

“Permit us to question — to doubt, that’s all — to not be sure.” Richard Feynman (1955)

This flyer provides details of the second Research and Practice in HE Seminar for the 2016-17 academic year.

To encourage institutional discussion and debate in *learning, teaching and education*, these seminars will be delivered by invited speakers who are leaders of educational practice and enquiry. Combining presentation with discussion, the seminar series showcases examples of scholarship and innovation to shed new light on educational issues and challenges within the higher education domain, as well as exploring new directions for pedagogic research and scholarly practice.

All staff are welcome, and are encouraged to attend.

Refreshments will be provided.

4.00pm – 5.30pm, Wednesday 30th November
Roscoe Boardroom, Egerton Court, 2 Rodney Street

Shyness and the University

Professor Joe Moran,

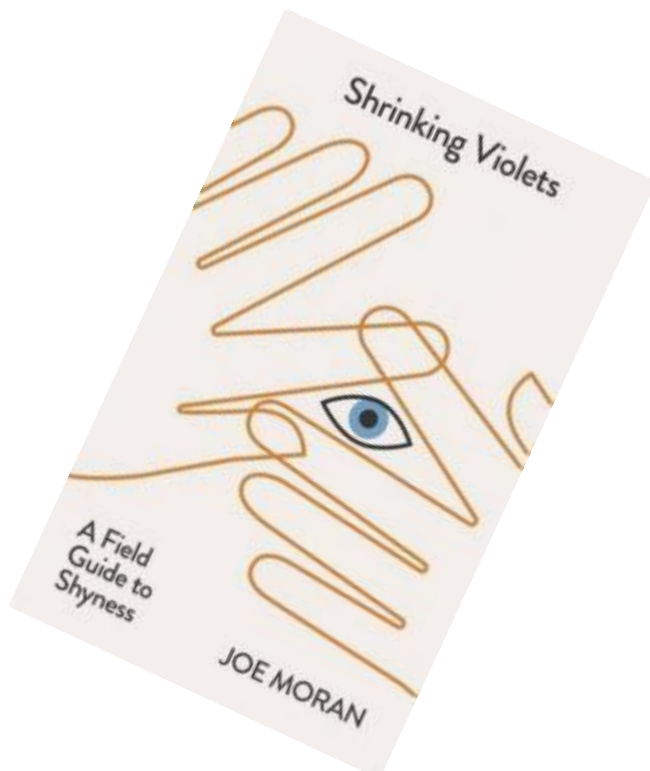
Abstract

In this paper I will share some of the insights from my research on shyness, and from my recent book *Shrinking Violets*, and explore their implications for academic practice and teaching in higher education. How can shy lecturers thrive in an age of what Susan Cain calls ‘the extrovert ideal’ (*Quiet*, 2012, p. 17)? How can we help shy and socially anxious students? How do the communal spaces of the university, and the idea of the university as a community, help or hinder them? Are there even benefits to and special insights to be gained from shyness? Do we, for instance, value collaboration and group work too much at the expense of silence and solitary work? This will be an informal talk designed to stimulate discussion.

Biography

Joe Moran is Professor of English and Cultural History at LJMU. His books include *Reading the Everyday* (2005), *Queuing for Beginners: The Story of Daily Life from Breakfast to Bedtime* (2007), *On Roads: A Hidden History* (2009) and *Armchair Nation: An Intimate History of Britain in Front of the TV* (2013). He writes regularly for the *Guardian*, the *Times Higher*, the *New Statesman* and other publications. His most recent book is *Shrinking Violets: A Field Guide to Shyness*, published by Profile in 2016 and in a revised American edition by Yale University Press in spring 2017.

Joe maintains a blog at <https://joemoran.net/> and he can be followed on Twitter @joemoransblog.



To book a place please email TLAcademy@ljmu.ac.uk or contact extension 8101 / 8678.