

**We ReLaTe - COST Action CA 15221**  
**Spring workshops February 2017**

**Tuesday 21st Feb**

Venue John Hume Boardroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, John Hume Building, North Campus, Maynooth University  
Workshop Part 1 – Research methods  
Facilitator Dr Claire McAvinia, Dublin Institute of Technology

**Learning outcomes**

On completion of this session, participants should be able to:

- Discuss some of the theories behind research design
- Identify some of the widely used research methods, and which are quantitative or qualitative
- Distinguish between methodology and methods
- Evaluate some of the strengths and weaknesses of different research methods
- Consider how data gathered, through these proposed methods, might be analysed.

**Session Outline:**

09.15-09.30 Sign-in  
09.30-13.00 Theoretical stances and research

- Ontology, epistemology
- Taking a stance
- The relationship between stance and research question

Theory and methodology

- Quantitative and qualitative designs
- Mixed Methods designs
- Teasing out “case study”

Methodologies and Methods

- What is the difference?
- Sources of confusion

14.00-16.30 Group Activity

- Review papers/reports with variety of designs
- What was the design, which methods were used?
- Identify advantages, disadvantages to design types

Data analysis

- Analytical methods
- Issues and challenges in data analysis

**Breaks and refreshments**

There will be a tea/coffee break from 11.00 – 11.15

Light lunch will be served from 13.00 – 14.00

There will be an afternoon break from 15.15 - 15.30

These workshops are part of COST Action 15221, *We ReLaTe: Advancing effective institutional models towards cohesive teaching, learning, research and writing development* supported by COST

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