

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: RESEARCH DESIGN
Status: Definitive
Code: **5000CRIM** (114370)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

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

Team	Leader
Lynne Wrennall	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ5
Credit Value: 12.00
Total Delivered Hours: 44.00
Total Learning Hours: 120
Private Study: 76

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Runs Twice - S1 & S2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	12.000
Seminar	12.000
Tutorial	12.000
Workshop	8.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	Literature search (of at least twenty sources) and a critical summary of the literature. (500 words).	30.0	
Essay	AS2	Research Protocol of 1500 words.	70.0	

Aims

The module is aimed at providing Criminology students with a grounding in research design for four main purposes:

1. To facilitate students' participation in research design activities in their future

careers.

2. To assist students to appropriately defend, challenge and critique the research they encounter.
3. To enable students to produce a robust and viable research proposal that they may submit towards the entry requirements for a dissertation.
4. To assist students to undertake a case study at level 3.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Recognise the context in which criminologist deploy their knowledge of research design.
- 2 Construct a viable and robust research design, applying appropriate and consistent techniques to a personal area of specialist study.
- 3 Contend with the philosophical, political and economic aspects of research design.
- 4 Identify and apply the main features of research defensibility in order to defend, challenge and critique, research arising in criminological settings.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Literature search	1	4		
Research Protocol	1	2	3	4

Outline Syllabus

Capturing the Research Topic.

Undertaking and interpreting literature searches on specialist areas of study.

Delimiting the Project.

Developing the Rationale: Considering purpose and context.

Applying Theory to Research.

The Philosophy of Research: Ontology, Epistemology and Ethics.

Designing the Methodology and Methods to address the research question or problem.

Defensibility.

Learning Activities

Teaching and learning strategies will include interactive and non-interactive lectures, facilitated discussions, debate, games, video, critical appraisal of documents, background reading and research, directed learning and case studies, practical exercises and revision sessions focused upon the design of a research proposal.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Cresswell, J. W.
Publishing Year	2003
Title	Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Nebraska Lincoln, Sage.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Fonow, M. M. & Cook, J. A.. (eds)
Publishing Year	1991
Title	Beyond Methodology: Feminist Scholarship as Lived Research.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Indiana University Press.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Jupp, V. Francis, P. & Davies, P. (eds)
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Criminology in the Field: The Practice of Criminological Research.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, Sage.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Miller, R. & Brewer, J.
Publishing Year	2003
Title	The A - Z of social research.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, Sage.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Smart, C.
Publishing Year	0
Title	Feminist approaches to criminology or postmodern woman meets atavistic man.
Subtitle	

Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	McLaughlin, E. Muncie, J. & Hughes, G. (eds).
Publishing Year	2003
Title	Criminological Perspectives, Essential Readings.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, Sage.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Stanley, E. & Wise, S.
Publishing Year	1993
Title	Breaking Out Again.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, Routledge.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Watkins, S. J.
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Conviction by methemathical error?
Subtitle	bmj 320; 2-3;1 January.
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Notes

The module develops students' professional research competencies. Students will develop the intellectual and practical skills to be able to design a criminology research project and to defend, challenge and critique the research they encounter. Students learn experientially, through engaging the process of producing a research design that is focused on their area of specialist interest. This allows questions about relevant political, philosophical, economic and practical issues that enliven research, to arise in a manner which is integral to authentic research design practice.

The module builds on prior modules and enhances students' abilities to engage in research activities at level 3. For students who are intending to write a dissertation, or undertake a Case Study at level three, this module provides an essential grounding. Students develop a proposal that they can submit to be considered for admission to undertake a dissertation or Case Study.