

# Spring Workshops Series

## Preview -GPEDU

### (Global PhD Network in Education)

**Research Ethics | PhD Transfer | Oxbridge Education Studies | Multi-University Exchange (UCL, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol) | Full Content Overview**

Founded in 2024, the Global PhD Network in Education (GPEDU) is an official student organization registered at the University of Manchester. GPEDU is in a stage of rapid development. We continue to recruit volunteers, organizers, and co-builders, and welcome members who are committed to promoting global education and the development of young scholars to participate in building it together.

The network is jointly operated by young scholars from global universities, including Harvard, Cambridge, Oxford, Manchester, Bristol, Birmingham, Auckland, etc., and is committed to building a truly transnational and cross-cultural academic knowledge and research support platform. Currently, GPEDU has connected over 5000+ Master's, PhDs, Postdocs, and researchers from 159 universities across 44 countries, forming a continuously expanding international academic network. We focus on the academic development and success, mental health, and career growth of global PGR researchers, paying special attention to the adaptation and breakthrough of first-generation overseas students and researchers from cross-cultural backgrounds within the academic system.

#### **Spring Online Event 1: Research Ethics and Boundaries in Doctoral Work**

**Time:** Sunday, March 22, 2026, 13:00 London Time / 21:00 Beijing Time

**Format:** English Online Live Broadcast (real-time interactive participation) / Recording (available for playback)

#### **Event Highlights:**

- UK Research Ethics Approval Process: Understand the ethics approval process and relevant laws and regulations.
- Sensitive Topics and Vulnerable Groups Research: Practical challenges faced when dealing with sensitive topics and contacting vulnerable groups.
- Informed Consent, Anonymity, and Risk Management: How consent, anonymity, and risk management should be presented in ethics.
- Practical Experience Sharing: Starting from actual cases, understanding common issues in ethics approval and coping strategies

### **Speaker Introduction:**

- **Xinyue Zhou GPEDU Media Director (Chinese)**
- **PhD Candidate in Education, University of Cambridge, UK**
- Her doctoral research mainly focuses on the practice of multimodal digital literacy in different contexts. Her research interests include digital literacy, family, intergenerational relationships, children, pedagogy, and multimodality. In addition, Xinyue is also very interested in topics such as teacher training, teacher burnout, home-school cooperation, and educational equity, and looks forward to communicating with scholars in other fields.

**Why Attend:** Ethics is a mandatory consideration when completing a master's or PhD thesis. However, proper nouns and systems such as relevant UK laws, DBS, UREC, IRB, university processes, risk assessments, and pilots can make students encountering ethics review for the first time feel confused and lost. Whether you are preparing for an ethics review or simply curious about the UK ethics process, you are welcome to join this share and exchange session!

**Registration:** To participate in the event, please complete the registration through the link at the end of the article.

### **Spring Online Event 2:**

**A Practical Guide for International PhD Students Transferring in the UK A: Survival Guide to PhD Transfers in the UK**

**Time:** Sunday, April 12, 2026, 13:00 London Time / 20:00 Beijing Time (Summertime)

**Format:** English Online Live Broadcast (real-time interactive participation) / Recording (available for playback)

### **Event Highlights:**

- **Calculate the Financial Accounts:** How to avoid paying double tuition fees and up to 40% in penalty fees for early termination of accommodation contracts?
- **Visa Change and Visas:** Analyzing the differences in IHS refunds for visa applications submitted inside and outside the UK, and strategies for dealing with unexpected material requirements.
- **The Timing of Withdrawal:** Never withdraw early! Teaching you how to keep your email, research data, and legal right to reside in the UK.
- **Uninterrupted Research:** Caught between two universities, where should Progression Reviews and ethics applications be done?
- **Smooth Transition Period:** Coping with cross-regional Right to Study checks and cleverly using peer support networks to dissolve transfer anxiety.

**Speaker Introduction:**

- **Yang Liang GPEDU Media Director (English)**
- **PhD Candidate in Education, University of Birmingham, UK**
- Her doctoral research mainly explores how the cooperation between parents and schools affects children's socio-emotional development and academic performance, using mixed-methods approaches, including randomized controlled trials and survey analysis. Yang is passionate about integrating educational research with practice and collaborating with other scholars.

**Why Attend:** This lecture will set aside vague advice and reveal the real administrative operational mechanisms behind transferring. You will accurately learn how to avoid those costly mistakes, such as being forced to pay double tuition fees, having a visa rejected due to a slight deviation in CAS information, or suddenly losing access to all research data and emails from your original university. If you want to protect your time, wallet, and mental health during the transfer period, you absolutely cannot miss this sharing session.

**Registration:** To participate in the event, please complete the registration through the link at the end of the article.

**Spring Online Event 3:**

**UCL Changemaker & GPEDU Joint Event In collaboration with the official UCL Institute of Education, UK, the theme will be determined based on participants' research interests (if you have interested topics, please contact us).**

**Time:** Mid-to-late April or early May (specific time to be determined)

**Format:** Offline participation for UCL students in London, UK; English Online Live Broadcast (real-time interactive participation) / Recording (available for playback) for students in other countries.

