

Open Scholarship from the Start: Building Transparency into Your Research

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Careful planning strengthens any research project, regardless of methodological tradition. Open science practices such as (a) documenting theoretical assumptions and analytical decisions in advance and (b) sharing materials and data where possible increase transparency and credibility across quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research alike. But translating these principles into practice raises questions: What exactly should be documented, what's feasible to share given ethical or resource constraints, and how do you stay transparent as a project evolves?

This workshop takes a practical, project-planning approach to open science. We'll begin with a brief look at why transparency matters. From there, we'll walk through the key decision points where it can be built in from the start: securing ethics approval with openness in mind, deciding what can be shared (e.g., data, materials, code, interview guides) and navigating any constraints around doing so, and documenting decisions before data collection. We'll discuss where formal preregistration fits as one option within this toolkit, and how similar principles can be adapted for more iterative or exploratory designs. Along the way, we'll look at concrete examples across different research traditions and methodological approaches in linguistics and discuss common concerns and challenges. Participants will work hands-on on an openness plan tailored to a project of their own. No prior experience required; attendees are encouraged to bring a research idea or project to work with.