciplinary and interprofessional approaches improve our understanding and practice of mental health in a global context?



Key aims of the programme

- Provide students with the tools for conceptual, methodological, and practice innovation in global mental health.
- Support an intellectual space for critically engaging with current research and practice to create transformative possibilities in global mental health.



Studying Global Mental Health and Society at the University of Edinburgh

- Flexible and cutting-edge programme in one of the oldest and most international universities
- A critical inter-disciplinary approach to global mental health
- Affiliated across three subject areas: Social Work, Edinburgh Centre for Medical Anthropology, and Clinical Psychology



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Programme Structure



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Programme Structure

- One-year full-time or two-year part-time programme.
- 180 credits, comprised of:
 - 3 x 20-credit required core courses
 - 3 x 20-credit optional courses
 - A 60-credit dissertation course



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Core Courses

- Critical approaches to Global Mental Health and Social Change
- Culture and Mental Health in a Global Perspective
- Inter-disciplinary approaches to global mental health: practice, policy and research
- Dissertation (MSc)



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Critical approaches to Global Mental Health and Social Change

- On completion of this course, the student will be able to:
 - Develop critical understanding of the historically and culturally contextualized nature of 'mental health', 'well-being' and related concepts.
 - Critically engage with current policy and academic debates on approaches to addressing global mental health, well-being and social change.
 - Demonstrate conceptual understandings of how cultural and social factors shape mental health and well-being in the 'global south'.
 - Apply knowledge to critically analyse innovative policies and practice that address mental health, well-being and social change in the 'global south'



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Culture and Mental Health in a Global Perspective

- By the end of this course you will be able to:
 - Offer an overview of key topics relating to how the notion of culture figures in global mental health
 - Describe different analytical approaches to key themes in global mental health
 - Critically reflect upon key concepts in global mental health
 - Evaluate the appropriateness of distinct analytical approaches to present or future fields of research into global mental health

Mental health, care, affect, social
inequality, **US**, Palestine, legal
promises, **Denmark**, REFUGEES,
trauma, war, regimes of
control and help, emotion, madness,
cultures of clinical
intervention, models of
understanding

