

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Developing research: principles and practice

Reference	GSM005	Version	4
Created	October 2018	SCQF Level	SCQF 11
Approved	August 2013	SCQF Points	30
Amended	October 2018	ECTS Points	15

Aims of Module

To further develop core skills appropriate for the development of research proposal including literature evaluation, research planning, research governance and academic writing. To further develop an awareness of appropriate research methodologies and methods in relation to the research proposal.

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

- 1 Critically evaluate pertinent academic literature and develop a justifiable research question.
- 2 Discuss in depth and critique a relevant research method(s), including data or evidence gathering and analytical processes.
- 3 Situate the research project in terms of existing methodological approaches.
- 4 Defend the research with respect to ethical considerations.
- 5 Develop an appropriate dynamic research plan.

Indicative Module Content

Development of research questions/hypotheses, Literature searching, Ethical considerations, Explanation building, Making sense of method, Qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods research, Statistics, Presentation skills, research planning, research governance. Close working between the supervisor and the module team will ensure that appropriate disciplinary content is developed.

Module Delivery

This module is delivered twice in an academic session and is made up of a combination of teaching and learning methods. This includes lectures, seminars and workshops during the teaching week, and supplementation of this learning by participating in appropriate School programmes, education sessions organised by DELTA and active learning sessions with the Principal Supervisor and members of the Supervisory Team.

Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	N/A	40
Non-Contact Hours	N/A	260
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	N/A	300
Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

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

Component 1

Type:	Examination	Weighting:	0%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Description:	Individual oral presentation on research topic.				

Component 2

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	100%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Description:	Written assignment on research topic.				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR**Explanatory Text**

This module will be assessed by an individual oral presentation (C1) and a written assignment (C2). The oral presentation is competence based on a Pass or Fail basis and the written assignment contributes 100% toward the final module grade.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	When the mark obtained for C2 is greater or equal to 70% and a PASS in C1
B	When the mark obtained for C2 is between 60%-69% and a PASS in C1
C	When the mark obtained for C2 is between 50%-59% and a PASS in C1
D	When the mark obtained for C2 is between 40%-49% and a PASS in C1
E	When the mark obtained for C2 is between 35%-39% and a PASS in C1 or a mark greater or equal to 40% in C2 and a FAIL in C1
F	When the mark obtained for C2 is less than or equal to 34% and a PASS in C1 or when the mark obtained for C2 is between 35%-39% and a FAIL in C1
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	Acceptance onto a post graduate research degree programme (MSc/MPhil/MRes/PhD) or equivalent.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

The aims and learning outcomes of this module for assessment purposes are to be interpreted by the supervisor in the context of the particular field of research. Students must successfully complete this module before undertaking GSM011.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1 PHILLIPS, E.M. and PUGH, D.S., 2010. *How to get a PhD: a handbook for students and their supervisors*. 5th ed. Maidenhead : McGraw-Hill Open University Press. *ebook*
- 2 BLAXTER, L., HUGHES, C. and TIGHT, M., 2010. *How to research*. 4th ed. Maidenhead : McGraw-Hill/Open University Press. *ebook*
- 3 KOSSO, P., 2011. *A summary of scientific method*. Dordrecht: Springer. *ebook*
- 4 OLIVER P., 2012. *Succeeding with your literature review: a handbook for students*. *ebook*
- 5 MARTIN WE and BRIDGMON KD, 2012. *Quantitative and statistical research methods: from hypothesis to results (ebook)*
- 6 LAPAN, S.D., QUARTAROLI, M.T. and RIEMER, F.J., 2012. *Qualitative research: an introduction to methods and designs*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. *ebook*
- 7 WALLWORK, A., 2011. *English for writing research papers*. New York : Springer. *ebook*
- 8 As directed by supervisory team