

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Development Economics Workshop - 2026

## Programme Brochure



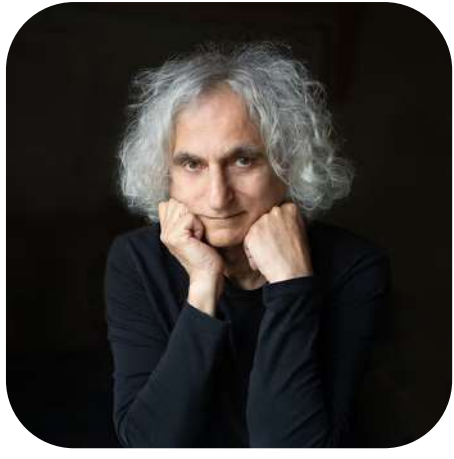
WATERSIDE BUILDING, DURHAM UNIVERSITY BUSINESS  
SCHOOL, RIVERSIDE PLACE, DURHAM DH1 1SL



09-10 JUNE 2026

# Keynote Speakers

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**Professor Oded Galor**

Herbert H. Goldberger Professor of Economics, Brown University, USA  
The founder of Unified Growth Theory



**Mr. Kamal Kishore**

Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, and Head of UNDRR

# Panel Speakers

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**Dr. Steve Brown**

Director, Executive Education  
Faculty of Business and Law  
Curtin University, Australia



**Professor Amir Michael**

Professor of Accounting and Deputy Executive Dean - Executive & Professional Education  
Durham University, United Kingdom

# Special Session

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**Assoc. Prof. Devesh Rustagi**

