

Teaching Resources: Decolonizing Film Festival Research in a Post-Pandemic World. Prof Sheila Petty & Dr Estrella Sendra, 2022-2024.

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<https://research.uregina.ca/dffr/decolonial-tests/>

Student Worksheet & Reflective Checklist

Decolonial Test (Follow-up Focus Group Guide)

Purpose □

This worksheet supports you in conducting a follow-up focus group after your interviews (Part 2). It encourages deeper reflection, dialogue, and collective perspectives on festival practices, with particular attention to decolonial approaches.

- Use this as a flexible guide, not a strict script
- Encourage open dialogue and multiple perspectives
- Prioritise care, respect, and inclusive participation.

Planning your focus group

- Who will you invite?
- Group size (recommended: 3-5 people)
- Duration (recommended: 90 minutes)
- Format (online or in person?)

Facilitation notes

During the session:

- Introduce yourself and the purpose of the discussion
- Remind participants they do not need to answer every question.
- Ensure everyone has the opportunity to speak and that no single voice dominates.
- Ensure a respectful and safe space is maintained.

Focus Group Discussion Prompts

1. Participant introductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is your role in the festival?• How did you first get involved?
Notes:
2. Value of film festivals
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why do film festivals matter?• What makes them unique or important?
Notes:
3. Film curation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are your thoughts on the types of films included in the programme?• What stands out about the curation?
Notes:
4. Programme and engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you view the range of activities in the festival?• How do audiences engage with them?
Notes:
5. Future directions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What would you like to see in future editions of this festival?
Notes:
6. Decolonial reflection
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have these conversations prompted reflections on decolonial practices?• How do you understand this in relation to the festival?
Notes:
7. Collaboration between research and practice

- How might festival researchers and organisers collaborate more effectively?

Notes:

Post-session Reflection (researcher)

After the focus group, reflect on your role and the discussion:

Did I create space for multiple voices and perspectives?

How did participants interact with one another?

Were there tensions, disagreements, or silences? What might these mean?

What new insights emerged compared to Part 2 (interviews)?

How does this discussion inform my understanding of decolonial practices?

Next Step

Use your notes to:

Identify common themes and differences across participants

Reflect on group dynamics and power relations

Connect insights to your research questions and framework

Tips for students

Be an active listener, not just a question-asker

Allow the conversation to flow naturally

Use follow-up prompts where relevant

Pay attention not only to *what is said*, but also to *how* it is said

We are interested in hearing whether this methodology has been beneficial for your research. Your feedback on the method and the decolonial tests is greatly appreciated. Feel free to contact us by sending an email to estrella.sendra@kcl.ac.uk and Sheila.Petty@uregina.ca. Thank you.