

ARP 2024-5 Ethical Action Plan

Name of practitioner-researcher: Joe Mercer

1. What is your project focus?

Effective collaborative working in support of one another. In doing so (hopefully) establishing meaningful and mutually beneficial relationships based upon non-extractive thinking and behaviours. In their book *On Connection* Kae Tempest argues that if we continue to approach situations with 'what can I gain from this?' as a formative question the global cycle of destructive extraction continues, whereas 'what can I offer?' establishes a system of support for others which in turn will see ourselves supported (Tempest, 2020).

2. What are you going to read about?

- Collectivism
- Non-extractivism
- Ways to encourage or enable collective working.
- Methods for collective decision-making established by climate action movements.
- Benefits of collective working in both human and non-human situations.
- Feminist affect theory and its impact on collectivism

3. What action are you going to take in your teaching practice?

The students are currently working on a group project which will finish very shortly. I won't be able to carry out an action to enable or alter their group work before it is over so am hoping to facilitate their reflection upon the process of working together and use this to form methodologies for enabling better group work in future.

4. Who will be involved and how?

First year students from BA Architecture and myself. In addition I have already engaged my head of year and the Senior Lecturer of Ethical Practice for Spatial Practices with whom I've had multiple discussions about how to carry out this project. I have developed a set of questions with a system of 'pie charts' to display their answers. There will also be an additional space for them to write any further thoughts or reflections. This will enable me to collect the information from each individual student across the year, compile the 'pie charts' to understand trends or correlations and read this against their written reflections.

N.B. If any of your participants/co-researchers will be under 18, please seek advice from your tutor.

5. What are the health & safety concerns, and how will you prepare for them?

I need to ensure answers are not going to be visible to others to enable students to be honest about their experiences of working in a group. I will ask for students to upload their responses as part of their submission on moodle, thereby keeping it individual and private from others.

6. How will you protect the data of those involved?

I will not display any data from individuals without anonymising it first, however the data will be most useful when compiled, thereby keeping it from being identifiable to any individual. Beyond that I will not display any direct quotes from written feedback, but will discuss trends that came up across multiple responses.

7. How will you work with your participants in an ethical way?

I have been discussing my research proposal with both my head of year and the Senior Lecturer of Ethical Practice (who have written the current unit) to find a way to integrate the research into the unit rather than asking it of the students in addition to their work. I am proposing to have it operate as prompts for the written and verbal reflection already required by the unit brief so that the process of giving information is helpful in completing their work.