

Bio

[Dr Laura Mazzoli Smith](#)

I am Associate Professor in the [School of Education](#) and co-lead of the [Narrative Practices Lab in the Discovery Research Platform for Medical Humanities](#), Institute for Medical Humanities, both at Durham University. I am a Fellow of the [Wolfson Research Institute for Health and Wellbeing](#) and an Associate Member of [Fuse](#), the Centre for Translational Research in Public Health. My research draws on narrative inquiry and auto/biographical methods and was initially concerned with educational identities and progression across the lifecourse, with a social justice focus. Taking an anti-reductionist stance to these issues has led me increasingly to consider questions of health and wellbeing. I have a particular interest in narrative pedagogy and digital storytelling as a learning methodology and I contribute to [Digital Storytelling Durham](#). I am one of the designers of the narrative-based learning framework for [Caring Stories](#), a European training platform for person-centred healthcare. I also draw on therapeutic theory and practice in my work and I am interested in group dynamics. I hold an Institute of Group Analysis Diploma in Groupwork Practice and I am currently working towards Groupwork Practitioner status.