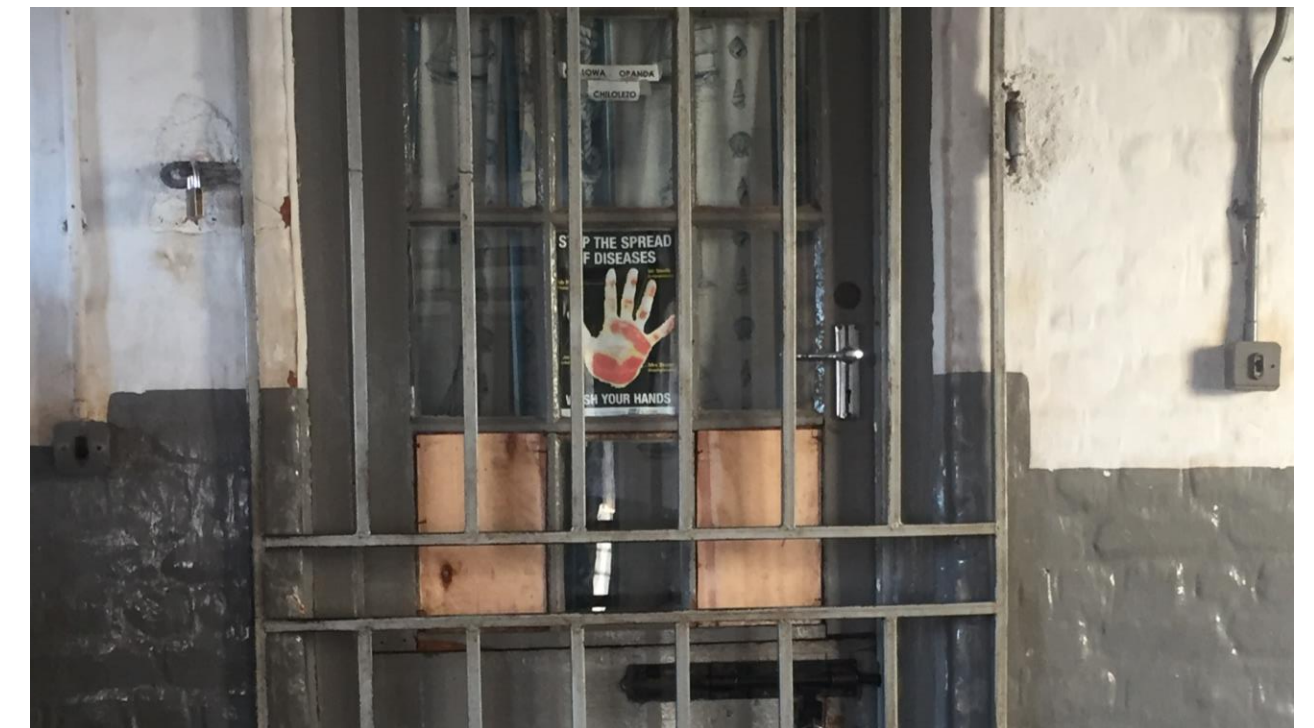


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Inter-disciplinary approaches to global mental health: Practice, Policy and Research

- Learning Objectives:
 - Reconceptualize key issues in global mental health from multiple academic and professional perspectives, enabling an interdisciplinary understanding of these issues.
 - Develop an awareness of practical applications of interdisciplinary perspectives in global mental health research, policy and practice.
 - Use interdisciplinary perspectives to undertake critical reflection on key research, policy and practice challenges in global mental health
 - Use your knowledge to present an integrated perspective on global mental health to potential audiences.
 - Critically engage with current tensions in this field around inter-disciplinary approaches, as applied to implementation in global mental health.



Options – examples of likely offerings

- Social Anthropology

- Anthropology of health and illness
- Anthropology of global health

- Social Work

- Social Work in Communities
- Working with Self & Others: Skills Theories & Methods
- Refugees, Health and Humanitarian Action
- Global Perspectives on Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Evaluation Research Methods

- Global Public Health

- Population Health and Health Policy
- Global Politics of Public Health

Social Determinants of Health and Public Policy

Health and Human Rights

International Development

People First: The Anthropology of International Development

Politics and Theories of International Development

Interpreting Development: Institutions and Practices

Gender and Development

School of Health in Social Sciences

Homelessness and Inclusion Health

Body Talk: Embodiment, Physical Dialogue and Authentic Movement

Counselling across Languages and Cultures

Creative Therapies with Children and Young People

Counselling Children and Young People

Global Public Health: A critical approach to health improvement

Organizational Studies

Organising for Social Change: Strategy, Governance & Innovation

Education

Global Childhoods and Human Rights

Involving Children and Young People: Research and Participation



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Global Perspectives on Child and Adolescent Mental Health (PGSP11602)

- 20-credit optional course
- 2 assessments:
 - 1) 20% group presentation, and
 - 2) 80% written assignment
- Learning outcomes: On completion of this course, students will be able to:
 - Critically conceptualise childhood and adolescence in a global context
 - Identify the implications of the tensions around child and adolescent mental health policy and practice
 - Integrate disciplinary perspectives and frameworks to develop critical insight into child and adolescent mental health in a global context



Image credit: Alfonso Scarpa via Pixabay



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Dissertation

- A single piece of independent and in-depth research. The 15,000 word dissertation allows you to focus on a preferred topic from within the field, normally based on a subject you have studied in one of your courses during the programme.
- You will be assigned an academic dissertation supervisor who will provide you with support and guidance while you research and write your dissertation.
- The dissertation is written in the summer months (April to August) after the taught courses are successfully completed



Standard dissertations - examples

‘Meaning Making and Transformative Growth Post Psychotic Break’

‘Understanding the impact burnout and implicit stigma of mental health workers have on suicidal patients respectively’

‘Advancing Global Mental Health: The Capabilities Approach as a Framework for Equitable Intervention Development’

Exploring Embodied Experiences of Ecological Grief: An Analysis into the Politics of Mourning Beyond the Human



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Placement-based Dissertations

Placement in Nepal

Placement based Dissertations - examples

‘Understanding the operation of the ‘Home based approach of community care’ among the tribal community as adopted by MHAT’

‘Does the City of Edinburgh have quality green and blue spaces to support mental wellbeing at its University of Edinburgh campuses and the wider City of Edinburgh, in the context of a 15 minute city?’

‘The psychosocial impact, recovery, and resilience amongst victims of Gender Based Violence in Nepal’

‘The impact of citizenship status on access to higher education in the UK.’



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Why study Global Mental Health at Edinburgh?