Department of Economics  
University of Warwick, United Kingdom

# Convenors

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**Professor Habib Rahman**

Chair, Durham University Business School, United Kingdom

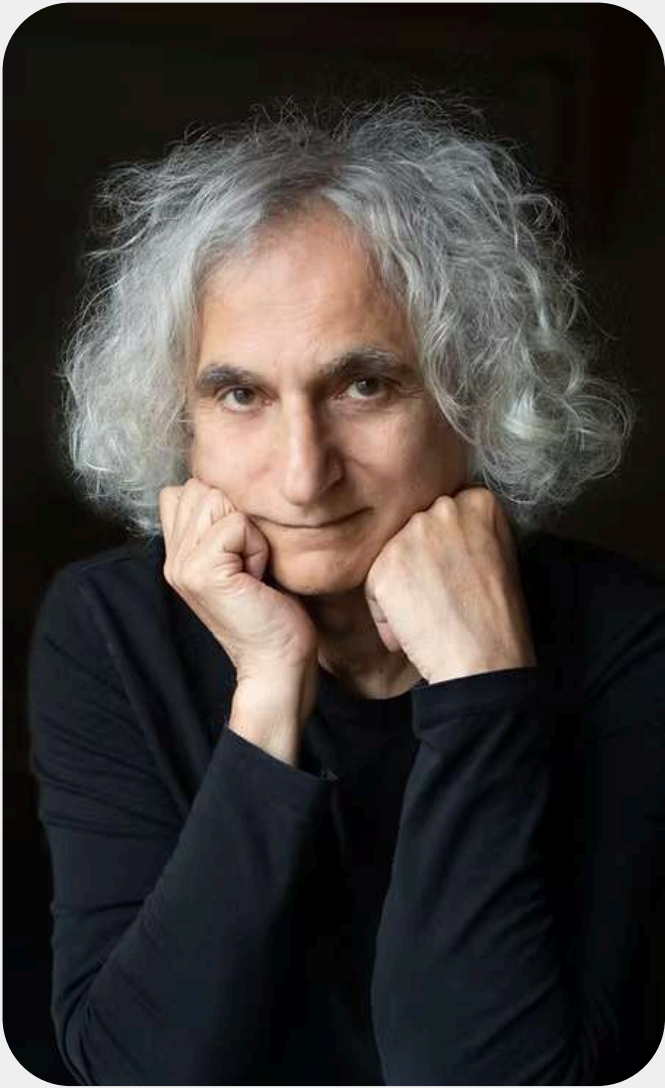


**Assoc. Prof. Eren Arbatli**

Co-Chair, Durham University Business School, United Kingdom

## Professor Oded Galor

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Oded Galor is the founder of Unified Growth Theory. He has contributed to the understanding of the process of development over the entire course of human history and the role of deep-rooted factors in the transition from stagnation to growth and in the emergence of the vast inequality across the globe. He has contributed to the exploration of the impact of inequality on the process of development, the interaction between cultural adaptation and economic development, the transition from stagnation to growth, and the impact of diversity on comparative economic development. His acclaimed book, *The Journey of Humanity*, brings these insights to a wider audience, exploring the forces that have shaped living standards and human prosperity across the ages.

Oded Galor was awarded Doctorate Honoris Causa from Nicolaus Copernicus University, Athens University of Economic and Business (AUEB), UC Louvain, and from Poznań University of Economics & Business. He is an elected Foreign Member of Academia Europaea and an Elected Fellow of the Econometric Society. He is a Research Fellow of CEPR, GLO, and IZA, a Research Associate of the NBER and CESifo, a former Sackler Fellow at Tel-Aviv University, and a Fellow of the Economics Department at the Hebrew University. Furthermore, he is the Editor in Chief of the *Journal of Economic Growth*, Editor of the *Journal of Population Economics*, and Co-Editor of *Macroeconomic Dynamics*.

## Mr. Kamal Kishore

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Kamal Kishore is the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), based in Geneva, Switzerland. He was appointed to this role on 27 March 2024. He brings nearly three decades of experience in disaster risk reduction, climate action, and sustainable development across government, the United Nations, and civil society.

Before joining UNDRR, he served as Head of Department at India's National Disaster Management Authority, where he led the G20 Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and contributed to the development of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. Earlier in his career, Mr Kishore spent almost 13 years with UNDP in New York, Geneva, and New Delhi, supporting policy work and post-disaster recovery in countries including Bangladesh, Iran, Maldives, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. He has also worked with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre in Bangkok and on post-earthquake reconstruction projects in India.



