

<b>Module Title</b> <b>Research Methods &amp; Study Skills</b>	Reference SS1010 SCQF SCQF Level 7 SCQF Points 15 ECTS Points 7.5 Created May 2002
<b>Keywords</b> Research Process, Research Methods, Understanding Research, Study Skills, Presentation Skills, IT Skills	Approved June 2002 Amended May 2014 Version No. 5

## This Version is No Longer Current

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

### Prerequisites for Module

None, in addition to course entry requirements or equivalent.

### Indicative Student Workload

<i>Contact Hours</i>	Full Time
Lectures	15
Seminars	24

### Corequisite Modules

None.

<i>Directed Study</i>	
Directed Study	51

### Precluded Modules

None.

<i>Private Study</i>	
Private Study	60

### Aims of Module

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

### Mode of Delivery

This module 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

Learning Outcomes Assessed
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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. Demonstrate an awareness of key student skills.

### 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).  
 Presentation and IT skills.  
 Reading research and evaluation.

Component 1	1,2,3,4
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Component 1 will be assessed by written coursework and an integrated 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. NORTEDGE, 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.