

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Introduction to Research
Status: Definitive
Code: **4514ARCAS** (124458)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Nursing and Allied Health
Teaching School/Faculty: Accrington & Rossendale College

Team	Leader
Philomene Uwamaliya	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ4 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 48
Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 152

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	42
Tutorial	6

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	AS1	Presentation 10mins	25	
Essay	AS2	Essay 3000words	75	

Aims

- 1. To develop an introductory understanding of the field of research methods, including research ethics and methodology.*
- 2. To prepare students for future practical use of research methods in project work.*

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Outline and explain the key characteristics of quantitative and quantitative methods of data collection.
- 2 Describe the various ways in which research methods can be used ethically in social science research and in practice.
- 3 Discuss the possibilities and limitations in the use and suitability of research methods for practice.
- 4 Present a research plan.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Presentation	1	2	3
Essay 3000words	4		

Outline Syllabus

1. Quantitative Methods: The development and principles of quantitative research methodologies, primary techniques – producing research questions and hypotheses, survey types and sampling techniques, questionnaires, construction, design, types, scaling, piloting, advantages and disadvantages of questionnaires and structured interviews. Experiments: their methods and designs, hypothesis testing, variables, analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of experimental methods, preparing lab reports. Introduction to quantitative data analysis techniques – levels of measurement, measures of central tendency and dispersion, inductive statistics. Evaluation – validity, reliability and methodological triangulation. Secondary research techniques – exploring the accuracy, uses and limitations of published secondary data and official statistics.

2. Qualitative Methods: To examine the development and principles of qualitative research methodologies – by examining primary techniques of ethnography and observation, purpose, uses and limitations of covert and overt observational methods. Examine qualitative interviewing, focus groups and use of personal documents/diaries, case studies and oral/life history. Consider the role of the researcher in the research process and evaluating the validity and reliability of qualitative data. Secondary techniques: examining and appraising the uses and limitations of secondary sources of qualitative data such as previous ethnographic studies and secondary textual, audio and visual sources

3. Research Ethics: (common to both sections). Exploring debates surrounding the role and purpose of ethical conduct in the research process and how ethical considerations can inform as well as constrain the research process. We will examine ethical guidance from such bodies as the British Psychological Society, British Sociological Association and health or social care related professional bodies and regulators.

Learning Activities

Lectures, paired and group work. Independent study and one to one tutorial support.

Supporting materials, tutorials and group discussions will be available electronically via the college VLE.

Notes

Study on the module will develop reasoning skills through a sound appreciation of the process of the production of academic knowledge through enquiry. This module emphasises the importance of understanding research methodology as a foundation for students' continued professional development.

The module will provide students with a comprehensive introduction to the uses and limitations of a variety of qualitative and quantitative research methods used by sociologists, social policy makers, psychologists and health specialists. It will examine some of the key relationships between theoretical issues and research methods and will introduce students to a range of ethical issues and considerations relating to conducting research with groups, organisations or individuals.

There will be opportunities for informal formative assessment to support student learning and discuss their overall progress.