# Workshop Schedule

## Day 01

DAY 1: Tuesday, 09 June 2026				
Time	Session A	Session B	Session C	Location
08:30 - 09:00	Registration and Coffee			WB-0003/0004
09:00 - 09:20	Welcome and Opening Speeches			WB-0001 Lecture Theatre
09:20 - 09:45	<b>Inaugural Address: Mr. Kamal Kishore</b> Chair: Habib Rahman			WB-0001 Lecture Theatre
09:50 - 10:50	<b>Special Policy Session: Reimagining the Role of Universities in an Era of AI, Potential Deglobalisation, and Inclusive Development</b> Innovation, skills, industry engagement, and the future of higher education Panelists: Amir Michael and Steve Brown Facilitator: Habib Rahman			WB-0001 Lecture Theatre
10:50 - 11:00	Group Photoshoot			Business School main entrance
11:00 - 11:15	Morning Tea/Coffee			WB-0003/0004
11:15 - 12:45	<b>Presentation Session 1A: Labour Supply, Gender, and Demographic Change</b> <i>Chair: Demid Getik</i>	<b>Presentation Session 1B: Education and Human Capital Across Time and Space</b> <i>Chair: Andis Sofianos</i>	<b>Presentation Session 1C: Climate Shocks, Environment, and Social Vulnerability</b> <i>Chair: Ashar Aftab</i>	A: WB-0002 B: WB-0003 C: WB-0004
	<b>11:15 - 11:45</b> Choosing When to Work: The Productivity Effects of Flexible Scheduling Adnan Fakir, University of Sussex	<b>11:15 - 11:45</b> School Leadership and Foundational Skills: Experimental Evidence from India Lee Crawford, Center for Global Development	<b>11:15 - 11:45</b> Flood-Induced Vulnerability to Poverty: Evidence from Bihar, India Guru Dayal Kumar, The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore	
	<b>11:45 - 12:15</b> Female Empowerment Under Tight Kin Networks: The Origins of Gender Norms Trung Vu, Loughborough University	<b>11:45 - 12:15</b> Effects of a School Conversion Policy on Educational Attainment and Labour Market Outcomes in Guyana Nichola Williams, Sheffield Hallam University	<b>11:45 - 12:15</b> Droughts beyond the farm: Gendered labour market responses and sectoral spillovers in a diversified economy Natalia Tellez-Lara, London School of Economics (LSE)	
	<b>12:15 - 12:45</b> Development Trap with A Gender Lens Debasis Bandyopadhyay, University of Auckland	<b>12:15 - 12:45</b> Pudding, plague, and education: Trade and human capital formation in an agrarian economy Argyris Sakalis, Durham University	<b>12:15 - 12:45</b> The Green Productivity Paradox: Can Cleaner Energy Raise Emissions? Zafer Kanik, University of Glasgow	
12:45 - 13:35	Luncheon			WB-1020 Restaurant
13:35 - 14:35	<b>Keynote Speech: Prof. Oded Galor</b> <b>Title: Cultural Evolution</b> Chair: Eren Arbatli			WB-0001 Lecture Theatre
14:35 - 14:50	Afternoon Tea/Coffee			WB-0003/0004
14:50 - 16:20	<b>Presentation Session 2A: Trade, Aid, and Industrial Adjustment</b> <i>Chair: Michael Nower</i>	<b>Presentation Session 2B: Infrastructure, Space, and Local Development</b> <i>Chair: John Moffat</i>	<b>Presentation Session 2C: Health, Risk, Household Behaviour, and Human Capital</b> <i>Chair: Aleksei Chernulich</i>	A: WB-0002 B: WB-0003 C: WB-0004
	<b>14:50 - 15:20</b> From Religious Solidarity to Strategic Statecraft: The Transformation of Saudi Aid Laura Wedemeyer, Georg-August-University Goettingen	<b>14:50 - 15:20</b> Highway Improvements and Local Economic Development: Evidence from Tanzania's Central Corridor Amrit Amirapu, University of Kent	<b>14:50 - 15:20</b> The Enduring Imprint of Crisis: Childhood Shocks and Health Expenditure Protection in Mongolia Alessia Destefanis, Paris School of Economics	
	<b>15:20 - 15:50</b> From Tariffs to Toxins: The U.S.-China Trade War and Drinking Water Quality in Brazil Tarah Lynn Ramthun, Georg-August-University Goettingen	<b>15:20 - 15:50</b> Rural Road Infrastructure and Children's Time Allocation in Ethiopia Louisa Afedzie, University of Reading	<b>15:20 - 15:50</b> Risk Coping without Insurance: How Agricultural Shocks Shape Financial Behaviour in Rural West Africa Alhonita Yatie, Burgundy School of Business	
	<b>15:50 - 16:20</b> Constrained Expansion: Input Cost Shocks, Labor Regulation, and the Rise of Contract Work in Indian Manufacturing Aman Mahajan, Paris School of Economics	<b>15:50 - 16:20</b> Beyond Enforcement: Understanding Street Vendor Preferences for Evidence Based Urban Planning Lachi Singh, London School of Economics (LSE)	<b>15:50 - 16:20</b> The power of feedback Dagmara Celik Katreniak, City St George's, University of London	
16:30 - 18:30	Guided Tour to Durham Cathedral, Durham Castle and Palace Green			
18:30 - 20:30	Networking Drinks and Dinner at St. John's College			
20:30	Leaving to the accommodations			