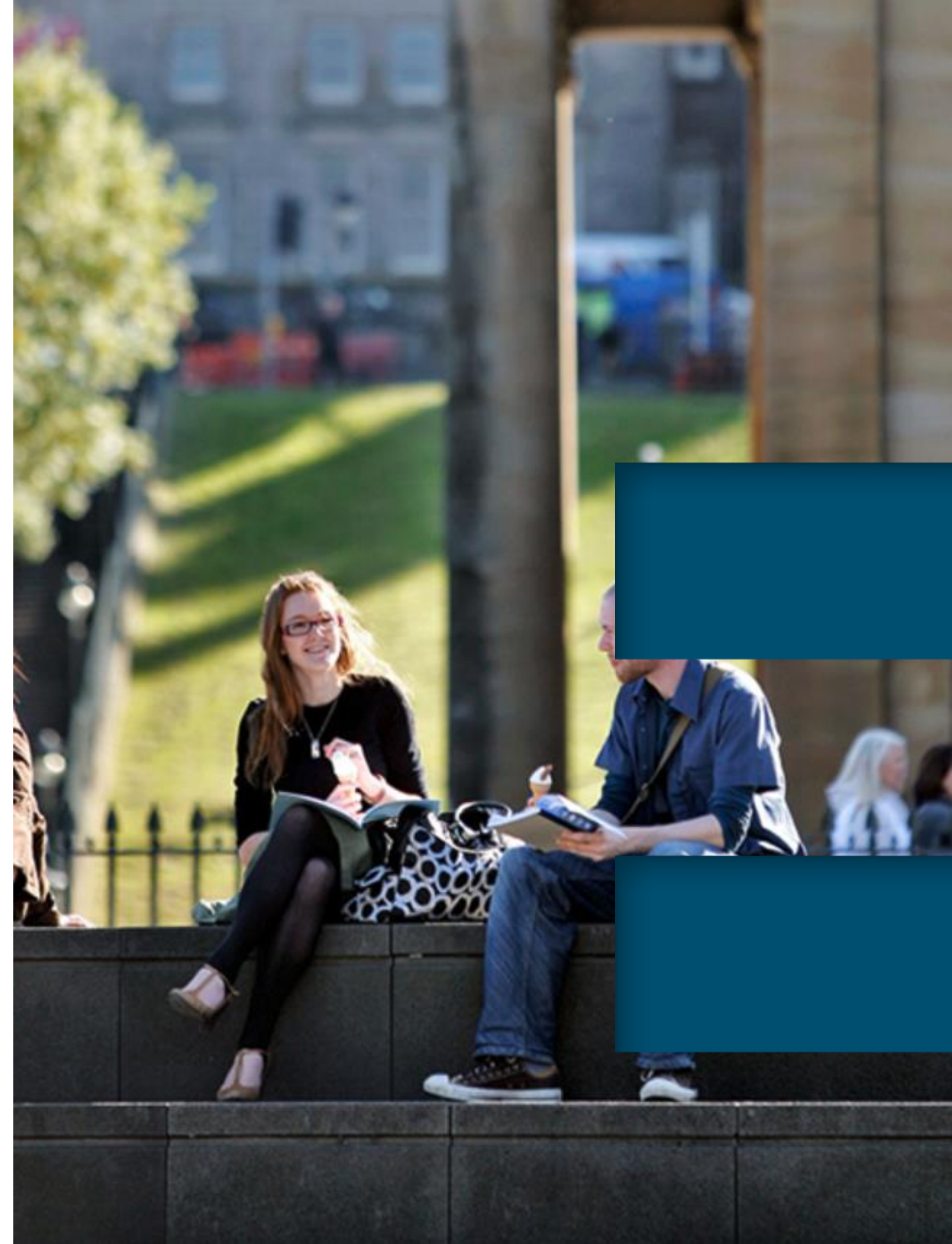


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How we study & learn

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Case studies and exercises
- Self-led/Group Study
- Independent Research
- Dissertations



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Learning Principles

- Critical Engagement
- Interdisciplinarity
- Interface between theory and practice
- Use of multi-media research-led case studies
- Flipped-classroom approach: supports student autonomy and active engagement in learning processes appropriate to Masters-level studies.



