

**This Version is No Longer Current**  
 The latest version of this module is available [here](#)

## MODULE DESCRIPTOR

### Module Title

Research Methods & Study Skills

Reference	SS1010	Version	9
Created	September 2019	SCQF Level	SCQF 7
Approved	June 2002	SCQF Points	15
Amended	October 2019	ECTS Points	7.5

### Aims of Module

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

### Learning Outcomes for Module

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

- 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.

### Module 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.

### Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	39	N/A
Non-Contact Hours	111	N/A
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	N/A
<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: Practical Exam Weighting: 25% Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3, 4

Description: Component 1 will be assessed by oral presentation

**Component 2**

Type: Coursework Weighting: 75% Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3, 4

Description: Component 2 will be assessed by written coursework

**MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR****Explanatory Text**

Component 1 (refer to x axis on top of grid) contributes 25% to the module total. Component 2 (refer to y axis on left side of grid) contributes 75% to the module total

		Practical Exam:						
		A	B	C	D	E	F	NS
Coursework:	A	A	A	B	B	B	E	
	B	B	B	B	C	C	E	
	C	B	C	C	C	D	E	
	D	C	C	D	D	D	E	
	E	D	D	D	E	E	E	
	F	E	E	E	E	F	F	
	NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination						

**Module Requirements**

Prerequisites for Module None, in addition to course entry requirements or equivalent.

Corequisites for module None.

Precluded Modules None.

**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 NORTHEGE, 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.