

Indigenous research and evaluation methodologies online course with Professor Bagele Chilisa



FAQs

This free course will enable you to explore approaches that challenge dominant research and evaluation paradigms and support relational, culturally responsive, and decolonising ways of researching with communities and their stories. It also provides opportunities for you to reflect on the ethics, politics, and practice implications of your work and strengthen skills in research and evaluation as liberatory practices.

Who is this course for?

Bagele Chilisa has designed this course to be relevant to people in a wide range of roles including practitioner researchers, community workers, program evaluators, development partners working with communities, graduate research students, and academics. Anyone can take the course.

When can I start?

You can start at any time and work through at your own pace.

How long does the course take?

The course has 11 lessons or “footprints”. These include videos, things to read, and invitations for reflection. We estimate the course will take around 25 hours to complete, although this will obviously be different for everyone.

Are there any deadlines?

Nope! You can work through at whatever pace suits you.

Do I have to work through the course materials in the order presented?

Each footprint builds on the ones that come before it. For example, the five research paradigms set out in Footprint 2 are mentioned in many of the subsequent footprints. However, you have access to the whole course from the outset, so feel free to choose your own adventure!

Do I need any special software?

No. You can access the course with any browser on your computer, phone, or tablet.

How much does the course cost?

It's completely free to take this course and access the associated materials. We have also prioritised open access articles in the further readings.

Do I need to do this alone?

We think it would be great for people to work through the course alongside friends or colleagues. You can share your collective reflections as you go!

Do I need to write anything?

It's up to you. Each footprint contains invitations to reflect on the videos and readings you have engaged with and to make links with your own practice and context. We invite and encourage you to share your reflections in the comments section at the end of each page. You can also read and respond to others' reflections. We hope this will be a useful way to consolidate your learning and help to create community around this course. We'd also love to hear about ways you might record your reflections in formats other than writing!

How does the certification module work?

The certification module is an optional way to extend your engagement with the course.

This additional opportunity involves:

- writing and submitting reflections on at least 5 footprints of the course
- writing a short essay (around 1200 words), which Bagele Chilisa will personally respond to
- attending a small group Zoom discussion with Bagele Chilisa.

How much does the certification module cost?

There is a cost of \$150 USD to undertake the optional certification module.

What happens after I enrol in the certification module?

You will complete your 5 or more reflections and upload your essay. This will be sent to Bagele. It may take up to 4 weeks for us to return your essay with Bagele's feedback. Along with the response to your essay, you will receive information about making a time for your Zoom session with Bagele.

How will I receive my certificate of completion?

Once you have completed all the certification module requirements, we will send your certificate via email. If you require the certificate urgently, please email dcp@dulwichcentre.com.au

Will the certification module be recognised as CPD by my professional body?

This is at the discretion of the organisation you are applying to for recognition of continuing professional development. You will need to contact them to find out. Your certificate of completion will state that the course is 25 hours of study.

What should I do if I have technical troubles?

To begin with, please clear your browser cache and try again, and/or try using a different browser.

If you are having difficulty accessing the certification module, please ensure you are logged in with the same username under which you purchased the module.

If you are still having issues, please email dcp@dulwichcentre.com.au with a screenshot of the error.

How do I turn on captions or change the speed of the videos?

All of the videos produced for this course have human-edited captions in English. You can toggle these on and off with the [CC] button at the bottom of the video player. You can also opt to see the transcript alongside the video.

If you prefer to watch the videos at a faster or slower speed, you can select this using the clock icon at the bottom of the video player.

What is the Narrative Practice Research Network?

The [Narrative Practice Research Network](#) supports and promotes research about [narrative therapy](#) and community work and the use of research methods informed by narrative practice. It's a joint initiative of [Dulwich Centre](#) (an international hub of narrative practice) and The University of Melbourne's [Department of Social Work](#). NPRN has [members](#) all over the world. It's free to [join](#).

I'm a university instructor, can I assign this course – or part of it – to my students?

Sure! The course is freely available for anyone to use. You're welcome to invite your students to take the course, or to use the videos and other resources in your teaching, with appropriate acknowledgement of course. We'd love to hear about how people are using this course!

How should I cite the course?

Chilisa, B. (2026). *Indigenous research and evaluation methodologies* [Online course]. Narrative Practice Research Network.

<https://narrativepracticeresearch.org/courses/indigenous-research-and-evaluation-methodologies-with-professor-bagele-chilisa/>