# Workshop Schedule

## Day 02

DAY 2: Wednesday, 10 June 2026				
Time	Session A	Session B	Session C	Location
08:30 - 08:45	Welcome and Coffee			WB-0003/0004
08:45 - 09:20	<b>Special Session: Devesh Rustagi</b> <b>Title: Are Civic Values and Rules Substitutes or Complements for Collective Action? Insights from Forest Ecology</b> Chair: Diego Marino Fages			WB-0001 Lecture Theatre
09:30 - 11:00	<b>Presentation Session 3A: Firms, Energy, and Structural Transformation</b> Chair: Parantap Basu  <b>09:30 - 10:00</b> Labor, Capital, or Credit: Firm Adjustment to Energy Shocks Costanza Tomaselli, Imperial College Business School  <b>10:00 - 10:30</b> Power to progress: Electricity Supply, Inequality and Development in Rural India Hamza Syed, London School of Economics (LSE)  <b>10:30 - 11:00</b> Why Efficient Economies Fail to Develop: Accessibility and Structural Traps Pascal Stiefenhofer, Newcastle Business School	<b>Presentation Session 3B: Labour Markets and Informality</b> Chair: Demid Getik  <b>09:30 - 10:00</b> Spatial shocks and gender employment gaps: evidence from rising import competition in India Sarthak Joshi, University of Edinburgh  <b>10:00 - 10:30</b> The Middlemen of Development? Evidence from China's Labor Recruitment Agencies Linchuan Xu, London School of Economics (LSE)  <b>10:30 - 11:00</b> Introduction of National Minimum Wage, Informality and Gender Inequality Jeteesha Foollee, Sciences Po	<b>Presentation Session 3C: Education, Skills, and Human Capital Formation</b> Chair: Argyris Sakalis  <b>09:30 - 10:00</b> Long-Term Impacts of School Expansion on Cognition, Economic Mobility, and Mental Health: Evidence from India Soham Sahoo, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore  <b>10:00 - 10:30</b> Maternal Exposure to Terrorism and Child Skills Development Sonkut Sen, University of Bonn  <b>10:30 - 11:00</b> When Ambitions Align: Peer Parental Aspiration and Student Achievement Yuzhi Zhou, Australian National University	A: WB-0002 B: WB-0003 C: WB-0004
11:00 - 11:15	Morning Tea/Coffee			WB-0003/0004
11:15 - 12:45	<b>Presentation Session 4A: Gender, Social Norms and Crime</b> Chair: Argyris Sakalis  <b>11:15 - 11:45</b> Can Social Pensions Reduce Son Preference? Addressing Missing Women in India Mithila Sarah, University of Surrey  <b>11:45 - 12:15</b> When the Waters Rise, So Does the Violence: The Effect of Floods on Crimes Against Women in India Mira Serhal, CY Cergy Paris University & ESSEC Business School  <b>12:15 - 12:45</b> Harsher Punishment and Juvenile Crime Harpreet Singh Chawla, University College London	<b>Presentation Session 4B: Identity, Networks, and Social Integration</b> Chair: Diego Marino Fages  <b>11:15 - 11:45</b> Networks, Modernization and Integration: Jewish Emancipation in Nineteenth-Century Prussia Assaf Sarid, University of Haifa  <b>11:45 - 12:15</b> Linguistic Diversity and Development at a Finer Geographic Scale: A Study of Indian Districts Saarthak Anand, Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi Centre  <b>12:15 - 12:45</b> The Borga Effect: Peer Networks and Migration Aspirations Among Educated Youth in Ghana Dragos Radu, King's College London	<b>Presentation Session 4C: Development