



USING AI TO FACILITATE FEEDBACK ON THE LEARNING EXPERIENCES OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS

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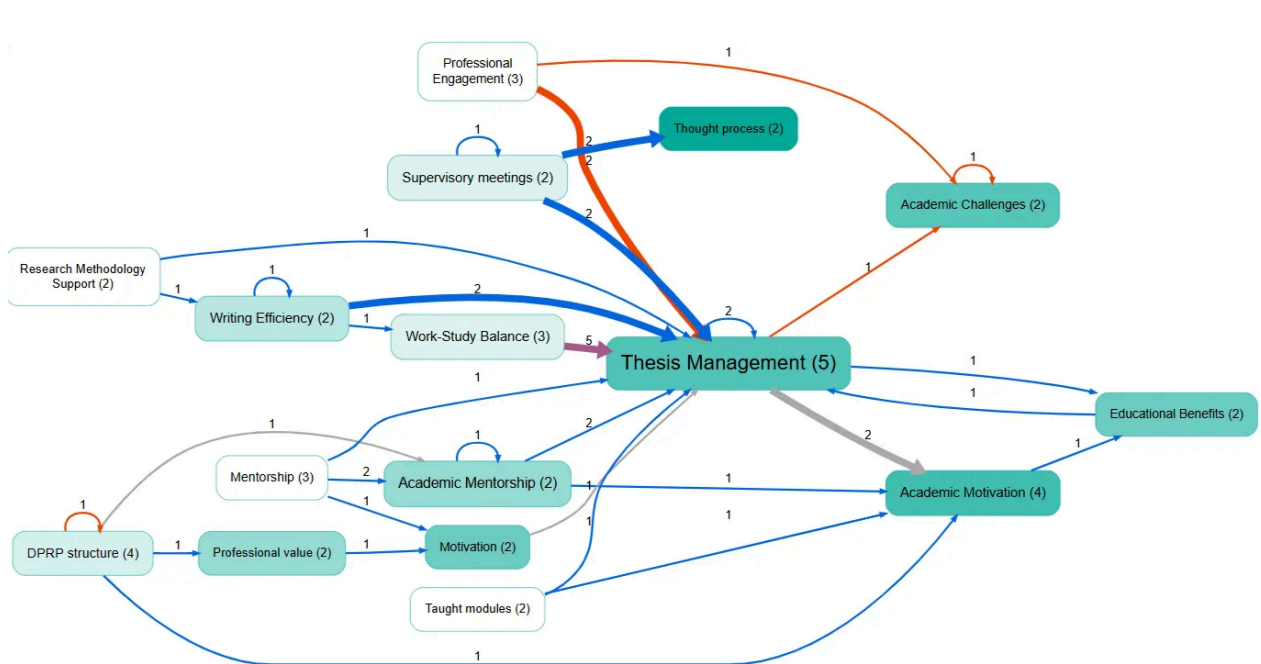
Summary

The Causal Map team has conducted a trial of an innovative approach to securing feedback from students using online open-ended interviews conducted by the app [QualiaInterviews](#), which uses generative AI (gen-AI), followed by a second use of gen-AI within the app **Causal Map** to semi-automate causal coding of the narrative transcripts thereby generated. The trial was conducted with students registered on the doctorate in policy research and practice (DPRP) at the **University of Bath**.

The pilot

We report on the trial of an innovative approach to securing feedback from students using online open-ended interviews conducted by the app Qualia, which uses generative AI (gen-AI), followed by a second use of gen-AI within the app Causal Map to semi-automate causal coding of the narrative transcripts thereby generated. The trial was conducted with students registered on the doctorate in policy research and practice (DPRP) at the University of Bath, a part-time programme for mid-career policy professionals. This generated credible evidence of diverse positive and negative drivers of learning from eleven students. The trial suggests that incorporation of gen-AI into causal mapping of narrative data about students' study experiences enhances the potential to use the method cost-effectively on a larger scale, whether alongside or instead of more traditional approaches to eliciting student feedback on teaching and learning.

Keywords: *AI; Causal mapping; Doctoral studies; Generative AI; Qualitative data analysis, Student evaluation*



Link: 685. Filename: james-dprp-research. Citation coverage 59%. 44 of 74 total citations and 6 of 6 total coded sources are shown here.
 Numbers on factors show source count. Factor sizes show citation count. Darker factor colours show greater outcomeness.
 Numbers on links show citation count.
 Zooming in to level 1 of the hierarchy. Auto clustering factors using label set 2. Top 20 factors by source count.

[See our findings in this paper](#)

[See a summarised report in this presentation](#)