

Paid opportunity to join Mental Health Science PhD Thesis Committee

I'm Humma a lived experience mental health researcher, my interests are broadly around migration, social determinants, and mental health. I am passionate about using a variety of methodologies to conduct mental health research to improve the ways in which we learn more about mental health problems.



My PhD project is looking at how migration in childhood and adolescence impacts on mental health problems specifically psychosis risk and the reasons for why this may be. I will be using an existing dataset to look at whether there is an increased risk of psychosis for people who migrate at a younger age and also speaking to adults who migrated in childhood about their personal experiences. The focus of the project is looking specifically at minoritised communities and why they may be more at risk based on their experiences of migration and life in the UK.

I am looking for someone with lived experience to join my Thesis Committee as part of my PhD project. Specifically, I am looking for a female with experience of mental health problems (ideally psychosis) and experience of migration. Details about the Thesis Committee can be found below.

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Thesis Committee – Roles and Responsibilities

PhD students enrolled at UCL are required to have a Thesis Committee who provide oversight of the student's research. For Students in the UCL-Wellcome PhD in Mental Health Science, the Thesis Committee includes academics with expertise in different mental health themes, a mental health practitioner and individuals with lived experience of mental illness.

The role of the Thesis Committee is to support the student and their supervisor during the 3-year PhD project. You will be asked to attend a minimum of six meetings organised by the student. At these meetings, the student will deliver an oral presentation, and in some cases will produce a report to be read in advance. Please see the table below for information on timetable and format of the meetings.

The committee members have the following responsibilities:

- Meet with the student at the designated times (six to ten times) throughout the progress of the PhD. Note that additional meetings may be arranged on an ad-hoc basis.
- Read Student reports prior to the Thesis Committee meeting (including an Upgrade report which is a formal report to show that the research to date matches the standards of a PhD).
- Approve the meeting reports that will be entered into the student's online Research Log.

- If required, provide additional support for the student e.g. additional Thesis Committee meetings outside of those scheduled to monitor progress.

Meeting	Time post start of Phd Project	Format
1. Research Proposal	3 months	Research Proposal (~1,000 words) and oral presentation
2. 9 months Report	9 months	9 months report (~1,000 words) and oral presentation
3. MPhil-PhD Upgrade Report	9-18 months	Upgrade report (~10,000 words) and viva
4. Progress meeting	18 months	Oral presentation only
5. Progress meeting	24 months	Oral presentation only
6. Thesis outline and writing plan	30 months	Written thesis outline and writing plan and oral presentation

Payment of £25/hour is available for Lived Experienced Thesis Committee members should you wish to claim it. This will typically include 1hr preparation time for the meetings.

How to apply

If you are interested in joining my Thesis Committee please send an e-mail with a paragraph or two explaining why you are interested and what you would like to bring to the Thesis Committee to humma.andleeb.20@ucl.ac.uk by 31st January 2022, at the latest.

Please let me know if you would like an informal chat about the Thesis Committee, have any questions or if there is anything that we can do to make this opportunity easier for you to apply for.