

## Research project: Expanding Knowledge Systems in Graphic Design Pedagogy through Counter-Archival Encounters

### Participant Information Sheet

#### About this study

This study is part of my research for the PgCert Academic Practice in Art, Design and Communication at the University of the Arts London (UAL).

I am conducting an enquiry into how engaging with community or independent archives can expand students' understanding of research and diversify the knowledge systems that underpin graphic design pedagogy. I am interested in students' reflections and experiences of encountering archival materials beyond institutional and Eurocentric frameworks.

My research will document and analyse how a single, structured archive visit may influence students' perceptions of knowledge, research methods, and cultural context in design education. The methodology will be qualitative, following an action research and responsive evaluation approach. Data will be collected through anonymised written or verbal reflections and researcher field notes, and analysed thematically to identify key insights and areas for future development in decolonial pedagogy.

#### What does it mean to take part?

If you choose to take part, you will be invited to participate in one archive visit organised as part of a course activity. Following the visit, you will be asked to provide a short reflection on your experience. This can be submitted in written or verbal form, depending on your preference.

Participation is voluntary, and your reflection will remain anonymous. You are free to withdraw at any time without providing a reason, and any data you have submitted will be removed from the study if requested.

The reflection process is expected to take approximately 15–20 minutes. Reflections will be analysed collectively to understand how the experience of working with archives might influence student learning and awareness of alternative knowledge systems.

#### Will my participation be kept confidential?

Yes. Your anonymity and confidentiality are central to this study.

- Your reflection will be anonymised at the point of collection.

- No identifying details (such as name or student number) will appear in any transcript, report, or publication.
- If your words are quoted, they will appear anonymously (e.g. “Student Participant A wrote...”).
- All data will be securely stored on UAL’s password-protected OneDrive system and deleted within 12 months of project completion.

### **What will happen to the results of the research project?**

The anonymised analysis and quotations from participants may be included in my PgCert Action Research Project submission. Insights from this study may also inform future teaching practice, presentations, or academic publications related to decolonising design education. No individual participants will be identifiable in any shared outcomes.

### **Thank you for your contribution and participation in this study.**

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact:

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**Course:** Graduate Diploma Graphic Design

**Institution:** University of the Arts London