1. Brief description of Event (50-100 words):

The summer school provided a range of workshops to help students develop skills for both research and life in academia. The five workshops I attended were all very well constructed, presented in an engaging manner, and provided new information and training in those areas. The specific workshops I took covered, among other things: “cracking” the conference, advanced interviewing, emotion as data, designing creativity in research, and an introduction to Q methodology.

2. What were the benefits of attending and what did you gain from the experience in terms of transferable skills and knowledge.

3. What actions will you be taking as a result of attending or by making new networking contacts.

Some of the more general concepts covered will “run in the background” of my thinking going forward. For example, a course on designing creativity in research proved to be a workshop on how to consciously be innovative, as well as tools for thinking beyond the established norms of methodology at each stage of a research project. For me, this will be something I consider going forward when doing something: what can I do to make this more interesting, unique, challenging? Since distinguishing yourself from the pack is very important for things like job applications/interviews and designing new research projects, I think the impact of this will be especially apparent in times when creativity is desired. Other “top tips” and skills will definitely be incorporated into my practice, and the introduction to some new approaches/methodologies opened up some intriguing new areas to continue my learning/development in going forward. Besides new ideas to invest in for the future, there was ample chance to network, and I plan to keep in touch with several individuals, in particular those whose research was most interesting and/or aligned with my own research interests. There’s a lot of potential for collaboration, and also for just knowing who and what are out there across a variety of disciplines.

4. Can you share any additional resources produced in connection with the event (e.g. feedback from participants, training resources, website links, and additional materials)

5. Tips/experience learned from the event

6. Any additional comments or information regarding the event