**Event Highlights:**

- PhD students from the Department of Learning and Leadership (DLL) at the UCL Institute of Education will share their research experiences and findings.
- Real research experience exchange with current PhD students.
- Provide practical research tips and case studies, share their research findings, and help you cope with similar challenges you might encounter in your research.

**Speaker Introduction:**

- **Dan Leng GPEDU Academic Director**

- **PhD Candidate in the DLL Department, Institute of Education, University College London, UK**

- Her doctoral research focuses on educational leadership and the policymaking process in English/Western education in Asia. After joining the postgraduate education and development program, Dan is passionate about establishing meaningful connections and cooperation for students and educators globally.

**Why Attend:** Whether you are feeling confused about the research process or want to learn about the real experiences and common pitfalls of other students, this event can help you master practical skills and handle ethical issues in research more efficiently!

**Registration:** To participate in the event, please complete the registration through the link at the end of the article.

### **Spring Online Event 4: Cambridge-Oxford Exchange Day**

- **Time:** May 30, 2026, 10:00-12:00 London Time / 17:00-19:00 Beijing Time (Summer Time)
- **Format:** Offline official organization at the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford, UK & English Online Live Broadcast for other universities.

### **Event Highlights:**

- Participate in the online academic exchange forum jointly held by the education departments of Cambridge and Oxford.
- Promote cross-university academic cooperation and educational research exchange.
- Share experiences and viewpoints with researchers from different institutions.
- Expand your academic network.

### **Speaker Introduction:**

- **Qijia Wang GPEDU Academic Coordinator**
- **PhD Candidate in Educational Psychology, University of Cambridge, UK**
- Her research interests include intrinsic learning motivation, executive function, and academic performance. Qijia combines academic expertise in psychology with practical experience in guiding international learners, hoping to contribute to GPEDU's mission of building a compassionate academic community with a global perspective.

**Why Attend:** If you want to understand the latest educational research trends at top universities, expand your academic horizons, and establish connections with researchers from Cambridge and Oxford, this forum is absolutely not to be missed!

**Registration:** To participate in the event, please complete the registration through the link at the end of the article.

### **Spring Online Event 5:**

### **International Learning and the Making of Global Citizens International Learning and the Making of Global Citizens**

**Time:** Sunday evening, every two weeks or every month.

**Format:** English online live broadcast or recording.

### **Event Highlights:**

- Invite undergraduate, master's, and doctoral students to share real overseas learning experiences.
- Discuss academic challenges, personal growth, and emotional experiences of living overseas.
- Create an open, relaxed, and authentic exchange space to freely raise questions and insights.
- Dialogues will be recorded and shared, breaking time zone and geographical restrictions, available for viewing at any time later.

### **Speaker Introductions:**

- **Luman Zhou GPEDU Founding Chair (Operation)**
- **PhD in Education, University of Manchester, UK**
- Founder of GPEDU. Luman's original intention in founding GPEDU was to create new possibilities for global education and provide a platform for students and those aspiring to work in education to grow, collaborate, and co-create a better future. Luman's research focuses on how students understand and develop critical thinking in higher education, aiming to help educators improve their teaching of critical thinking. Over the past five to six years, Luman has been actively involved in educational volunteering and community activities. She won the Volunteer of the Year (Student Helping Student category) award in 2025 and received the "Best Contribution to Internationalisation" award for two consecutive years (2024 and 2025).
- **Ming Chen GPEDU PhD Development Director**
- **PhD Candidate in Education, University of Bristol, UK**
- Ming holds a master's degree in digital technologies, Communication and Education from the University of Manchester. His research focuses on how emerging technologies (such as Metaverse and Artificial Intelligence) can enhance language learning and STEM

education. Ming looks forward to exchanging and collaborating with peers to jointly explore intelligent educational ecosystems.

**Why Attend:** If you want to hear the authentic voices of international students at different stages, understand the specific challenges and rewards of studying abroad, and gain inspiration from cross-cultural learning, your participation is welcome.

**Registration:** To participate in the event, please complete the registration through the link at the end of the article.

### WhatsApp Group

GPEDU Audience  
WhatsApp group



### Registration Link (Google Form)

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdAHYWvb\\_qqc-kYkJLGTegjE2CKEYS\\_TYwdY\\_1trAlAkXhfBQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdAHYWvb_qqc-kYkJLGTegjE2CKEYS_TYwdY_1trAlAkXhfBQ/viewform)

It only takes 1 minute. After filling out the form, you will receive our free daily event information. We will also contact you via email, where you can choose the events you want to attend, and the meeting links for the events will also be sent via email.

GPEDU offers free long-term resources and services to global scholars and students, including the compilation and publication of scholarship and research funding information, sharing of global PhD and postdoc opportunities, research cooperation and publication news, international conference and forum information, employment and internship opportunity pushes, as well as transnational career development guidance. We also regularly hold non-profit, free global online sharing sessions and academic dialogue events, inviting scholars from different countries and universities to share research experiences, application pathways, and career planning advice, committing to reducing information asymmetry and providing sustainable support for more researchers.