

# POPULATION SCIENCE SEMINAR SERIES



This monthly science focused forum is aimed at sharing and collaborating amongst the nodes and beyond. The topics are primarily Health and Demographic Surveillance Site (HDSS) and Population Science focused. All interested are welcome to attend.

## DATE

Wednesday,  
27 November 2024

## TIME

15:00 – 16:00

## VENUE

Virtual on Microsoft Teams  
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### **Facilitator: Dr Carren Ginsburg, Senior Researcher at SAMRC/Wits – Agincourt Research Unit**

Dr Carren Ginsburg is a Senior Researcher in public health and population studies at the SAMRC/Wits Rural Public Health and Health Transitions Research Unit (Agincourt), Wits University. Her research focuses on advancing knowledge on the impact of migration and urbanisation on health and socioeconomic transitions in South and sub-Saharan Africa. She is a co-lead on the Multi-Centre Analysis of the Dynamics of Migration and Health (MADIMAH) project, and co-PI on the “Migrant Health Follow-up Study” funded by the National Institutes of Health, USA, a cohort study of South African internal migrants that seeks to investigate the health and economic consequences of migration.



### **SPEAKER 1: Dr Bianca Moffett** Clinical Research Fellow at SAMRC/ Wits Agincourt Research Unit

#### **Topic: A Gamified Digital Intervention using Behavioural Activation for Adolescent Depression in Rural South Africa: results of a pilot randomised controlled trial (the DoBat Study)**

Dr Bianca Moffett is a rural doctor and mental health researcher whose work seeks to identify and overcome barriers to implementation of mental health care in low-resource contexts, with a key focus on depression and anxiety amongst youth and adolescents. She co-leads the Mental and Neurological Health and Wellbeing Thematic Area at SAMRC/Wits-Agincourt and was the project manager of the Digital delivery of Behavioural Activation to overcome depression and facilitate social and economic transitions of adolescents (DoBat) Study. The DoBat Study was a pilot randomised controlled trial which assessed the feasibility, acceptability and preliminary efficacy of a gamified mental health app for adolescent depression in rural South Africa.



### **SPEAKER 2: Dr Erofil Grapsa** Research Associate at Africa Health Research Institute (AHRI)

#### **Topic: Sequence analysis as a holistic approach to studying the life course using HDSS data**

Dr Erofil Grapsa is a statistician and data analyst with a strong background in research and policy support. Her expertise lies in data analysis and modelling, but she is familiar with all stages of the data life cycle. Her experience spans across a wide range of social sciences, including population science, labour market, public health, time use, environment and gender research. Throughout her career, she has leveraged her expertise in data analysis to make a positive impact supporting various organisations working on critical social and economic issues, developing methodologies that transcend disciplines and translating complex data into actionable insights to inform decision making.