

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: RESEARCH METHODS
Status: Definitive
Code: **7003COMP** (103263)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Computing and Mathematical Sciences
Teaching School/Faculty: Computing and Mathematical Sciences

Team	Leader
Omar Abuelma'atti	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7
Credit Value: 15.00
Total Delivered Hours: 36.00
Total Learning Hours: 150
Private Study: 114

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	12.000
Practical	12.000
Tutorial	12.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1	A critical review of a range of academic sources on a subject of choice.	40.0	
Report	AS2	Writing of a research proposal for the student's dissertation.	60.0	

Aims

To develop knowledge of effective and academic research design at masters level and provide guidance on the purpose and design of literature reviews; the use of theory; writing strategies; citation and ethical considerations.

To provide an understanding of how the range of qualitative, quantitative and mixed method data approaches can be most appropriately applied

To provide help on establishing the most effectual research design and method for the dissertation project and write a successful research proposal.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Execute an independent piece of academic research and demonstrate how critical analysis of advanced scholarship and published research can be used to develop a project that contributes to academic or professional knowledge and understanding
- 2 Critically evaluate the range of qualitative and quantitative data and information collection strategies that can be used and make informed decisions about which are relevant for different purposes
- 3 Write a successful research proposal which outlines and evaluates the research process and method(s) most appropriate to investigate the student's own research question/subject.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Critical review	1		
Research proposal	1	2	3

Outline Syllabus

*Research principles and design;
Identifying research issues and developing research questions;
Critiquing research and Research ethics;
Literature searching, reviewing and citation;
Research planning: writing project proposals, time management, costing;
Qualitative methods and data analysis
Quantitative methods and data analysis
Sampling and Presentation of data;
Dissertation and report writing.*

Learning Activities

Formal lectures will introduce core topics. Tutorials and in-class group activities will provide exercises to develop skills.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Gray, D.E.

Publishing Year	2009
Title	Doing Research in the Real World
Subtitle	
Edition	2nd
Publisher	Sage Publications
ISBN	1847873375

Course Material	Book
Author	Blaxter, L
Publishing Year	2006
Title	How to Research
Subtitle	
Edition	3rd
Publisher	Open University Press
ISBN	033521746X

Course Material	Book
Author	Creswell, J.W.
Publishing Year	2008
Title	Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches
Subtitle	
Edition	3rd
Publisher	Sage Publications
ISBN	1412965578

Course Material	Book
Author	Murray, R.
Publishing Year	2006
Title	How to Write a Thesis
Subtitle	
Edition	2nd
Publisher	Open University Press
ISBN	0335219683

Notes

This module provides generic and specific research methods skills, which will help equip the student for the project module and also for possible future research career.