



Scottish Graduate School  
of Social Science  
Sgoil Cheumnaichean Saidheans  
Sòisealta na h-Alba

## SGSSS Induction 2024 Programme

**Dates:** 4 and 5 November 2024

**Venue:** [Technology and Innovation Centre](#), University of Strathclyde, 99 George Street, Glasgow, G1 1RD.

### Day 1, Monday 4 November 10:00 – 17:00

#### 10:00 – 10:30 Registration & Refreshments

When you arrive, please sign in with us at the welcome desk where you will be greeted by members of the SGSSS team. Refreshments will be available.

#### 10:30 – 11:00 Welcome and 'What is SGSSS'?

##### **SGSSS Director, Professor Graeme Nixon**

Graeme will provide you with an overview of who SGSSS are, what we do, and how we operate. He will discuss how SGSSS fits into the wider doctoral training landscape in the UK, and outline some of the ways SGSSS can support you in your PhD. You will also get to meet the SGSSS team including the academic staff and professional services colleagues.

#### 11:00 – 11:40 Training and Challenge Pathways Overview

##### **SGSSS Deputy Directors: Dr Katy Keenan & Professor Alan Marshall**

In this session, you will hear from Alan and Katy about how the SGSSS training program is structured through the lens of Challenge Pathways. You will learn about the training SGSSS offers for advanced and specialist methods, professional development and more. The students in your Challenge Pathway will be with you as you progress through your PhD, providing you with different disciplinary perspectives on the same grand social challenge. We will explain how we plan to work with you to support and develop shared learning and engagement opportunities within Challenge Pathways.

#### 11:40 – 12:30 Challenge Pathway Break Out Group Activity (x 3 groups)

**SGSSS Associate Directors (Challenge Pathways): Dr Yuki Kamide, Professor Kathy Hamilton and Dr Shari Sabeti**

In this session you will have a chance to meet your Challenge Pathway Leads as well as other students in your cohort and pathway. It will involve a number of activities to help you all get to know each other better and explore synergies in your work.

**12:30 – 13:30**

**Lunch (catering will be provided)**

**13:30 – 15:00**

**Managing your PhD Project for Wellbeing**

**Dr Juliane Kloess, University of Edinburgh**

As you get started on your PhD journey, this session will introduce you to some strategies and techniques for managing your research project, which will ultimately support your wellbeing. The session will cover the relationship with the supervisory team, time management, how to keep motivated, all of which will help you stay organised and be productive.

**15:00 – 15:30**

**Break (refreshments will be provided)**

**15:30 – 16:30**

**Challenge Pathway Break Out Group Activity**

**SGSSS Associate Directors (Challenge Pathways): Dr Yuki Kamide, Professor Kathy Hamilton and Dr Shari Sabeti**

In this session you will be working in small groups within your Challenge Pathways to explore issues related to planning and managing your PhD projects in further detail, including any Pathway specific issues that may arise.

**16:30 – 17:00**

**Q&A Session with SGSSS Directorate**

Here you will have an opportunity to ask any questions that are still unanswered or that have arisen during the course of the day.

**17:00 – 18:00**

**Drinks Reception**

Please join us for a drinks reception (soft drinks and wine will be available) as we celebrate the start of your time as a postgraduate researcher. You will meet some great people throughout the day, so take time to relax and socialise with the SGSSS team and your fellow PGR students before you leave the centre.

**Day 2, Tuesday 5 November**  
**09:30 – 16:00**

**09:00 – 09:30**                      **Refreshments available**

**09:30 – 11:00**                      **GenAI and Ethics for PhD Researchers**

**Dr Alasdair Stewart, University of Glasgow**

Alasdair will give an overview of AI and ethics in relation to PhD research. You will have a chance to reflect on your own positions on the use of AI and the role(s) it might play in different kinds of projects.

**11:00 – 11:30**                      **Break (refreshments will be provided)**

**11:30 – 12: 30**                      **Challenge Pathway Break Out Group Activity (x3 groups)**

**SGSSS Associate Directors (Challenge Pathways): Dr Yuki Kamide, Professor Kathy Hamilton and Dr Shari Sabeti**

You will have an opportunity to explore issues raised in relationship to AI and ethics in smaller groups, including discussions regarding your own specific PhD, your disciplinary backgrounds and the relevance of AI and its ethics to the societal challenges leading your research.

**12:30 – 13:30**                      **Lunch (Lunch will be provided)**

**13:30 – 14:10**                      **What I Wish I Knew: Student Insights**

**SGSSS Student Associate Officers: Philippa Costello, Gladys Konadu, Yuemiao Ma, Elliot Napier**

Hear from some of our existing PhD researchers about what they wish they knew when they were at the start of their postgraduate journey with the SGSSS.

**14:10 – 14:40**                      **Research in Practice**

**SGSSS Research Impact and Partnerships Manager, Dr Victoria McQuillan**

SGSSS offers students the opportunity to undertake a paid internship placement with a public, private or third sector organisation, enabling you to contribute to specific work projects whilst developing your skills and experiencing “research in practice”. For students starting their funded period from October 2024, undertaking an internship is a core part of the studentship award. Victoria will talk about the types of opportunities available, and how to plan ahead for these.

**14:40 – 15:10**                      **Break (refreshments will be provided)**

**15:10 – 15:45**

**Challenge Pathway Break Out Groups**

**Dr Yuki Kamide, Professor Kathy Hamilton, Dr Shari Sabeti, Philippa Costello, Gladys Konadu, Yuemiao Ma**

In this session we will discuss ideas for how we can make use of the Challenge Pathway groupings going forwards. In particular, we would encourage the generation of student-led ideas for how the Pathways would work best, and in what ways the SGSSS can support you with these.

**15:45 – 16:00**

**Closing Remarks**

**Professor Graeme Nixon.**