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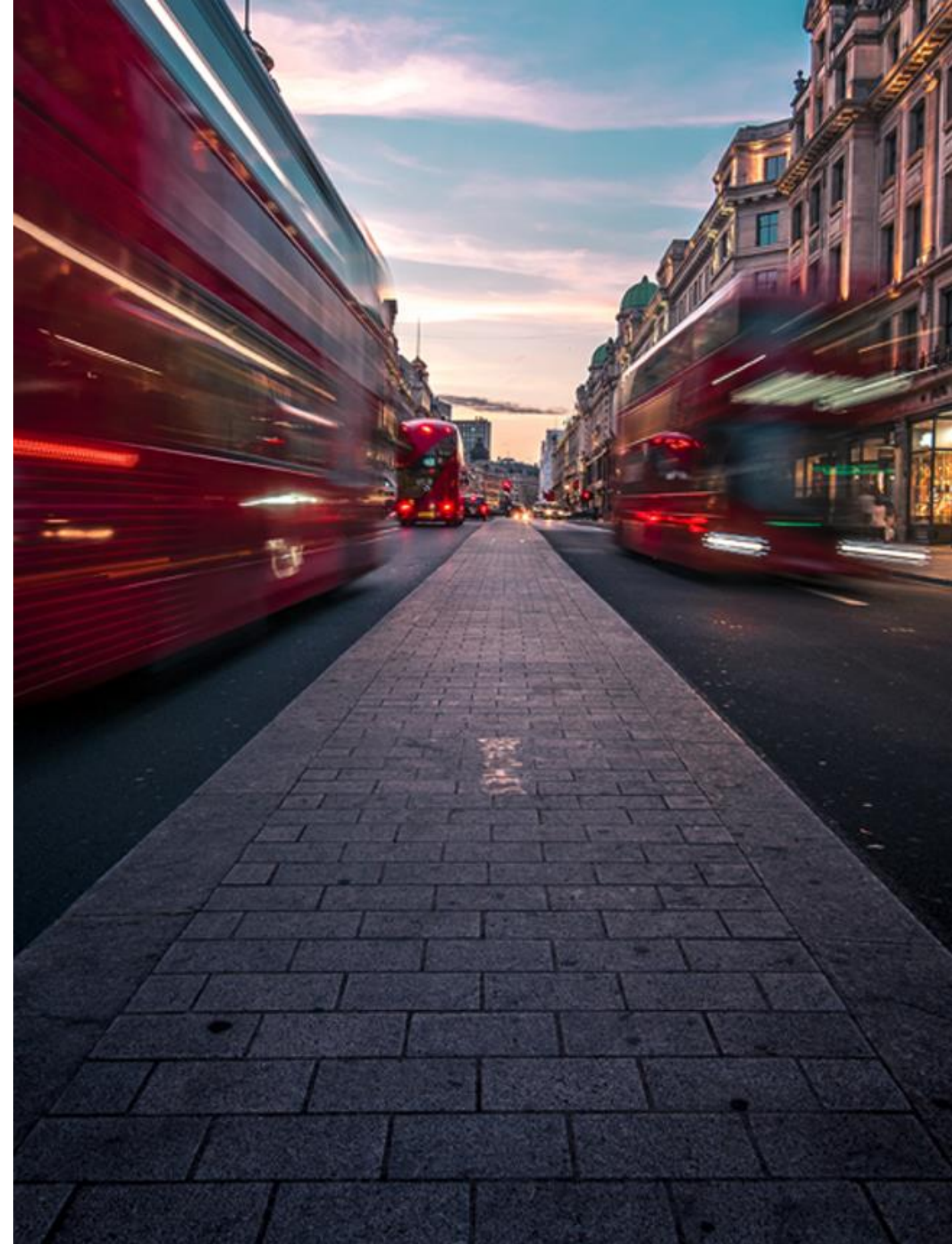
Support for learning and teaching

- Programme Director
- Student Advisor
- Dissertation supervisor
- Student Development office:
<https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/students/postgraduate/new-students/development-office>
- Institute for Academic Development: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-acadsc-development/postgraduate>
- Peer study groups



Career Prospects

- Growing investment in ‘global mental health’ & mental health at the national level
- Health policy, implementation and research
- UN/intergovernmental forums, National Governments, NGOs, Universities



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Background reading

Some reading relevant to the programme:

- Chiumento A, MacBeth A, Stenhouse R, Segal L, Harper I, Jain S (2024) A vision for reinvigorating global mental health. PLOS Glob Public Health 4(4): e0003034.
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0003034>
- White, R. G., Jain, S., Orr, D. M., & Read, U. M. (Eds.). (2017). The Palgrave handbook of sociocultural perspectives on global mental health. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Kohrt, B. A., & Mendenhall, E. (Eds.). (2016). Global mental health: Anthropological perspectives (Vol. 2). Routledge.

