From data to decision-making under conditions of uncertainty

RISK Summer School 2025

August 26th to 28th, 2025

Session: New technologies and data governance, security and quality.

Dr Emilie Terrier (CRJ, UGA) & Dr Sara Correia-Hopkins (Swansea University)

August 29th 2025, 1:30-3:30 pm





















Session Outline

- Part I Data Governance (Emilie) up to 50 minutes
- Part II Data Quality and Ethics (Sara) 30 minutes
- **Part III Scenario-Based Learning** 40 minutes
- Group work 20 minutes
- Plenary discussion 20 minutes

Learning Objectives

- Develop an understanding of data governance issues, with reference to the UK, France and the EU context more widely.
- Identify key debates in data governance.
- Identify key issues of data security, ethics and data quality, where secondary data is used in research.
- Critically reflect on the application of a range of approaches to data governance and ethics.

Part I — Data Governance

DR EMILIE TERRIER (CRJ, UGA)

Part II — Data Quality and Ethics

DR SARA CORREIA-HOPKINS (SWANSEA UNIVERSITY)

What is Secondary Data?

Data collected by others for non-research purposes.

Used by researchers to answer research questions.

Types:
Administrative
data, social media
data, metadata

Governance Frameworks (GDPR Focus)

GDPR applies in France/EU; assimilated in UK; global influence – the 'Brussels Effect':

• (Bradford 2019)

Legal basis (Article 6):

• Consent 6(1)(a) or public interest 6(1)(e).

Special categories require additional justification (Article 9):

- Scientific purposes 9(2)(j) or public data 9(2)(e)
- Hall and Macdonald (forthcoming)

Terms of Service Challenges







ON API ACCESS.

(Parry 2024)

ETHICAL CONCERNS OVER SELECTIVE ACCESS.

LEGAL RISKS OF VIOLATING PLATFORM TERMS.





Lack of control over data generation.



Limited metadata access.

E.g., Correia, 2022; Correia-Hopkins, 2024.



Misalignment with research needs.

'Representation' and 'Measurement' Errors (Zhang 2012)

Measuring and Addressing Quality

Daas et al (2009)

Source: Relevance, governance, privacy.

Metadata: Definitions and clarity.

Data: Accuracy, bias, missing data.

Ethical Issues – Informed Consent

Informed consent - voluntary, uncoerced choice, full cognizance of the purpose and design of the research project, including what participation involves, any associated risks, and one's rights (Israel & Hay, 2012).

Individualist (Katian) ethics ill-equipped for internet age (Buchanan, 2017)?



OFTEN INFEASIBLE IN LARGE-SCALE RESEARCH.



ETHICAL WAIVER POSSIBLE WITH SAFEGUARDS.



EMPHASISE PUBLIC INTEREST AND COMMUNITARIAN ETHICS.

(Macdonald & Correia-Hopkins, forthcoming)

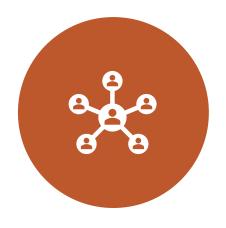
Ethical Issues – Privacy Harms

Risk of re-identification.



Anonymisation vs. pseudonymisation (GDPR's definition and practices).

Privacy Harms: Mitigation Strategies







USE ORGANISATIONAL ACCOUNTS OR HIGH-FOLLOWER PROFILES. PARAPHRASE POSTS INSTEAD OF QUOTING.

AVOID PUBLISHING ACCOUNT NAMES.

Part III – Scenario-Based Learning

Interactive Exercise Overview

1. Discuss and make notes of the following in your groups:

- Key data governance issues;
- Key issues of data quality;
- IP issues;
- Key ethical issues, including the risks of harm and/or actual harms cased by the actions that took place;
- How could/should the potential for harm been identified in advance, mitigated and/or prevented.



Scenarios

- Scenario 1 Hate speech on social media
- Scenario 2 Cybercrime police records
- Scenario 3 Hospital and education data
- Scenario 4 Online Grooming Vigilantes
- Scenario 5 Data altruism in mental and brain health

2. After these group discussions you will feedback to the whole room.

Secondary data offers rich opportunities.

Conclusion

Requires careful attention to governance, IP issues, ethics and quality.

GDPR provides a useful framework for global research but concepts like "public interest" need critical examination.

| Merci | | Thank you | | Diolch |

Dr Emilie Terrier (CRJ, UGA)

emilie.terrier@univgrenoble-alpes.fr

Dr Sara Correia-Hopkins
(Swansea University)
s.correia@swansea.ac.uk



















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