Policy, Finance, and Implementation</b> Chair: Aleksei Chernulich  <b>11:15 - 11:45</b> At Scale Implementation and the Perils of Fragmentation Bansil Malde, City St George's University of London  <b>11:45 - 12:15</b> Shadow banks, financial inclusion and financial stability: Do institutions matter? Rashmi Arora, University of Bradford  <b>12:15 - 12:45</b> Saving or Investing for the Future? Methodology Matters in Inclusive Wealth Accounting Luke McGrath, University of Galway	A: WB-0002 B: WB-0003 C: WB-0004
12:45 - 13:45	Luncheon			WB-1020 Restaurant
13:45 - 15:15	<b>Presentation Session 5A: Political Economy of Institutions</b> Chair: Bibhas Saha  <b>13:45 - 14:15</b> The Economic Consequences of Re-electing the Incumbent: Evidence from India Irma Clots-Figuera, University of Kent  <b>14:15 - 14:45</b> Cadastral Reform and Social Conflict Michele Valsecchi, New Economic School (NES), and World Bank  <b>14:45 - 15:15</b> Elected or Appointed: The Unintended Consequences of Mayoral Selection Reza Mahardika, University of Sheffield	<b>Presentation Session 5B: Beliefs, Culture, and Human Capital Formation</b> Chair: Diego Marino Fages  <b>13:45 - 14:15</b> The Role of Human Capital Composition in Development and Technological Change Carlos Bethencourt, Universidad de La Laguna  <b>14:15 - 14:45</b> A Culture of Human Capital Formation in Africa Daniel Crisostomo Wainstock, University of Oxford  <b>14:45 - 15:15</b> The Persistence of Status: Social Mobility Under Meritocracy Xizi Luo, University of Manchester	<b>Presentation Session 5C: Risk, Welfare, Health, and Development Policy</b> Chair: Anurag Banerjee  <b>13:45 - 14:15</b> Estimating the Impact of Pensions on Household Welfare in Indonesia: Evidence from a Fixed-Effects Model with Propensity Score Weighting Qisha Quarina, Universitas Gadjah Mada  <b>14:15 - 14:45</b> Forgiveness and crime dynamics: Empirical insights from the Catholic Great Jubilee of 2000 Event Yulia Neleptchenko, University of Haifa  <b>14:45 - 15:15</b> A Model of Heterogenous Health Interventions within Sub-Saharan Africa: More Malthusian Pressure or More Growth? Mingchen Liu, University of Glasgow	A: WB-0002 B: WB-0003 C: WB-0004
15:15 - 15:30	Afternoon Tea/Coffee			WB-0003/0004
15:30 - 16:30	<b>Presentation Session 6A: Environment, Agriculture, and Development</b> Chair: Eren Arbatli  <b>15:30 - 16:00</b> Asymmetric effects of climate shocks on rice yields: Evidence from a dynamic panel study in Bangladesh Md Mobarak Hossen, Monash University  <b>16:00 - 16:30</b> What Do Smallholders Value in a Reforestation Project? Evidence from a Discrete Choice Experiment in Madagascar Nicolas Klas, University of Gottingen	<b>Presentation Session 6B: Gender and Social Outcomes</b> Chair: Nourin Shabnam  <b>15:30 - 16:00</b> Gender equality in the house and female labour supply: evidence from a field experiment in India Nuzhat Sharmeen, University of Glasgow  <b>16:00 - 16:30</b> Criminally Accused Politicians, Crime Against Women, and Gender Gap in STEM Choice Sudipa Sarkar, National Law School of India University		A: WB-0002 B: WB-0003
16:30 - 17:00	Closing Remarks Michael Naef, Habib Rahman, Eren Arbatli			WB-0001 Lecture Theatre