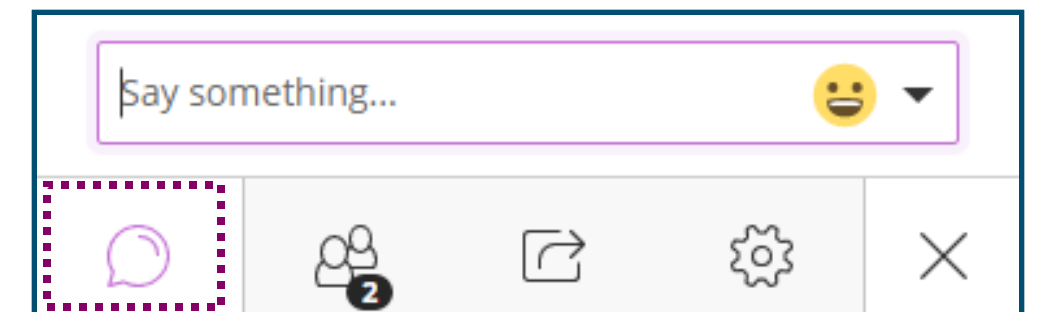
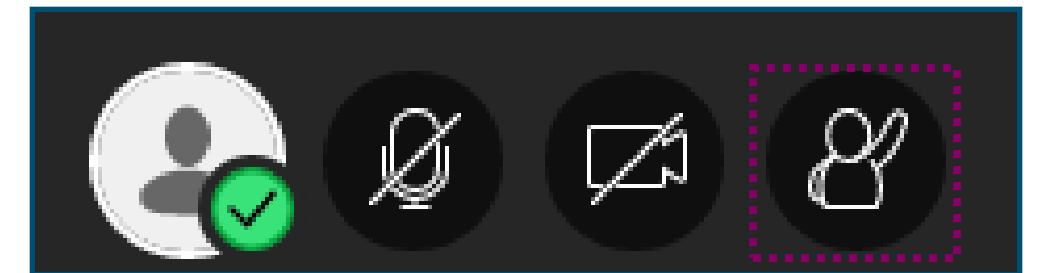


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Asking questions (Collaborate)

- Please hold all questions until the end of the formal presentation
- Always use the ‘hand raise icon’ to queue up your question
- When called upon to ask your question, type it into the “Text chat area”
- Once your question is answered, please lower your hand



Next steps...

<https://virtualvisits.ed.ac.uk/pg>



<https://edin.ac/student-chat-pg>



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Contact details for follow-up questions

We apologise if we did not get through all of your questions in the time allotted for this session. If you have further questions that have not been answered, please contact us: futurestudents@ed.ac.uk

