



Swansea
University
Prifysgol
Abertawe

Population Data Science
Faculty of Medicine, Health & Life Science
Gwyddor Data Poblogaeth
Y Gyfadrn Meddygaeth, Gwyddor Iechyd a Bywyd

POPULATION DATA SCIENCE SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME 2026

Start your career in data science!



About our award-winning team

Who we are

Population Data Science at Swansea University is a cutting-edge research centre based in Swansea University Medical School, Faculty of Medicine, Health & Life Science. Specialising in secure-linked data analysis of health, social and other administrative data sources.



WE ARE
PIONEERING
POPULATION
DATA SCIENCE

What we do

Our award-winning team are focused on delivering a world-class technology infrastructure to tackle some of the biggest challenges facing today's society and enable opportunities - creating a global research ecosystem with the potential to produce educational, environmental, economic, and societal impact.

Our research projects

Our team is involved with various projects and research programmes, conducting different methodological and applied skills across multiple disciplines to support and achieve our world-leading innovations. These skills include but are not limited to software development, database development and management, epidemiology, statistics, data mining, data visualisation, web development, project management, patient public and stakeholder engagement and Geographical Information Systems.



**Data
Science
Building**

**Swansea
University**

Why should you apply to our internship programme?

- 1 **Gain work experience** with an award-winning team at the forefront of global population data science research.
- 2 **Develop new skills** with real-world data analysis to develop and apply your skills in this highly secure, state-of-the-art environment.
- 3 **Explore a career path** in Population Data Science and find out what fits you best.
- 4 **Gain confidence with** our internship programme. It is a perfect way to help you gain experience transitioning from university to full-time employment. You can gain valuable insights and knowledge, participate in meetings, and perform assigned tasks in a real-world setting.
- 5 **Network and work alongside a team of highly skilled professionals** including your supervisors and mentors you meet during your internship, who can be valuable references as you pursue a full-time job.
- 6 **Build a strong CV** and give yourself a head start with the internship.
- 7 Some interns have become **full-time employees**: Kellie Robinson and Rowan Dash from our 2023 intern cohort, both secured full-time positions in the SERP team at Population Data Science after their internships. [Find out more about their journey here.](#)
- 8 **Paid employment for 12 weeks**, including annual leave entitlement.
- 9 The programme culminates in the **Showcase Event** with an opportunity for interns to present their projects. [Check out the highlights from last year's Showcase event in this video.](#)

Apply now!

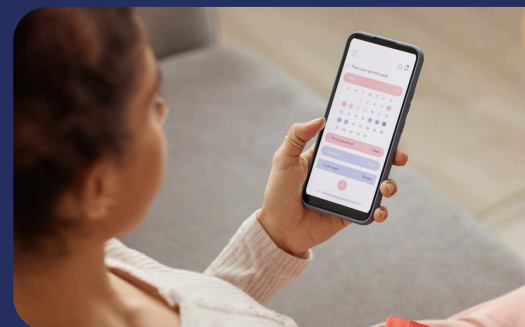
Keep scrolling to see the project opportunities!



Population Data Science Internships

Project 2

Title: Tracking more than periods: A scoping review exploring data privacy and security in menstrual cycle tracking applications



Summary: Period tracker applications are widely used to support menstrual health, fertility awareness and reproductive planning. These apps routinely collect and store highly sensitive personal data, including information on menstrual cycles, sexual activity, pregnancy intentions, and health conditions. In recent years, concerns have been raised regarding data privacy, security, governance, and the secondary use of such data, particularly in light of evolving legal, regulatory and technological contexts.

This project will undertake a scoping review of academic and grey literature examining period tracker apps, with a specific focus on how sensitive data are collected, stored, governed and protected. The review will synthesise evidence on data security practices, privacy risks, ethical considerations, regulatory frameworks, and user trust, and identify gaps in the existing research base. An inventory of data variables collected by existing apps will also be compiled. The findings will provide critical context for ongoing work on women's health, data protection, and reproductive health technologies, and will inform future research, policy development, and best practices in the design and governance of period-tracking applications.

Outcome by the end of 12 weeks

- A scoping literature review for publication in an academic journal. This will encompass a written synthesis of key findings, including thematic summaries and tables, and identify gaps in the literature.
- A summary document of the review findings that can be disseminated to policy-makers, practitioners and other stakeholders.
- An inventory of data collected by existing period tracker applications.
- A short presentation summarising the review findings suitable for use in future research proposal development, publications, or policy and stakeholder engagement.

Skills/ background suited

Essential

- Background in public health.
- Experience in conducting literature reviews and synthesising evidence.
- Excellent written, critical appraisal and communication skills.
- A strong interest in women's health research.

Desirable

- An interest in data visualisation.
- Understanding of data privacy, data protection or digital health technologies.

The centres supporting this year's programme

SAIL Databank



SAIL Databank is a safe haven for billions of person-based records, which enables researchers to answer important questions for the benefit of society. Researchers can access a broad range of routinely collected data spanning up to 30 years from an entire population.

SAIL Databank achieves this by working collaboratively with data guardians, academics, regulators, members of the public, practitioners, and policymakers from Wales, across the UK and internationally.

The SAIL Databank holds de-identified data in linkable form and, following further safeguards, makes selected data available for analysis in anonymised form. Approved researchers can access the data remotely anywhere in the world, complete with analysis tools. Because the data accessed for research is anonymised, the work is carried out without researchers knowing the identities of the individuals represented.

SeRP



Secure eResearch Platform (SeRP) is the complete customisable solution for data sharing, linkage and analysis in a safe, secure and controlled environment that's accredited to the highest international standard. It does this in a governed environment allowing data owners to remain in full control at all times.

SeRP is the perfect solution for any organisation that has accumulated a large amount of data, that intends to share that data for the purposes of research and long term benefit to society, and that wants to do so in the most secure and safe way possible to reduce associated risks. SeRP can benefit sectors including healthcare, governments, academic Research, industry, charities & Not-for-profit organisations.

For more information on the benefits of SeRP, visit [SeRP Benefits](#).

The centres supporting this year's programme

ADR Wales



ADR Wales (Administrative Data Research Wales) unites specialists in each field from Population Data Science at Swansea University and the Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research and Data (WISERD) at Cardiff University with statisticians, economists and social researchers from Welsh Government.

The partnership is ideally placed to maximise the utility of anonymous and secure data to shape public service delivery, which will ultimately improve the lives of people in Wales. The work carried out by the ADR Wales team covers areas such as early years, education, skills and employability, health and well-being, housing and homelessness, social care, mental health, social justice, climate change and major societal challenges.

Dementias Platform UK



Dementias Platform UK Data Portal brings together records of over 3 million people in a free-to-access resource.

Researchers can use the portal to identify which cohorts are relevant to them, apply for access to the data and then analyse it in a secure, remote environment complete with data linkage and analysis packages.

The portal brings the records together, ensures they are secure, supports data linkage studies using phenotypic, genomic, and imaging data, and makes them readily available for the benefit of academia, industry, regulators, health care providers, patients, and the public.

APPLY NOW!

To find out more about the

Summer Internship Programme

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Population Data Science
at Swansea University