

Dr Laurence Ball MSc PhD GradIOSH

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A risk researcher and expert witness with high-level qualifications and cutting-edge knowledge of decision-making particularly in relation to public safety and leisure

Risk professional with a doctorate in risk management from King's College London. Extensive knowledge of risk assessment and risk management - in particular its application to public safety, leisure and recreation. Internationally-recognised expert in risk-benefit assessment (RBA). Broad skillset with practical experience in health and safety from sector-leading companies.

- **Memberships:** IOSH (GradIOSH); The Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA); International Play Association (IPA); Society for Risk Analysis (SRA); The Institute of Risk Management (IRM)
- **Research published** on occupational safety, public safety, sport and leisure, risk assessment, risks and benefits of leisure, proportionate risk management
- **Expert witness & accident investigation experience** (10+ years) across a wide range of cases pertaining to public safety, OSH, sports and recreation
- **In-depth knowledge** of risk policy, foundational issues in risk, UK legal and regulatory requirements
- **International conference speaker** on risk and public life, UK risk regulation, the UK's approach to risk management, risk and recreation
- **Keen sportsperson** competing in running, cycling, ultra-races, stair races, obstacle course events and mountain races

Education

PhD, Risk Management, King's College London, UK 2014 to 2019

Thesis titled *'Risk and Proportionality: A Synoptic View of UK Practices'*

A cross-sectoral study examining to what extent organisations and duty holders in the UK are able to achieve optimal risk management decision-making, and the impediments to this goal. The sectors analysed were high-tech, occupational health & safety (OHS) and leisure. A key finding was that currently there exist significant problems in regards to how duty holders understand and implement legal and regulatory requirements. [ISBN: 9781527253650]

M.Sc., Risk Management, Middlesex University, UK 2009

Grade: Distinction

Modules on decision-making, risk management techniques, banking risk management, and research methods.

B.A. (Hons), Economics, Politics and International Studies, University of Warwick, UK 2004 to 2008

Grade: 2:1

Selected for ERASMUS scholar programme (2017): one year's study abroad at Universidad Carlos III, Madrid.

Professional Experience

Researcher and Expert Witness *Jan 2012 to present*

Risk Assessment and Management Associates (RAMA), London

- Conducting risk research for a risk management consultancy on topics including safety decision-making, risk regulation, leisure and outdoor activities
- Expert witness and accident investigation work on diverse cases including a wide range of sports, work activities, gymnasias, historic monuments, children's play and playgrounds, and zorbing
- Advising organisations on risk management and safety decision-making

SHE Administrator *Nov 2020 to March 2022*

CBRE / Anglo American

- Overseeing all aspects of daily SHE function of Anglo American global headquarters of 1,000+ employees
- Site inspections, maintenance of training records, planning and developing training programmes including site induction
- DSE training programme and assessments, Covid risk assessments, development of site emergency response plan
- Managing contractors including reviewing RAMS and issuing permits to work
- Developing and delivering programmes including fire safety, health and wellness promotion, environmental awareness

Credit Risk Analyst *Dec 2010 to Sept 2013*

GFI Group, London

- Reported directly to the Global Head of Risk, conducted credit analysis of new counterparts and countries. Liaised independently with all desks regarding client onboarding, trading anomalies, limit breaches

Credit Analyst Trainee

Mar 2010 to Nov 2010

European Investment Bank, Luxembourg

- Traineeship in the Credit Risk Directorate of the EIB - the long-term lending institution of the EU

Business Risk Services Intern

Aug 2008 to Sept 2008

Ernst and Young, London

- Worked on a large-scale public sector merger project in a small team.
- Researched, edited and composed policy documents. Liaised with clients, managers and stakeholders

Volunteer Experience

English Tutor

Dec 2020 to present

Toynbee Hall, London

- Weekly online teaching to non-native English speakers from the local community, including setting homework and job search assistance

Academic Support Tutor

Jan 2019 to Sept 2019

IntoUniversity, London

- Weekly sessions of tutoring, support and mentoring for young students (ages 7-16) from underprivileged backgrounds
- Helping them with homework, coursework, revision, broad study skills and university applications

Presentations and Publications

- Presentation of paper on risks and benefits of play at International Play Association (IPA) World Conference, 8 June 2023, Glasgow
- Presentation to team of senior solicitors on a risk management approach to legal cases, 21 March 2023, online
- Presentation on UK health and safety, Nagaoka University of Technology, 8 Sept 2017, Japan
- Presentation of paper at Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) Europe Conference, 19 June 2017, Lisbon
- Poster Presentation at SRA World Conference, 23 July 2015, Singapore
- Presentation of paper at SRA Europe Conference, 15 June 2015, Maastricht

Peer-reviewed journal papers

- Ball (2022) *Are Misunderstandings over "Risk" Contributing to Difficulties in Assessing and Managing Safety in the Public Domain?* Journal of Service Science and Management, Vol.15 No.5
- Ball (2021) *Benefit-risk assessment: balancing the benefits and risks of leisure*, World Leisure Journal
- Ball (2020) *Risk-based Regulation in the UK: Courtroom Battles Expose Ongoing*, European Journal of Risk Regulation
- Co-author: L Ball & DJ Ball (2021) *Health, the Outdoors and Safety*, Sustainability Journal
- Co-author: L Ball & DJ Ball (2018) *Risk and the Perception of Risk in Interactions with Nature*, Oxford Textbook of Nature and Public Health
- Co-author: Ball et al. (2013) *The Rise and Fall of a Regulator: Adventure Sports in the United Kingdom*, Journal of Risk Analysis
- Co-author: L Ball & DJ Ball (2013) *Safety Management and Public Spaces: Restoring Balance*, Journal of Risk Analysis

Books

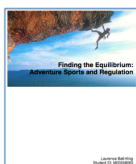
- Co-author of chapter: DJ Ball & L Ball (2016) *Threats and unintended consequences of nature - protecting health and reducing environmental hazards*, appearing in *Nature and Public Health: The Role of Nature in Improving the Health of a Population*
- Co-author: DJ Ball & L Ball (2011), *Public Safety and Risk Assessment: Improving Decision Making*, Earthscan Risk in Society Series

Training, Skills and Interests

- **Selected Courses:** RoSPA Playsafety Outdoor Operational Playground Inspection Course (June 2022), DSE Assessor (Cardinus – February 2021), Legal Training for Expert Witnesses (APIL - January 2020), HSE Inspectors' Guide to Risk Assessment (July 2019), IOSH Managing Safely (August 2016), Risk-benefit Assessment in Play (September, 2016)
- **Languages:** Spanish (intermediate), French (basic), Mandarin (basic)
- **First Aid** trained (St John Ambulance, 2021), **Fire Marshal** trained (St John Ambulance, 2021), and **DSE** trained (Cardinus, 2021)
- **Sports:** UK number 1 ranked Tower Runner (current), 2:41 marathon runner, ultra-race silver medallist



PhD Thesis
Risk and Proportionality
King's College London



MSc Dissertation
Risk and Adventure Sports
Middlesex University