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MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Research Methods

Reference	CM3132	Version	2
Created	December 2020	SCQF Level	SCQF 9
Approved	May 2020	SCQF Points	15
Amended	March 2021	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

To enable the student to effectively apply and contextualise suitable research methods by developing skills needed to undertake independent research in a rapidly evolving discipline.

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

- 1 Select and justify the appropriate research methods required to answer well-defined research questions through literature reviews.
- 2 Effectively apply suitable research methods within the context of evaluating software, hardware and sociotechnical systems.
- 3 Critically evaluate the results of research to discover trends and insights.
- 4 Effectively communicate the findings of research studies to an academic audience.
- 5 Critically engage with legal, ethical, social and professional issues within research.

Indicative Module Content

Interviews, focus groups, survey and questionnaire design, sampling, biases, literature reviews, discourse analysis, transcription and coding, academic writing norms, analysis and evaluations, ethics and informed consent.

Module Delivery

Key concepts are introduced and illustrated through the medium of lectures and tutorials. Much of the work will be conducted through the use of a human-centred research study conceived, designed, carried out, evaluated and written up by each student.

Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	48	N/A
Non-Contact Hours	102	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:	Coursework	Weighting:	100%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Description:	Coursework consisting of a written report on a chosen research topic and a review of a chosen paper from the reference list.				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR**Explanatory Text**

The calculation of the overall grade for this module is based on 100% weighing of C1. An overall minimum grade D is required to pass the module.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	The student needs to achieve an A in C1.
B	The student needs to achieve a B in C1.
C	The student needs to achieve a C in C1.
D	The student needs to achieve a D in C1.
E	The student needs to obtain an E in C1.
F	The student needs to obtain an F in C1.
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 LINDLOF, T. R., and TAYLOR, B. C., 2017. Qualitative Communication Research Methods. Sage Publications.
- 2 BRANNEN, J., 2017. Mixing Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Research. Routledge.
- 3 LAZAR, J., FENG, J. H., and HOCHHEISER, H., 2017. Research Methods in Human-Computer Interaction. Morgan Kaufmann.