



Professor Michael Crossley

B.Ed.(Keele), M.A.(Lond.), Ph.D.(LaT.), F.R.S.A., AcSS

Emeritus Professor

Office Room 3.11
Helen Wodehouse Building,
35 Berkeley Square, Clifton BS8 1JA
([See a map](#))

+44 (0) 117 331 4343
m.crossley@bristol.ac.uk

Summary

Biographical details

Michael Crossley is Emeritus Professor of Comparative and International Education, Founding Director of the Centre for International and Comparative Research in Education and Director of the Education in Small States Research Group (www.smallstates.net) in the School of Education. In 2017 he was elected as President for the British Association for Interantional and Comparative Education (BAICE). Professor Crossley is a former Editor of the journal *Comparative Education* and former Vice-Chair and Chair of BAICE. He is the Founding Series Editor for the *Bristol Papers in Education: Comparative and International Studies* (Symposium Books), and is a member of the Editorial Boards for *Comparative Education*, the *International Journal of Educational Development* and *Research in Post-compulsory Education*, a Corresponding Editor for the *International Review of Education*, and a former Chair of the Editorial Board for *Compare*. Between 1985 and 1990 he was Editor for the *Papua New Guinea Journal of Education*. Professor Crossley has published widely and undertaken teaching, research and consultancy work in countries that include England, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Kenya, Tanzania, Pakistan, China/Hong Kong, Belize, Botswana, Saint Lucia, the Turks and Caicos Islands, The Bahamas, Fiji, Malaysia, Sarawak, Malta and Maldives. Consultancies have been carried out for bodies that include The World Bank, UNESCO/IIEP, the Commonwealth Secretariat, DFID, and various national governments, and he is a former Trustee for the United Kingdom Forum for International Education and Training (UKFIET).

Major research interests relate to: theoretical and methodological scholarship on the future of comparative and international education; the dilemmas of international education policy transfer; research and evaluation capacity and international development co-operation; and educational development in small states.

Professor Crossley has published over 200 articles and books in the field of Comparative and International Education. This work has developed a strong critique of the uncritical international transfer of educational policy, practice and research modalities. In doing so, it is argued that "context matters" more than many policy makers and researchers recognise. Secondly, this trajectory of research points to the potential to be gained from a "bridging of cultures and traditions" within and beyond the Social Sciences if Comparative and International Education is to enhance its contribution to both policy development and the advancement of theory. He was elected as an Academician, now Fellow, (FACSS) by the UK Academy for the Social Sciences in 2005.

Professor Crossley is a former Director of the Doctor of Education Programme (EdD) in Bristol and Hong Kong, and has long taught popular Masters and Doctoral courses on research methodology and Comparative and International Education. He has supervised more than 40 doctoral students in the field of Comparative and International Education, coming from many countries worldwide.

Research Project

- UN Learning from the Sharp End SIDS Research Partnership and Network
- Revisiting Insider/Outsider Perspectives in Comparative and International Research
- Teachers and Teacher Education in Fiji and the South Pacific
- Strengthening Secondary Education Quality in Tanzania
- [Educational Research and Planning Priorities for Commonwealth Small States](#)
- [BAICE History and Archive Research](#)
- [Research and Evaluation Capacity for Educational Development and the Primary School Management Project in Kenya](#)
- [Globalisation and Skills for Development in Rwanda and Tanzania](#)

- The History of the British Association for International and Comparative Education (BAICE)
- The Use and Impact of Treated Mosquito Nets in Papua New Guinea: Combining Education and Health Initiatives
- The History of the Journal Comparative Education in the Light of Changing Research Paradigms, Issues and Identities in Education and the Social Sciences
- Postcolonialism and Comparative Education. Theoretical and Methodological Scholarship for Publication as a Special Issue of Comparative Education
- State of the Art Review of Educational Development in Small States
- Case-study Research and Impact Evaluation for the Belize Primary Education Development Project.

