

BU Bournemouth
University

University of
Southampton



How to take part in the Festival of Social Science 2024

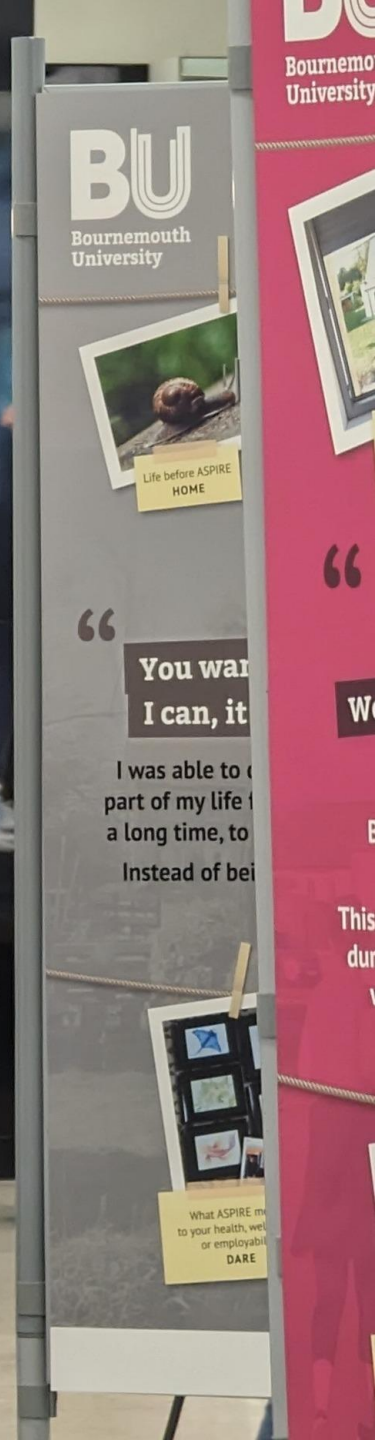
What is the Festival of Social Science?

- Annual UK-wide celebration of the social sciences
- Free events and activities for public audiences
- Run by ESRC's festival partners, including **University of Southampton**, which is collaborating with **Bournemouth University** for the second year
- Dates: **19th Oct – 9th Nov**
- Theme: **Our digital lives**
 - any aspect of relationship between humans and digital technology
 - E.g. opps, benefits or threats to society/ advantages/tackling these, teaching or developing digital skills at different stages of life, what the future could look like with technological developments
- Events are not limited to the festival theme and can be on any economics/social science topics likely to be of interest to the target audiences for which they are designed



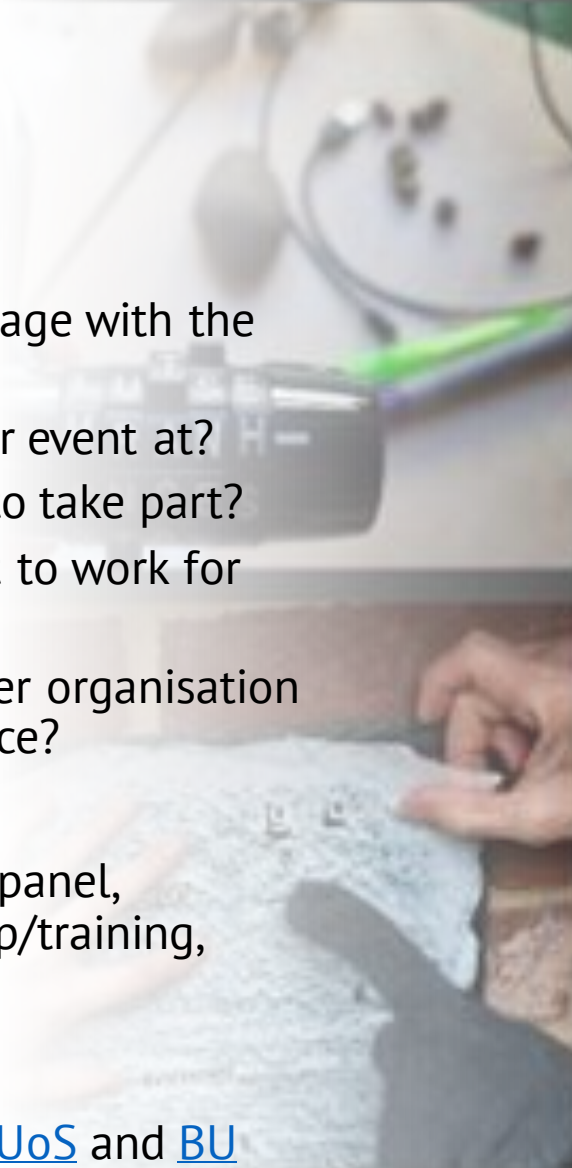
What are the festival aims?

- Encourage, support & create opportunities for social science researchers to engage with the public and young people
- Promote & increase awareness of:
 - the social sciences and ESRC-funded research, &
 - the contribution social science makes to the UK
- Enable the public to engage with social science research
- Engage with teachers and young people and raise their awareness of the social sciences



Ideas for engagement

- Considerations:
 - Reason why you want to engage with the public or other group?
 - Who do you want to aim your event at?
 - What would motivate them to take part?
 - Timing and location of event to work for your intended audience
 - Could you work with a partner organisation to increase appeal to audience?
- Examples of types of events talk/panel, performance, exhibition, workshop/training, participatory interactive event
- Examples of past FoSS events at [UoS](#) and [BU](#)



What are the event requirements?

