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**School: School of Science**

**Researcher: Ella Simpson**

**Project Title: Criminal Research: Creating Communities of Practice**

**UOA: 33 - Music, Drama, Dance, Performing Arts, Film and Screen Studies**

Research Timeline

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| **Date** | **Rationale of research activities and decisions undertaken** |
| June 2017 | Meet Prof. Tobi Jacobi (Colorado State University) at inaugural CRIMVOL conference. Discuss the need for pedagogically informed creative writing programmes to inform research on prison creative writing |
| August 2017 | Agree collaboration with Colorado State University and category C prison in England. |
| August 2017 –  April 2018 | Planning and design of The Literary Chain Gang writing programme. Including sharing of best practice. Involvement of CSU interns. Devising a curriculum that speaks to needs of research – particularly in terms of ways to document developing conversations, relationships, impact on participants writing. Drafting feedback sheets and participant guidelines. Planning for AV delivery of workshop prompts. |
| April 2018 | Deliver Literary Chain Gang  Interest expressed by OLASS provider for a similar project in a second prison |
| May 2018 | Debrief on Literary Chain Gang programme. Agreement to run a second iteration in April 2019. Agreement from prison. |
| May 2018 –  Nov 2018 | Production and publication of Literary Chain Gang anthology |
| Jun 2018 –  Oct 2018 | Planning and design of the MasterClass Series writing programme into second English prison. Including sharing of best practice. Devising a curriculum that speaks to needs of research – particularly in terms gaps identified in Chain Gang programme which identified benefits of creating ‘excellence’ rather than simply interaction with peers. Agreement from BSU head of creative writing to recruit professional published writers to record workshop prompts.  Working with creative writing professionals to develop their workshop prompts. Planning and filming AV clips |
| Nov 2018 –  Jan 2019 | Deliver MasterClass series in second English prison. |
| Dec 2018 | Literary Chain Gang anthology launch in English prison |
| Jan 2019 –  Mar 2019 | Development of second iteration of Literary Chain Gang. Decisions on how to improve feedback structure for prisoners. Improvements made to IT logistics to improve delivery of workshop prompts via AV. Agree the first iteration was a success, time to try to secure HMPPS approval for official research. |
| Jan 2019 | Debrief on MasterClass series. Agreement with prison to run second iteration in 2020. Fundraising to publish anthology begins. |
| Apr 2019 | Deliver Literary Chain Gang programme |
| May 2019 | Debrief on programme. Unable to secure HMPSS approval at this stage. Investigate accreditation of the programme with HMPPS. Agree to run a third iteration in late 2020 once research approval granted. |
| May 2019 –  Nov 2019 | Production and publication of Literary Chain Gang anthology |
| May 2019 | BSU agree to fund publications costs for MasterClass anthology. Head of professional publishing agrees to edit |
| May-Nov 2019 | Production and publication of MasterClass anthology |
| Dec 2019 | Anthology launch in English prison of second Literary Chain Gang |
| Dec 2019 | MasterClass anthology launch.  Initial discussion with New Futures Network to roll out programme to other prisons with research approval |
| Mar 2020 | Follow up conversation with New Futures Network to deliver the MasterClass series in a a category B prison therapeutic community in 2020/2021, with potential for research approval |
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