# Think before you do (Part 1): Key ingredients of a reproducible research plan

Niamh MacSweeney niamh.macsweeney@ed.ac.uk





## Aim of today's lecture

Introduce reproducible publishing methods and outline reproducible research checklist





### What does reproducible research look like?

There are two main formats:

#### 1. Pre-registration:

A time-stamped, read-only version of your research plan created before you begin data collection/analysis



#### 2. Registered Report:

When your research plan undergoes peer review before results are known



### The "recipe" to reproducible research?

#### **Reproducible Research Checklist**

- □ What is my *general* research question?
- □ What are my *specific, concise and testable* hypotheses?
- □ What are my variables of interest and how will they be measured?
- Do I have covariates? If so, what is my *rationale* for including them?
- □ What is my sample size?
- □ What statistical tests will I use to test my hypotheses?
- □ How will I treat missing or skewed data, outliers?



□ What criteria will I use to make inferences? (e.g., p-values, effect sizes, confidence intervals).

Does my "recipe" have enough information for someone else to "make" the same research study?

## Why should I care about pre-reg?

- Front-loading the work, but your future self will thank you!
- Will be very helpful for your progress report.
- Always have a project "blueprint" to refer to.



## **Examples of pre-registrations**

Pre-registrations can be applied to all types of research projects:

- Data-collection based
- Secondary data analysis
- Qualitative work

Methods and structure may vary but the principles are the same.

We will look at an example of a pre-registration in the next video