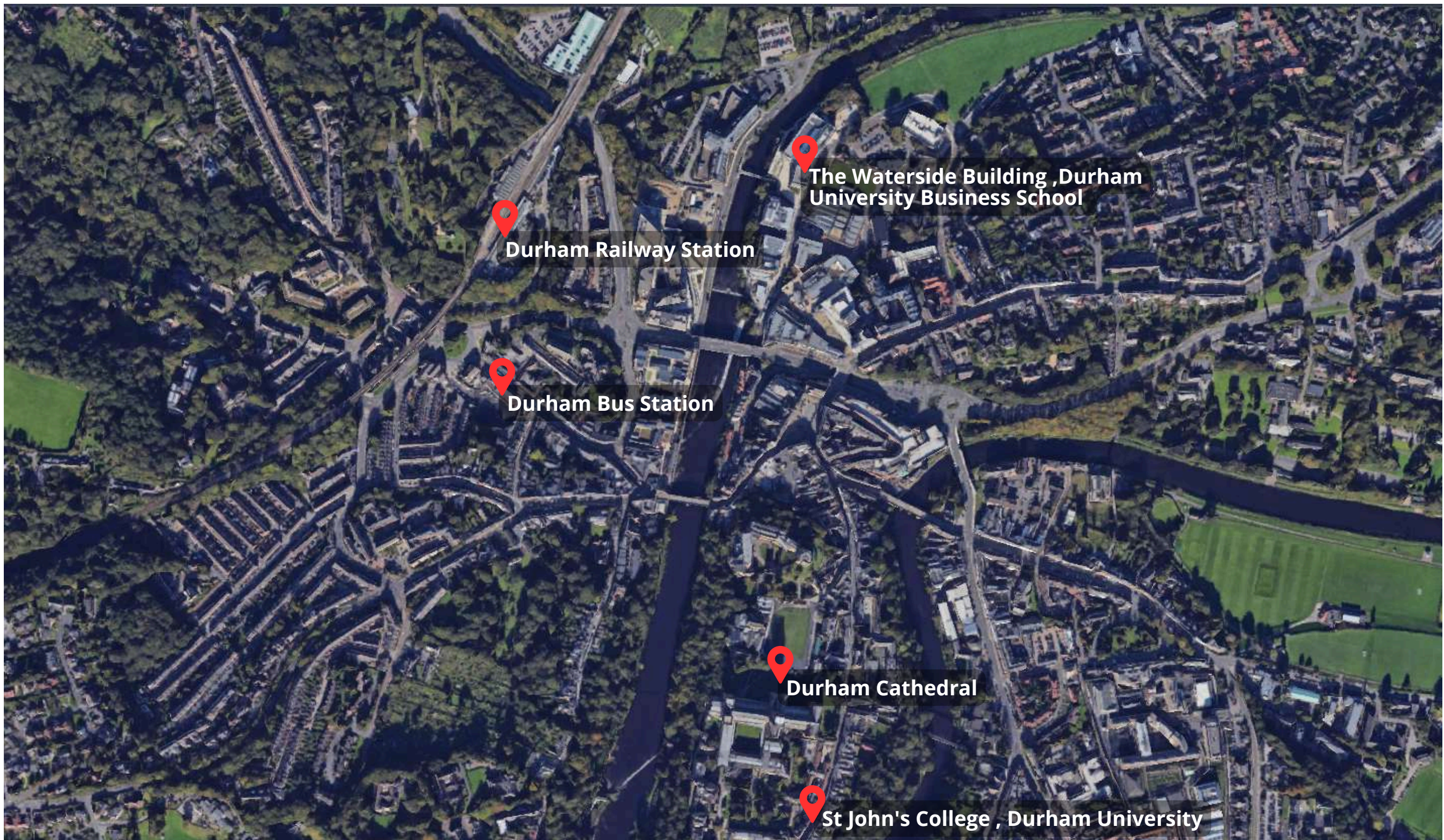
# Workshop Site Map

## Workshop Location :

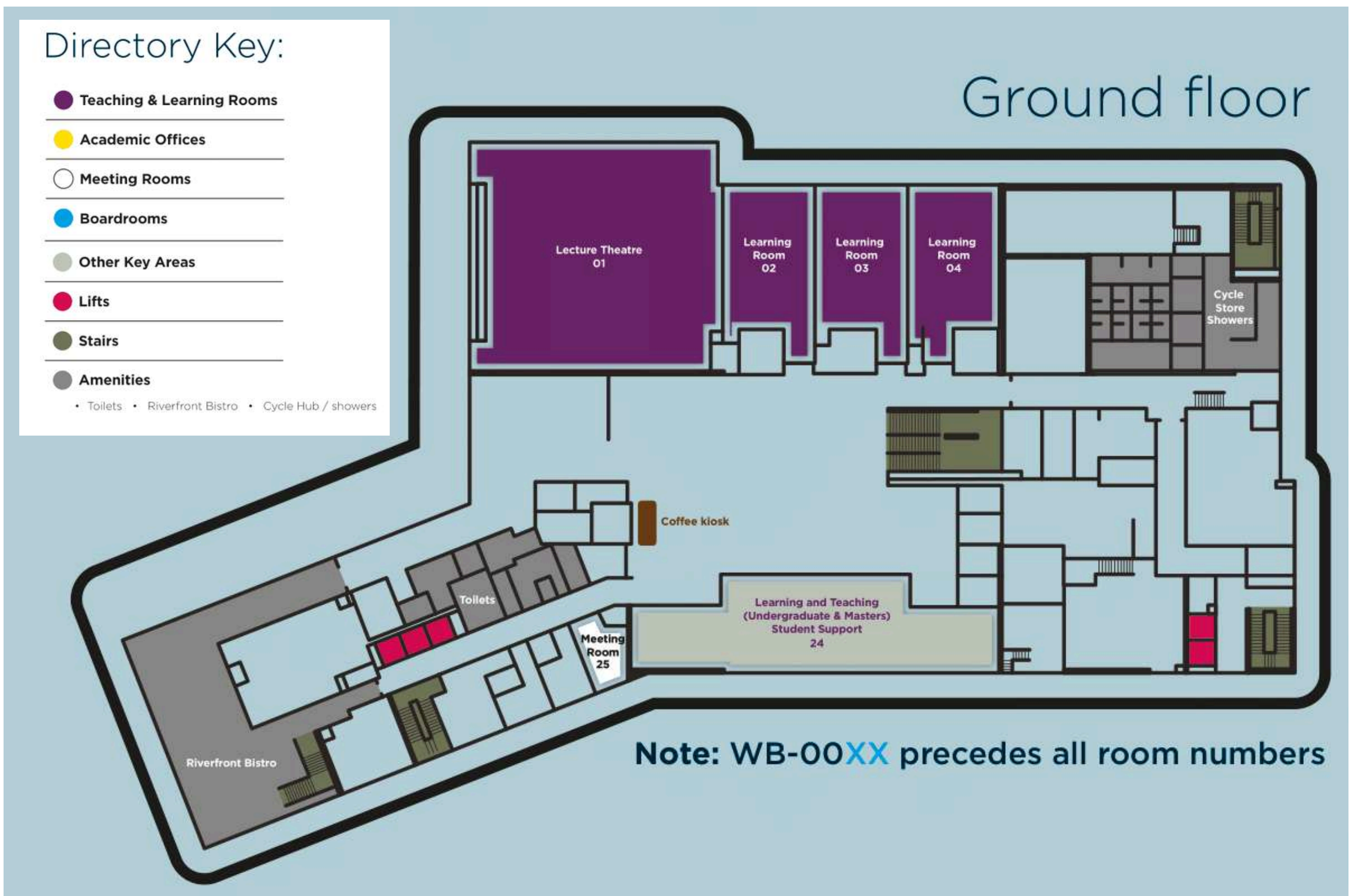
Waterside Building, Durham University Business School, Riverside Place, Durham DH1 1SL

## Dinner Location :

St. John's College, 3 S Bailey, Durham DH1 3RJ



## Waterside Building Floor Plan



## Tour to Durham Cathedral and Durham City



This guided tour introduces the historic beauty of Durham City and its most iconic landmark, Durham Cathedral. It offers a short cultural walk through key city sights, highlighting Durham's rich heritage and unique atmosphere.

## Formal Dinner at St. John's College



The DEW 2026 Formal Dinner will take place at St John's College, Durham, offering an enjoyable evening in a distinguished and welcoming setting. This special event will provide an excellent opportunity to continue conversations from the workshop, connect with colleagues, and build professional networks in a relaxed and collegial atmosphere.

## Programme Committee

- Habib Rahman
- Eren Arbatli
- Anurag Banerjee
- Parantap Basu
- Aleksei Chernulich
- Nourin Shabnam
- Diego Marino Fages
- Demid Getik
- John Moffat
- Michael Naef
- Michael Nower
- Bibhas Saha
- Andis Sofianos