Liverpool John Moores University

Title: CRIMINOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL INVESTIGATION
Status: Definitive
Code: **4002SS**   (114787)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team		Leader
Jenny Van Hooff	emplid	Y

Academic Level:	FHEQ4	**Credit Value:**	12.00	**Total Delivered Hours:**	24.00
Total Learning Hours:	120	**Private Study:**	96		

Delivery Options
Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	12.000
Practical	12.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Portfolio	AS1	Portfolio (50% quantitative, 50% qualitative).	100.0	

Aims

1. To introduce and develop skills of data representation and analysis.
2. To explore theories of knowledge representation for social scientists and Criminologists.
3. To introduce students to web-based sources of data and information.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

1   Effectively apply skills of retrieval and analysis in making sense of social and criminological dat (Aim 1).
2   Apply a critical approach to the origins of social and criminological data (Aim 2).
3   Use, analyse and critical assess e-data sources (Aims 1 and 3).
4   Transform data into information (Aims 1 and 3).
5   Examine the methodological issues involved in doing research (Aim 2).

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Portfolio   1   2   3   4   5

Outline Syllabus

What is knowledge?/theories of knowledge.
Introduction to enquiry based learning.
Decision making in a knowledge society.
Internet searches, and other e-data sources, SPSS.
Basic qualitative methods (e.g. interviews, focus groups and methodological approaches).
Basic quantitative methods (e.g. scales, percentages, central tendency).
Integrative approaches: blending qualitative and quantitative methods.

Learning Activities

Lectures, hands-on computer-based workshops, Blackboard based learning activities, in-class workshops/exercises.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	De Vaus. D.
Publishing Year	2002
Title	Analyzing Social Science Data: Survey Problems in Data Analysis
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Sage
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Kinnear, P. R. and Gray, C. D.
Publishing Year	2000

Title	SPSS for Windows Made Simple
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Hove: Psychology Press.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Kitchen, R and Tate, N.
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Conducting Research into Human Geography
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Harlow: Prentice Hall.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Mattlelart, A.
Publishing Year	2003
Title	The Information Society: An Introduction
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Sage.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Dochartaigh, N.
Publishing Year	2001
Title	The Internet Research Handbook: A Practical Guide for Students and Researchers in the Social Sciences
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Sage.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Seale, C.
Publishing Year	2004
Title	Researching Society and Culture
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Sage.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Bryman, A.
Publishing Year	2008
Title	Social Research Methods

Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Oxford, Oxford University Press.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Gilbert, N.
Publishing Year	2008
Title	Researching Social Life
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, Sage.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	May, T.
Publishing Year	2003
Title	Social Research
Subtitle	Issues, Methods and Process
Edition	
Publisher	Buckingham, Open University Press.
ISBN	

Notes

This module introduces social science students to the idea that to understand the social world and make effective decisions, data needs to be transformed into information and knowledge. Within this context, the module develops two themes (1) awareness raising of the methodological issues involved when implementing methods of qualitative data collection (2) basic techniques of quantitative data analysis. The whole module is allied to the use of the Internet for searching official statistics web-sites and other e-sources of data. Students will also develop software skills of an analytical and presentational nature.