

Project proposal

<i>Project title</i>	<input type="text" value="'Culture of intoxication'? The place of new psychoactive substances in young people's life"/>
<i>First Supervisor</i>	<input type="text" value="Professor"/> <input type="text" value="Andrea Petroczi"/>
<i>Second Supervisor</i>	<input type="text" value="Prof Declan Naughton"/>
<i>School</i>	<input type="text" value="Life Sciences"/>
<i>Other member of supervisory team (no more than three KU supervisors in total)</i>	<input type="text" value="Glenn Taylor"/>
<i>Specific requirements beyond 2:1 degree</i>	<input type="text" value="First class honours undergraduate degree in psychology/health psychology; public health and/or forensic science; Masters degree in cognate areas and demonstrated strength or experience in mixed methodology research is an advantage."/>

**Project summary
(max 4,000 characters)**

New psychoactive substances (NPS), also referred to as 'legal highs', are substances that produce the same, or similar effects, to illegal drugs but they are sufficiently different structurally to avoid being controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act. According to the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addictions (EMCDDA, 2014) in 2013, 81 new psychoactive substances were notified to the EU Early Warning System, bringing the number of psychoactive substances monitored to more than 350. In response to changes in legislation, NPS represent an ever-changing and fast-moving domain of the contemporary drug landscape. This project, using mixed methodology, will explore the prevalence of NPS in young adults' lives, progression to and patterns of NPS use (including simultaneous and concurrent drug use), along with motives, reasons, sociodemographic- and psychosocial characteristics of NPS users.