

Module Title Research Methods & Study Skills	Reference SS1010 SCQF SCQF Level 7 SCQF Points 15 ECTS Points 7.5 Created May 2002 Approved June 2002 Amended August 2010 Version No. 4
Keywords Research Process, Research Methods, Understanding Research, Study Skills, Presentation Skills, IT Skills	

This Version is No Longer Current

The latest version of this module is available [here](#)

Prerequisites for Module

Presentation and IT skills.

None, in addition to course entry requirements.

Indicative Student Workload

Corequisite Modules

<i>Contact Hours</i>	Full Time
Lectures	12
Seminars	30

None.

Precluded Modules

<i>Directed Study</i>	
Directed Study	54

None.

<i>Private Study</i>	
Private Study	54

Aims of Module

To provide the student with an understanding of basic social science research methodology.

Mode of Delivery

This course is based on core lectures and supporting seminars, practical and discussion work. It also requires students to undertake critical reading of research journals.

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

Assessment Plan

1. Identify the key stages in the research process.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of basic research methodologies used in the social sciences.
3. State basic research terminology appropriately.
4. Present an awareness of key student skills.
5. Effectively use information technology as a means of communication.

Indicative Module Content

What is research?
 The research process.
 Basic research methodologies: Observational, Surveys and Experimental.
 Research designs and sampling.
 Ethics of research.
 Interpreting statistics and data analysis: an introduction.
 Study skills and effective learning.
 Personal Development Plans (PDPs).

	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Component 1	1,2,3,4,5

Component 1 will be assessed by Written Coursework (including Oral Presentation)

Indicative Bibliography

1. BRYMAN, A., 2021. *Social Research Methods*. 6th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
2. DENSCOMBE, M., 2021. *The Good Research Guide: for small scale research projects*. 7th ed. Maidenhead: Open University.
3. MOORE, S., NEVILLE, C., MURPHY, M., & CONNOLLY, C., 2010. *The Ultimate Study Skills Handbook*. Maidenhead: Open University Press.
4. NORTHEDGE, A., 2005. *The Good Study Guide*. 2nd ed. Milton Keynes: Open University.
5. ROBSON, C. & MCCARTAN, K., 2016. *Real world research: a resource for users of social research methods in applied settings*. 4th ed. Chichester: Wiley.