

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: RESEARCH METHODS AND STATISTICS IN PSYCHOLOGY  
3: QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **5201PSYSCI** (121365)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021  
Owning School/Faculty: Psychology  
Teaching School/Faculty: Psychology

Team	Leader
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**Academic Level:** FHEQ5      **Credit Value:** 10      **Total Delivered Hours:** 22  
**Total Learning Hours:** 100      **Private Study:** 78

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	10
Workshop	12

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	Qual Rpt	Qualitative lab report	100	

### Aims

1. To develop understanding of a range of qualitative research methodologies
2. To allow students to critically consider ethical issues in respect of qualitative research
3. To give students an understanding of, and an opportunity to practice, key qualitative techniques such as interviewing and facilitating focus groups

4. To provide practical experience of qualitative analysis
5. To develop practical qualitative report writing skills

## Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Critically discuss ethical issues in relation to qualitative research
- 2 Choose appropriate methods and techniques to conduct and analyse qualitative research
- 3 Write a qualitative report.

## Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Qualitative Report	1	3	2
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## Outline Syllabus

*The module considers a range of qualitative approaches. It will introduce students to a range of qualitative research data gathering techniques such as participant observation, interviewing, and focus groups. In workshops students will be given the opportunity to practise these techniques.*

*Students will complete a practical qualitative report based on a piece of qualitative analysis that the teaching team have previously conducted. Students will be able to choose from some different topic areas in order that they can complete the piece of work in an area of psychology that interests them. In the Method section of the practical report, students will consider ethical issues relevant to their particular topic. This will help students to develop not only their report writing skills, but also their evaluation of ethical issues. This will assist students with their final year dissertation, and with the related ethics application process for their dissertation project.*

*Completing a qualitative report also allows students the opportunity to develop their psychological literacy skills as the report requires students to engage in reflection of their own mental processes and their role in the research process. Also, giving students practical experience of conducting interviews and facilitating focus groups also helps develop confidence, communication skills, and interpersonal skills which are solid transferrable skills for the student's future career.*

## Learning Activities

1. Attend lectures and workshops
2. Gain practical experience of qualitative techniques
3. Complete coursework tasks

## Notes

This module aims to give students an understanding of a range of qualitative methodologies, and to develop skills in different qualitative techniques and approaches. The module also introduces students to ethical issues that are particularly important to consider within qualitative research. In addition, the module gives students practice of writing a qualitative report and conducting a qualitative analysis in an area of interest.

In addition, this module also allows students to develop their psychological literacy skills, by encouraging self reflection in the qualitative report, and a consideration of their own role in the research process. Also, giving students practical experience of conducting interviews and facilitating focus groups also helps develop confidence, communication skills, and interpersonal skills which are solid transferrable skills for the students future career.

The module meets BPS accreditation programme standards as follows: 6. Conceptual and Historical Issues in Psychology [CHIP] (social and cultural construction of psychology; conceptual and historical paradigms and models - comparisons and critiques); political and ethical issues in psychology); and 7. Research Methods. (research methods in psychology; research design; and qualitative methods "data gathering, such as interviewing and participant observation as well as associated methods of analysis" (BPS, 2010, p.15).