



WORKSHOP & EXHIBITION:

Let's get creative! Using creative methods in research and public engagement

THURSDAY **MARCH 7, 2024 1:15 - 3:00 P.M.** | B-421

SPEAKER: [Lisa Williams](#), Senior Lecturer in Criminology at the Department of Criminology, School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester.

Creative research methods have developed and multiplied in recent decades, providing social scientists with alternative ways of knowing and understanding the world. They help us answer complex research questions that cannot be achieved by traditional methods alone and engage different audiences with research results. In this interactive workshop, Dr Lisa Williams outlines how researchers are being creative with traditional approaches to research and analysis, as well as using arts-based and visual research methods to gather data and report their findings. She discusses the methods employed in her arts-based project, *Behind Closed Doors: Recreational drug storage strategies under prohibitionist drug policies*, in which she took photographs of how and where people store their recreational drugs in the home. She argues that creative and arts-based methods provide a more nuanced understanding of complicated phenomena, improve public engagement and understanding, and can achieve a wider impact. The workshop aims to inspire attendees to use creative approaches to collect, analyze, and present their data.

After the workshop, participants are invited to attend the exhibition *Behind Closed Doors: Recreational drug storage strategies under prohibitionist drug policies* followed by a [reception at the 4th-floor A-B Lounge](#)



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