

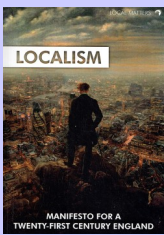
New Staff in PIR

Dr Jolanta Shields is our new Lecturer in Politics. Prior to joining Leeds Beckett, Jola completed her ESRC-funded PhD on the role of Community Interest Companies in the English NHS at the University of Manchester. She then worked as a Researcher at the University of Manchester's Centre for the History of Science, Technology & Medicine, where she worked on an oral history project exploring the social impact of Covid-19. She was also involved in a number of research projects on the social determinants of health, health inequality, and new models of care. Before academia Jola worked in local government as part of the Third Sector Team at Manchester City Council.



Jola's research focuses on policy and public service reform in the NHS, exploring wider questions of how governance and specifically health system governance is affected by earlier policy choices and shaped by wider socio-political forces. Jola will be teaching subjects including governance, public policy, the state and active citizenship, and we wish her a warm welcome to the team.

Student & Alumni news



Current student **Patrick Carragher** (BA Politics) has contributed to a book *Localism: Manifesto For a Twenty-First Century England*, an ideological manifesto which summarises the philosophical tenets of Localism in the context of England today, and discusses how the implementation of these ideological principles could improve our society. Published by Local Matters, it presents a collection of ideas from across the political spectrum, offering a vision of a regenerated England building on its local communities and diverse regions.

Final year student **Grace Balchin** (BA International Relations) completed a Civil Service internship in the Cabinet Office (Devolution Frameworks division) last summer which qualified her for advanced entry to the fast-track application process, and after scoring highly in the assessment centre tasks she was accepted onto the scheme starting in September.

Lily Cantwell-Browne (BA Politics 2020) is an Executive Officer at the UK Department for Work and Pensions.

Will Jeffries (BA International Relations & Global Development 2020) is now a teacher in Mexico.

Abdullatif Almuawda (BA International Relations & Global Development 2018; MA International Political Economy 2020) works for the Bahrain Ministry of the Interior.

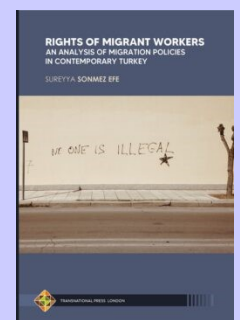
Evelyn Hornyak (BA International Relations & Global Development 2016) has been selected as a parliamentary candidate for the Momentum party in the forthcoming national elections in her native Hungary.

Oliver Westerman (BA Global Development & Political Economy 2013) is now Project Officer (Cash Consortium of Yemen) at the Institute of Migration—UN Migration.

Arna van Gogh (BA Peace Studies & International Relations 2012) is a self employed business coach and consultant, and was recently featured on the cover of Brainz magazine.



Former PhD student **Sureyya Sonmez Efe** is now a lecturer at the University of Lincoln and has had her doctoral thesis published as a book: *Rights of Migrant Workers: An Analysis of Migration Policies in Contemporary Turkey*. (2021) Transnational Press, London. ISBN 978-1-912997-58-9



Global and local curriculum

As part of their course, second year undergraduate students study the module Environment & World Politics led by **Dr John Willott**, which uses climate change as a focus to understand the politics of reaching meaningful international agreements to address problems which require global solutions. This provides a space for discussion of what exactly is meant by sustainable development, and difficult questions of ideology, power, responsibility and justice.

Of course, solutions are local as well as global, so sessions on the module were delivered by Mark Warner, the University Sustainability Manager, who discussed the challenges faced by the University in implementing sustainable policies and practice, and Dr Tom Knowland, Head of Sustainable Energy & Climate Change at Leeds City Council. In March 2019, Leeds City Council declared a climate emergency and is committed to becoming a net zero carbon organisation by 2030, with an ambition for the city of Leeds to become a net zero carbon city by 2030.



Leeds Beckett is an 'anchor institution' - a large organisation such as a local authority, hospital, university, housing association and large private sector company, who are the biggest spenders and employers in a city region, and consequently have a large economic, social and environmental impact. So it has a key role in achieving these ambitious targets and students discussed how they could contribute, and learned of volunteering opportunities on projects to support activities.

Staff research

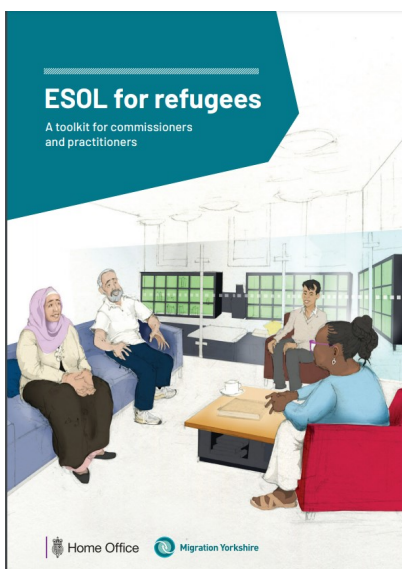
Since 2018, conflict between farmers and herders (pastoralists) has resulted in more fatalities than terrorism in several African countries. In Nigeria, communities who lived side-by-side in peace, with their own conflict resolution mechanisms, are now frequently in violent conflict, with daily attacks and counter-attacks, kidnapping, and rape in many parts of the country. Drawing on his research, **Dr Olayinka Ajala** was interviewed in February by the **BBC World Service** as part of its **Africa Daily** podcast series to discuss why there has been so much tension and at times actual violence between farmers and herders in Nigeria.



Dr Jolanta Shields presented her research with colleagues on *Looking back to look forward – the role of oral histories for health policy in UK* at the Political Studies Association (PSA) Annual Conference in April. Jola has also co-authored two more recent publications on related issues:

Coleman, A., **Shields, J.** & Gilling, T. (2020) Health and social care systems, in Bonner, A. (Ed.) *Local Authorities and the Social Determinants of Health* Bristol: Bristol University Press, pp.49-66

Snow, S., **Shields, J.** & Whitecross, A. (2020) *NHS voices of Covid-19*. The British Academy, London.



Dr John Willott, together with colleagues at Leeds Beckett University and NATECLA (the National Association for Teaching English and Community Languages to Adults) were commissioned by Migration Yorkshire to produce a literature review on 'What is suitable and effective ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) for refugees?' This collected available research evidence on the topic, with a focus on initial assessment; outreach and referrals of refugees into suitable language classes; content and delivery models for social integration and for work purposes; linking formal and informal learning activities; and overcoming barriers to learning. The work contributed to the publication **ESOL for refugees: a toolkit for commissioners and practitioners** which is designed to offer useful guidance and highlight current effective practice in ESOL for refugees, illustrated by nearly 50 case studies from across England.