

Supervisor Availability for September 2017 Intake & Thematic/ Project Areas

Caroline Heary, School of Psychology

I am available to supervise students in the following projects areas:

- Stigma associated with health and disability during childhood and adolescence.
 - Particular areas of interest include the development of stereotypes and prejudice, towards children who are overweight/obese or those who have mental health difficulties & stigma reduction approaches.
- Help-seeking and mental health difficulties during adolescence
- Health behaviours during childhood/adolescence including infant feeding, eating behaviours during childhood/adolescence, sedentary behaviour, physical activity; the role of family and peers in developing and maintaining health behaviours

Gerry Molloy, School of Psychology

Thematic area: Treatment adherence across the lifespan

Proposed project: Using digital technology to support self-management of asthma in adolescence and early adulthood.

Adherence to inhaled corticosteroids (ICS) is often poor among adolescents and young adults living with asthma. Increasing responsibility for self-management of chronic conditions such as this gradually emerges at this point in the lifespan, however there is considerable variability in the extent and rate at which this is achieved. The aim of this research is to support the self-management of asthma in adolescents and young adults. The objective is to develop new methods of supporting adolescents and young adults living with asthma by targeting self-management behaviours such as adhering to inhaled corticosteroids (ICS) i.e. preventer inhalers. This project will draw on relevant theoretical approaches from health psychology e.g. dual-process models of health behaviour and developmental psychology. The main research question being addressed in this project is can digital health interventions e.g. mobile phones, support self-management of asthma in adolescents and young adults?

Kiran Sarma, School of Psychology

Dr. Sarma is interested in supervising research in the following areas:

- Psychological science of persuasive communication, resilience, intervention and risk and threat assessment.
- Application of psychological science to areas relating to risk taking and violence/aggression.

Caroline McGregor, School of Political Science and Sociology

Caroline McGregor is available to consider supervision of research topics relating to empirical research into an aspect of child protection and welfare practice and policy in Ireland. This may include historical or contemporary studies of child protection and should include an international dimension. Themes within child protection of particular interest are child protection as a socio-legal practice, power and power relations in child protection practice and critical studies of the relationship between child protection and family support practices.

Dr Michelle Millar, School of Political Science & Sociology

I would be very interested in supervising a student who would be willing to look at the impact of Labour Market Activation policy for lone parents on the children of lone parents from the perspective of the children. This study would be qualitative and would involve interviewing children about their experiences of their mother entering employment or education due to the changes in social protection policy.

Dr Bernadine Brady, School of Political Science & Sociology

I would welcome proposals relating to the following themes:

- Child and youth participation / civic engagement
- Children, young people and communities
- Young people and social capital
- Youth mentoring
- Evidence informed practice in youth work

Niall O Dochartaigh, School of Political Science & Sociology

Political violence and civil war; conflict and conflict resolution; negotiation and mediation

Declan Coogan, School of Political Science and Sociology

Declan Coogan, PhD, is a lecturer in Social Work in the School of Political Science and Sociology and a Research Fellow with the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre at NUI Galway. He is a registered social worker and psychotherapist with practice experience in community child and adolescent mental health and child protection and welfare services. He is committed to developing and supporting close links between practitioners working with children and families and researchers. His research interests include the perceptions of practitioners and of family members relating to responses to and experiences of violence within the family, especially child to parent violence and abuse; participatory and action

research and intervention methodologies, especially relating to child, adolescent and family mental health.

Declan was the NUI Galway/ Ireland Lead for the successfully concluded EU co-funded FP7/ DAPHNE Responding to Child to Parent Violence Project (JUST/2012/DAP/AG/3086). This involved academics, researchers and practitioners in 5 countries working together to develop awareness of child to parent violence and to develop and research to intervention programmes for child to parent violence throughout 2013-15. The research and reports developed during this project are available at www.cpvireland.ie and www.rcpv.eu His research supervisory experience includes the RCPV Project and postgraduate research students.

Further information is available at <http://www.nuigalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/staffprofiles/declanpcoogan/>

Allyn Fives, School of Political Science and Sociology

I would welcome applications from students interested in the political philosophy of parenting and childhood. Applicants should have an interest in political theory, as well as an interest in addressing applied or practical problems, including those raised concerning childhood and parenting. Possible PhD topics include, among others, children's informed consent, civic education, and parental licenses.