

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: EMPIRICAL PROJECT
Status: Definitive
Code: **7000HEAPSY** (113748)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2013

Owning School/Faculty: Natural Sciences & Psychology
Teaching School/Faculty: Natural Sciences & Psychology

Team	Leader
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Academic Level: FHEQ7 **Credit Value:** 60.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 37.00

Total Learning Hours: 600 **Private Study:** 563

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	6.000
Tutorial	25.000
Workshop	6.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Dissertation	Diss	Thesis	70.0	
Presentation	Pres	Presentation	10.0	
Report	Rpt	Proposal	20.0	

Aims

The module aims to give students the opportunity to gain practical 'hands on' experience of the research skills taught in PSYHPM010 in relation to a research question of their own choosing. In particular, the module aims to allow students to gain a deeper understanding of the conceptual, methodological and logistical problems that may be encountered when conducting research.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Formulate a research plan that is realistic in terms of the time and effort required for the various stages of the research and provides an indication of the objectives and outcomes of the study
- 2 Demonstrate an ability to disseminate the research findings to staff and peers via a presentation
- 3 Select and apply a methodology that is appropriate for the research question and analyse data within the accepted parameters and conventions of that methodology
- 4 Write a thesis of up to 15,000 words that pays due regard to the conventions of peer reviewed psychological research and demonstrating specialist psychological knowledge

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Dissertation	3	4
Presentation	2	
Proposal	1	

Outline Syllabus

This module is primarily undertaken by the student in the form of fieldwork, data analysis and thesis write up, however, students are also encouraged to maintain regular contact with their supervisor (approximately 25 hours one to one supervision). Ideally students are encouraged to see their supervisor weekly.

Learning Activities

NSPHPM001 addresses the research process in detail. In addition 3 sessions will take place during Semester 1 to provide students with guidance on the general processes involved in planning a research project including gaining access to participants, ethical considerations, time management and the role of the supervisor. In semester two, three drop-in workshops will be provided for students who require assistance with gaining ethical and other types of approval from the University and/or external bodies.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Sternberg RJ
Publishing Year	2003
Title	The Psychologist's Companion
Subtitle	A Guide to Scientific Writing for Students and Researchers
Edition	4th
Publisher	Cambridge University Press
ISBN	9780521821230

Course Material	Book
Author	Marks DF & Yardley L
Publishing Year	2004
Title	Research Methods for Clinical and Health Psychology
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Sage
ISBN	0761971912

Course Material	Book
Author	Bowling A & Ebrahim S
Publishing Year	2005
Title	Handbook of Health Research Methods
Subtitle	Investigation, Measurement and Analysis
Edition	
Publisher	Open University Press
ISBN	9780335214600

Course Material	Book
Author	Keppel G & Wickens TD
Publishing Year	2004
Title	Design and Analysis
Subtitle	A Researchers Handbook
Edition	4th
Publisher	Pearson Education
ISBN	0131277766

Course Material	Book
Author	Robson C
Publishing Year	1998
Title	Real World Research
Subtitle	A Resource for Social Scientists and Practitioner Researchers
Edition	
Publisher	Blackwell
ISBN	0631176896

Notes

The aim of this module is to provide students with the opportunity to design and conduct a significant piece of psychological research in the field of Health Psychology. A major aspect of the development of any research project is to structure research ideas within an acceptable framework that may be subjected to peer review. After formulation initial research ideas, students are encouraged to discuss these with their supervisor and to agree a plan of action before the research commences. This may also involve seeking ethical approval, not only from LJMU, but also from any relevant outside body. Students will have had the opportunity to develop a research proposal as part of their assessed work in NSPHPM001, however, this does not prohibit them from developing a new proposal for this module should they wish to do so.