- No minimum number of events
- No minimum number of attendees
- Events can be online, hybrid or in person
- Public audience:
 - At least 80% of events to be targeted at public or youth audiences
 - Up to 20% targeted at non-academic groups, e.g. policymakers, professionals, businesses or third sector organisations



What does 'public audience' mean?

- Adults attending out of interest, rather than because it relates to their work, & young people taking part in an event relating to pre-university level studies or decisions around applying for undergraduate-level studies
- Events should **not** be targeted at academic audiences (e.g. researchers, other university staff members, or undergraduate/postgraduate students)
- 'Public' does not have to mean everyone. You should think carefully about your specific audience



What can be funded?

- You may apply for up to £1,000 (inclusive of VAT)
- For larger events, applicants should contact their festival teams to discuss applying for more than the £1,000 budget, full justification will need to be provided.
- Staff costs can be included for support with event preparation, running online event platforms (e.g. student ambassador support) and/or production of post-event material e.g. YouTube videos
- Costs for in-person events can include, venue hire, food/light refreshments (alcoholic drinks cannot be funded), travel costs, marketing – see full details in event guidance documentation



What criteria will applications be assessed against?

- Consistency with the Festival's strategic objectives and aims
- Awareness of public concerns and topical relevancy
- Targeting of specific audiences, particularly the public and young people
- Innovative and interactive events
- Realistic costing estimates and value for money
- The event must fall within the Festival dates: 19th Oct – 9th Nov 2024

Hear from previous event holders

- Dr Samuel Hills, Sports Science Lecturer, **Bournemouth University**
- ESRC Festival of Social Science 2023
- *UK drowning: turning the tide*
- How to stay safe when swimming in open water, an interactive session held at RNLI College, Poole

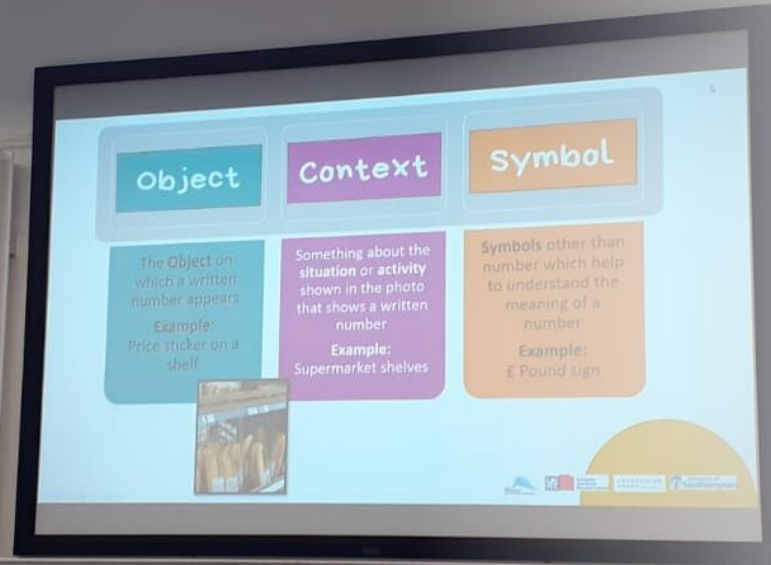


Hear from previous event holders

- Dr Kate Hough, Researcher on Hearing Loss, **University of Southampton**
- ESRC Festival of Social Science 2023
- *Listening For Better Hearing; An Interactive Event Discussing Lifelong Hearing And Brain Health.*
- An information evening which explored exhibits about hearing, looking after our brain and cochlear implants.



Hear from previous event holders



- Dr Charis Voutsina, Researcher on Early Years & Primary Maths Education, **University of Southampton**
- ESRC Festival of Social Science 2022
- *Numbers In Everyday Life: Developing Young Children's Understanding Of The Social Uses Of Numbers In The World Around Them.*
- A three part in-person event explored research on how preschool children understand the multiple meanings and social uses of written numbers.



Hear from previous event holders

- Dr Emma Palmer-Cooper, Psychology Lecturer, **University of Southampton**
- ESRC Festival of Social Science 2023
- *Crafting For Wellbeing*
- A series of workshops to utilising craft-based activities to discover the potential short-term benefits of crafting on wellbeing and why longer-term practice is encouraged.

How to apply



Read through the [Event Leader Guidance](#) from the ESRC



[Apply to take part](#) using the Microsoft Form



Deadline:
**Thursday 16th
May 2024**



For further advice: foss@soton.ac.uk or publicengagement@bournemouth.ac.uk

Hands-On Social Sciences Event

- When: Saturday 9th November
- Where: Sir James Matthews Building, Southampton City Centre
- This will be an event celebrating humanities, arts and social sciences, building on UoS Hands-On Humanities Day (part of the Southampton's Arts and Humanities festival)
- Find out more [here](#)
- Watch highlights from the 2022 Hands on Humanities festival [here](#)



**Your
questions?**



More information & resources

[Event Leader Guidance](#)

[Event leader role description](#)

[University of Southampton's ESRC FoSS 2023](#)

[Bournemouth University's ESRC FoSS 2023](#)

[ESRC website - Festival of Social Science 2023](#)

[NCCPE guide to developing high quality public engagement](#)

[Free online session](#) with Jamie Gallagher on **23 April (2-3.30pm)** to explore creative and innovative methods for delivering public engagement activities

ESRC provides mandatory online training sessions with Jamie Gallagher (May, June and July) for all FoSS event leads, full details will be provided on receipt of a successful event application.

