

# Durham Bluff

As a (very) lighthearted accompaniment to the IAS's *Navigating Interdisciplinarity* workshop and the Institute's other efforts to enable interdisciplinary collaboration, this is a game designed to promote cross-disciplinary understandings of the concepts and terms prevailing in multiple disciplinary areas. It is similar to a longstanding British game, 'Call My Bluff', in which players take an obscure term and, as well as defining its true meaning, offer two false definitions or 'bluffs'. The game is played by two teams, each composed of three people, with a referee/director of ceremonies. At the IAS, we generally pitch a Durham University home team against our visiting Fellows.

In the game, each team is given a set of (prepared beforehand) terms and definitions. The referee/host presents each term. Each member of the team whose word/phrase it is then takes it in turn to offer a definition of it, and the choice about which is true has to be made by the other team (which is allowed to confer). Each team gains a point either by choosing the correct answer or by fooling the other team with a 'bluff'.

The game itself is usually played for 60 minutes. Team members offering definitions can elaborate on these briefly, ideally in an entertaining fashion. The team whose turn it is to decide which definition is true will have a limited time (one minute) in which to provide an answer. The referee/host will keep time, keep score, and make any rulings necessary.

Some accounts of previous games of Durham Bluff are available at:

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/ias/events/other/bluff/>  
<https://www.dur.ac.uk/ias/events/other/blufffeb13/>  
<https://www.dur.ac.uk/ias/events/other/conferencebluff/>

Clips of Call My Bluff are available at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OLE5IbjeOts&feature=related>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZcmLxQlih1s>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JabsAVfaYc&feature=related>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MSL8Hory6u8&feature=related>  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQS0Zbms\\_Ws&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQS0Zbms_Ws&feature=related)

(or just Google 'Call My Bluff' and these should come up)