



Arts & Humanities  
Research Council

GW4  
bridging  
the gap



UNIVERSITY OF  
BATH

## BRIDGING THE GAP: CO-PRODUCTION OF RESEARCH IN MODERN LANGUAGES

9<sup>th</sup> June 2017

This one-day workshop will bring together Modern Languages scholars from the universities of Bath, Bristol, Cardiff, and Exeter, with funding bodies, and key stakeholders to discuss the future of co-produced research led by Modern Languages experts in the region. While Modern Languages departments are well known for their strong links with international partners and their expertise in linguistics or translation studies, they are less systematically identified as hubs of knowledge about societies within and beyond Europe, linguistic and cultural heritage, or national and regional identities.

The workshop will :

- take stock of the strategic opportunities that these skills and collaborations represent
- showcase existing Modern Language research collaborations with non-university partners
- explore the multifaceted nature of research expertise in Modern Languages
- discuss regional priorities for future collaborative research projects

The GW4 universities (Bath, Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter) have identifiable strength in Modern Languages. They have been involved in several recent major research projects such as “Transnationalising Modern Languages”. They have also responded to initiatives launched by the European Commission and Research Councils in Britain to underline the strategic value of languages in policy areas, and been involved in an array of experiments in digital media. By showcasing existing projects we would like to draw attention to the versatility and multiplicity of Modern Languages, examine their pioneering role in bridging the gap between cultures and pave the way for new collaborations with a range of non-academic partners such as artists, museums, NGOs, charities, theatres, hospitals, poetry centres, media, city councils and businesses.

The workshop will offer an overview of inspiring successful projects led by Modern Languages scholars from the GW4 universities as well as insight into current and future funding opportunities and strategic research priorities in the region. The day will include talks, presentations, expert panels, peer support activities and as group discussions. These will offer the opportunity for participants to gain visibility, network with potential partners within and beyond academia, contribute to future research agendas, and to receive support with funding applications and incubating new projects.

The workshop is suited for both novice and experienced co-producers of research as well as stakeholders from the South West and beyond. The event will be hosted by the University of Bath. Lunch and refreshments throughout the day will be offered. Attendance is free but tickets have to be booked at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bridging-the-gap-in-modern-languages-tickets-34229517408> and a 200-word bio/summary of interests+ 5 key words have to be sent to Dr Christina Horvath, Co-Investigator in Modern Languages to [c.horvath@bath.ac.uk](mailto:c.horvath@bath.ac.uk) before 31<sup>st</sup> May.

The Bridging the Gap project <http://www.gw4bridgingthegap.com> focuses on effective working practices that bridge the gap between universities and partners outside academia. Its aim is to use the distinctive strengths of the GW4 universities to reflect on and design, pilot and evaluate models of research co-production capable of wider application across four priority areas in which the Arts and Humanities are significantly engaged: Creative Economy, Heritage, Environmental Humanities and Modern Languages.

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