



Welcome from the Principal

Social Science is central to analysing and confronting important challenges of our time, stretching from the local to the international. This year, COP26 is being held in Glasgow and is a once in a generation opportunity to tackle climate change. The Festival of Social Science will showcase the latest insight and analysis on the COP26 negotiations and much more. Food consumption and sustainable diets also feature as we work to understand the actions that can help tackle climate change. Our researchers have also been looking at whether alcohol pricing in Scotland has had any unintended consequences for health, and at the social and economic impact of media tourism. We hope that you enjoy the exciting programme the festival offers.

Professor George Boyne, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, University of Aberdeen

Road to COP26



This festival is funded by the ESRC, for more information visit www.esrc.ukri.org/festival

Festival of Social Science

1-30 November 2021

'Young, Meat Free; It's Simple?!' - Sustainable Diets, Climate Change and Individual Choices

1-14 NOVEMBER Various times

Running alongside COP26, the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Dr Heather Morgan and colleagues will host a series of daily events and activities aimed at engaging young people with research on sustainable diets and climate change. They will be seeking input into the design of a follow-on project that will look at how individual ideas and choices have or have not changed, while also exploring how social media influences young people's perceptions of food choices and climate change. There is a range of events and activities on offer, including online talks, in-person sessions and social media engagement, linking with local partners and groups.

> **Booking is required for some of the events.**



Conversations on COP26

3, 5, 10, and 12 NOVEMBER 16:00-17:00

COP26 is a once in a generation opportunity to tackle climate change, and in this series of online events, experts from the Aberdeen University Centre for Energy Law will host sessions linked to these vital COP26 negotiations. They will share their analysis and insight, while discussing how the negotiations are progressing across four areas that are critical to the future of the planet. The host of each session will 'report' on the COP26 negotiations as it applies to their area of expertise, before moving onto a panel discussion and an audience Q&A.

> **These events will be hosted online, booking is required.**



Performing Local Identities on Global Digital Platforms

8 NOVEMBER 18:30-20:00

There is a small but growing cohort of internet users from the North-East of Scotland who could be considered internet celebrities: people whose celebrity status is native to the internet, who are highly visible to both human and machine eye, and who attract and retain an audience – often in the form of followers or likes. Simon Gall from the Elphinstone Institute will chair a discussion with Instagrammer Aiberdeen Mannie, exploring his practices, creative processes, experience as a public figure, and impact on his audience.

> **This event will be hosted online, booking is required.**



The Impact of Tourism in Galashiels, Melrose and Abbotsford: A Cultural Tourism Nexus

2 NOVEMBER 15:00-16:30 (Online)
9 NOVEMBER 14:00-18:00 (In-person)

This event will look at how tourism is impacting the Galashiels, Melrose and Abbotsford area, and how attracting visitors can help with local economic and community development. You will be presented with research from the University of Aberdeen, which is part of an EU funded project called SPOT: Social Platform on Cultural Tourism. There will be two events; a talk hosted online (2nd November) and a workshop hosted in-person at the Great Tapestry of Scotland Gallery in Galashiels (9th November).

> **Booking is required for both events.**



Local Story, Global Audience: Media Tourism in Doune

16 NOVEMBER 14:00-15:00 (Online)
23 NOVEMBER 14:00-16:00 (In-person)

Doune Castle has seen a record-breaking surge in visitor numbers since the popular Outlander TV series was first filmed there in 2013. The massive volume of worldwide visitors has posed fresh concerns about the (un)sustainable tourism development e.g., infrastructure capacity, real economic contribution, sociocultural impacts. This event will present a grounded understanding of the media tourism development in the village of Doune over two events, an online talk (16th November) and an in-person roundtable discussion on site in Doune (23rd November). Both events are open to all, especially anyone interested in Scottish tourism and rural Scotland development.

> **Booking is required for both events.**



Alcohol Pricing in Scotland – Does it Affect Your Food Shopping?

Podcast - Available from 30 NOVEMBER

Does Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) for alcohol have unintended consequences for diet quality and health? Alcohol MUP was introduced in Scotland in May 2018 as part of the Scottish Government's strategy to reduce the health and social harms associated with alcohol misuse. This conversation with Professor Paul McNamee will look at the research trying to understand whether household food spending was reduced following the introduction of MUP and the effect that this has on diet quality. He will also discuss whether these changes to diet quality have consequences for people's health.

> **This event is part of the Cafe Connect Podcast series, booking is not required.**



All events are free, to register visit > www.abdn.ac.uk/engage/foss

#FOSS #ESRCFestival #COP26 #UniABDNCop26