Biography

Michael Crossley, AcSS, is Professor of Comparative and International Education, Co-ordinator of the Research Centre for International and Comparative Studies ([ICS](#)) and Director of the Doctor of Education Programme (Bristol and Hong Kong) in the Graduate School of Education. He was Director of the GSoE MPhil/PhD Programme from 1994-2000 and is a former Editor of the journal Comparative Education, a former Chair of the British Association for International and Comparative Education ([BAICE](#)) (2002-2004); and a member or former member of the Editorial Boards for the [International Journal of Educational Development](#), Comparative Education, [Compare](#) and Research in Post Compulsory Education. Professor Crossley is a founding Series Editor for the Bristol Papers in Education: Comparative and International Studies (Symposium Books), a Consulting Editor for the International Review of Education and a Research Associate and International Editorial Advisory Board Member for the Comparative Education Research Centre ([CERC](#)), at the University of Hong Kong.

Professor Crossley is Director of a specialist Education in Small States Research Group (www.smallstates.net), Adjunct Professor of Education at The University of the South Pacific, and is a former Associate Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Papua New Guinea. He has undertaken teaching, research and consultancy work in countries that include England, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Kenya, Tanzania, Pakistan, China, Malaysia, Botswana, Belize, the Turks and Caicos Islands, Fiji and St Lucia. His publications include over 200 books and articles in the field of comparative and international education, and his research challenges the uncritical international transfer of educational policy and practice. This focuses upon three interlinked areas: theoretical and methodological advances in comparative research; research capacity building and international development cooperation; and education and development in small states. He is a trustee for the United Kingdom Forum for International Education and Training (UKFIET), and is an elected Academician (AcSS) for the UK Academy for the Social Sciences.

Teaching

Professor Crossley's teaching focuses upon comparative and international aspects of research methodology, processes of international development co-operation and education in small states.

[EdD Units](#)

Understanding Educational Research (Hong Kong EdD), also contributions for MPhil/PhD Research Training

Comparative Perspectives, Globalisation and Education (Bristol and Hong Kong EdD)

MEd Unit

International Development, Comparative Research and Education

Prof Crossley is also the Director for the [Educational Leadership, Policy and Development MEd Pathway](#), and a former Director for the MPhil/PhD Programme (1994-2000).

Keywords

- theoretical scholarship
- methodological scholarship
- comparative education
- international education
- international development co-operation
- educational development
- specialist education in small states

Skills

- *Former Chair: British Association for International and Comparative Education (BAICE)(2002-2004). *Trustee for the UK Forum on International Education & Training (UKFIET). *Member
- Comparative and International Education Society (CIES)(USA). *British Educational Research Association (BERA). *Council for Education for the Commonwealth
- Royal Commonwealth Society. *Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (FRSA). *Elected as an Academician (AcSS) by the UK Academy of the Social Sciences.

Memberships

Organisations

Recent publications

- Crossley, M, 2019, '[Policy transfer, sustainable development and the contexts of education](#)'. *Compare: A Journal of Comparative and International Education*, vol 49., pp. 175-191
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- Crossley, M, 2017, '[Dr Colin Brock: 1939 - 2016](#)'. Taylor & Francis Group, Abingdon
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- Crossley, M, Cresantia, Vaka'uta, FK, Lagi, R, McGrath, S, Thaman, KH & Waqailiti, L, 2017, '[Quality education and the role of the teacher in Fiji: mobilising global and local values](#)'. *Compare: A Journal of Comparative and International Education*, vol 47., pp. 872-890
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- Crossley, M & Sprague, T, 2017, '[Developing a Bigger Picture: Re-theorising, Applying and Extending the Education in Small States Literature](#)'. in: Tavis Jules, Patrick Ressler (eds) *Re-Reading Education Policy and Practice in Small States : Issues of Size and Scale in the Emerging «Intelligent Society and Economy»*. Peter Lang, Frankfurt am Main
- McNess, E, Arthur, L & Crossley, M, 2016, '["Ethnographic dazzle" and the construction of the "Other" : shifting boundaries between the insider and the outsider](#)'. in: *Revisiting Insider - Outsider Research in Comparative and International Education*. Symposium Books, Oxford, pp. 21-38
- Crossley, M, 2016, '[Global Goals Versus Local Contexts: Challenges for Small Island Developing States](#)'. *Norrag News*.

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