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MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Research Methods: Research Proposal

Reference	BS4289	Version	3
Created	February 2017	SCQF Level	SCQF 10
Approved	July 2013	SCQF Points	15
Amended	August 2017	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

To provide the student with an understanding of what research is and an ability to identify and utilise appropriate strategies and techniques for the purpose of individual investigation and research into professional development and practice.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate research attitudes, knowledge; valuations, and skills of utility to professional practice.
- 2 Identify relevant and feasible areas of research in relation to professional practice, and for the purpose of individual investigation.
- 3 Identify major research approaches and methodologies and their relevance and appropriateness to research in a professional context.
- 4 Select a topic from the course and/or their own experience which will provide suitable scope for research in the dissertation.
- 5 Critically evaluate and apply research approaches and methods, and project management techniques, in the design and planning of a research programme approved for research in the Honours dissertation.

Indicative Module Content

Introduction to research in a professional context. Research principles; qualitative and quantitative approaches; case study design; data collection techniques. Data management, analysis, interpretation and presentation. Research Management: planning and organising a research project; identifying researchable issues; use of literature and libraries and ICT; time and task management; costing research; organising fieldwork and contacts; consent and confidentiality issues.

Module Delivery

Workshops, directed independent learning, and the preparation of a Research Proposal under supervision.

Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	N/A	10
Non-Contact Hours	N/A	140
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	N/A	150
<i>Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body</i>		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

Component 1

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	100%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Description:	The student is required to prepare a detailed Research Proposal				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR**Explanatory Text**

The module is assessed by one component: C1 - Examination - 100% weighting. Module Pass Mark = Grade D (40%)

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	70% or above
B	60% - 69%
C	50% - 59%
D	40% - 49%
E	35% - 39%
F	0% - 34%
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	None.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1 CRESWELL, J., W., 2023. *Research design: qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches*. 6th ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- 2 DENSCOMBE, M., 2017. *The good research guide: for small-scale social research projects*. 6th ed. Milton Keynes: Open University Press.
- 3 EASTERBY-SMITH, M., THORPE, R. and JACKSON, P.R., 2018. *Management research*. 6th ed. London: Sage.
- 4 COLLIS, J. and HUSSEY, R., 2013. *Business research: a practical guide for undergraduate and postgraduate students*. 4th ed. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 5 BELL, E., BRYMAN, A. and HARLEY, B., 2022. *Business research methods*. Oxford university press.
- 6 CRESWELL, J.W., 2023. *Research design: qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches*. 6th ed. London: Sage.
- 7 SAUNDERS, M., LEWIS, P. and THORNHILL, A., 2023. *Research methods for business students*. 9th ed. Harlow: Pearson Education.