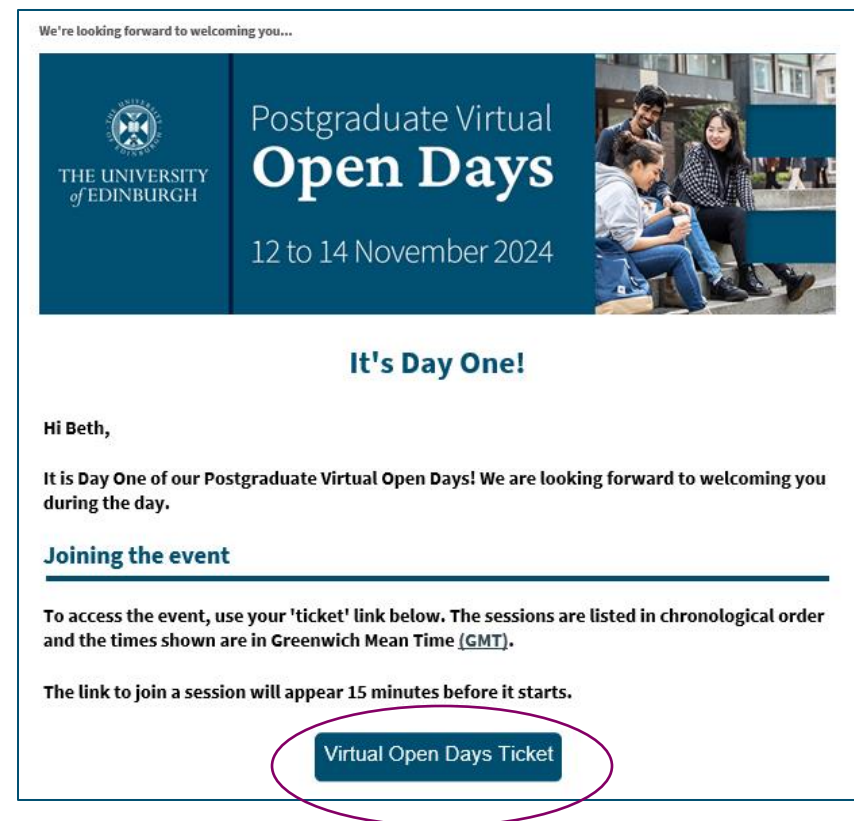


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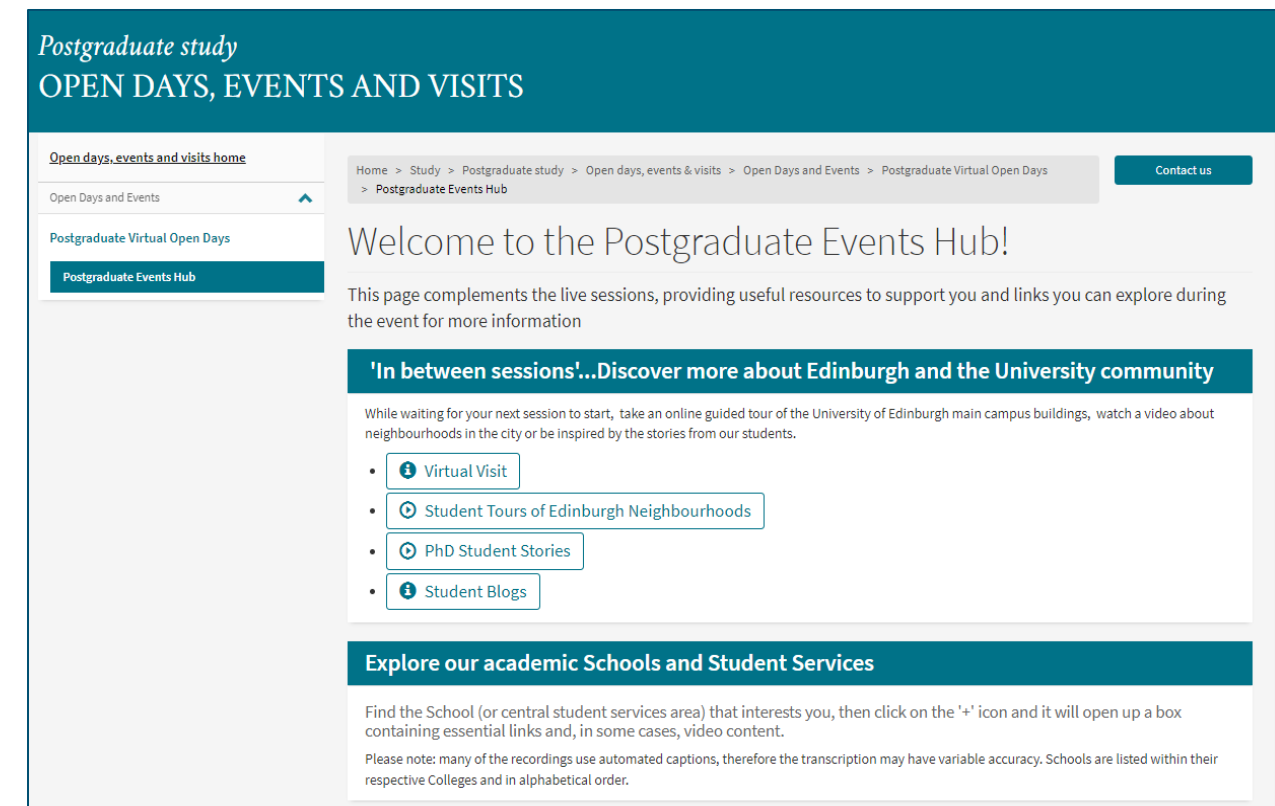
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Thank you – click ‘Leave’ when the session ends

- Return to your ‘e-ticket’ to find and attend other sessions you’ve booked – by clicking on the button in the email we sent you...



- ...and visit the events hub:
- <https://edin.ac/4gZuP3G>



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Thank you

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