



# **Anti-racist coaching practice in sport**

**Faculty of Wellbeing Education  
and Language Studies (WELS)**

Call for PhD projects starting in October 2024

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# Project description

## School

Education, Childhood, Youth & Sport

## Members

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## Aim

The project aim is to examine the development of anti-racist coaching practice among sport coaches.

## Methodology

A mixed-methods social scientific approach is well suited for this study. It will utilise a quantitative large-scale survey with sport coaches to establish their existing practice and knowledge in relation to anti-racist coaching, their engagement with relevant learning sources and the barriers they face adopting anti-racist coaching practice. Qualitative interviews will be used to explore these issues with coaches in more depth. It would be also pertinent to conduct longitudinal reflective data collection from coaches, possibly using reflective diaries and peer-reflective dialogues to explore how coaches develop their

anti-racist coaching practice over time. Data will also be collected from other stakeholders including young minoritised ethnic players (likely to draw upon peer-to-peer interviewing and other techniques suitable to collect data from children) to explore their experiences of being coached. Focus groups with parents of players will be conducted to gather the experiences of family members from minoritised ethnic backgrounds in youth sport settings.

## **Contribution**

Although the development of coaching practice in a range of sport settings has received substantial research attention, much less is known about how such practice relates to anti-racist pedagogic principles. The project will significantly enhance the critical appraisal of coaching practice and the contribution it can make to a more inclusive, less discriminatory sporting landscape. The PhD project could also contrast anti-racist practice across different sport settings and begin to look at comparing different levels of coaching (e.g. recreational and elite sport).

# PhD project

This PhD project would be well timed to both strengthen the academic grounding of anti-racist coaching principles (drawing on anti-racist pedagogy literature) and then evaluate the implementation of existing learning resources for coaches related to Inclusive practice, to assess the extent to which such resources have prompted changes in coaching practice and the impact this has had on players, other coaches and wider institutional practice. In addition, the project will seek to identify barriers to coaches adopting anti-racist principles and the challenges in implementing it.

