

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Work-Based Research Project
 Status: Definitive
 Code: **7002PS** (121534)
 Version Start Date: 01-08-2016

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

Team	Leader
Matthew Millings	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 40

Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 160

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	20
Online	20

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	Pres	15-minute presentation using the research-informed evidence to advance the case developing innovative practice or enhancing the need to develop greater efficiencies and enhanced performance in practice	30	
Essay	Essay	4,000 word report critically reflecting upon the experience of conducting work-based research, the site of the working environment as a space for policy and practice development, and outlining a research-informed assessment of the how practice in the	70	

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
		chosen area of focus can be developed as a consequence of the research activity		

Aims

The module aims to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and qualified support to design, conduct and deliver a research project explicitly focused on an area of their working practice. The module will develop in students the ability plan and implement an agenda for research in an area of work-based practice, to critically reflect the policy and practice development work that have taken place in the subject area, to document and reflect upon the challenges of conducting work based research, and by its conclusion produce critical commentary on how the understanding of practice may meaningfully be developed.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Recognise and critically evaluate the challenges of implementing policy and practice change within the specific work-based environment.
- 2 Demonstrate an ability to develop and implement a plan for research activity.
- 3 Demonstrate an advanced ability to develop an area of work-based research focus and to critically reflect the policy and practice development work that have taken place.
- 4 Document and critically reflect upon the challenges of conducting work-based research.
- 5 Provide a research-informed critical commentary that advances innovative practice development or serves to enhance the understanding of the need to develop greater efficiencies and enhanced performance in professional practice.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

15 minute Presentation	1	3	5		
4000 word Essay	1	2	3	4	5

Outline Syllabus

The bulk of the work in the module involves students conducting research activity in their place of work. The supervisor and student will therefore work through the following themes in the supervisory session input;

- designing research questions and research design
- planning research objectives and time management
- thinking through the planning and logistics of delivering research

- *considering the ethical dimensions of conducting work-based research*
- *data collection methods*
- *data analysis methods*
- *reviewing policy and practice development in themed area*
- *presenting research findings*
- *critically reflecting on engaging in research activity*

These one-to-one inputs (taking place in person or via the virtual learning environment) will be supplemented by group themed Action Learning Set inputs covering such themes as;

- *reviewing methodological choices for work-based research*
- *ethical dilemmas for criminal justice professionals as researchers*
- *identifying barriers to generating policy/practice change*
- *the role/impact of emotional labour in work-based research*

Learning Activities

The module will students conduct research into an aspect of their working practice. Fortnightly interactions with supervisors (in person at the University or the participant's place of work, or through the virtual learning environment) will be supplemented by group based thematic Action Learning Set afternoons exploring (amongst other themes) as reviewing methodological choices for work-based research; report writing; identifying barriers to generating policy/practice change.

Notes

This module, designed with 'in-service' policing and criminal justice professionals in mind, provides students with the knowledge and skills to plan, implement and critically evaluate their own work-based research projects. Working with the support of their appointed supervisor and through engaging with the opportunities for thematic action learning set skills development, the student will work to develop their knowledge and critical appreciation of their chosen area of policy and practice interest. The presentation and written report will capture the student's experience(s) of conducting research in their work place, the extent to which they've critically reviewed and contextualised the policy and practice setting, and to demonstrate the capacity of the research findings to influence the design and delivery of professional practice.

Students can not embark on their work-based research projects without the consent and permission of the Module Leader. This layer of Module Leadership oversight will ensure all ethical processes are fully observed and the ethical and political dimensions of the design, conducting and delivery of the project are considered prior to commencing fieldwork.