

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Philosophy and Ethics in Social Scientific Research
Status: Definitive
Code: **7005MRES** (124568)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2019
Owning School/Faculty: Education
Teaching School/Faculty: Education

Team	Leader
Jo Frankham	Y
Ian Jones	
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Academic Level: FHEQ7 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 25
Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 175

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	10
Seminar	10
Tutorial	5

Grading Basis: 50 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1	Research Proposal 3000 words	100	

Aims

This module will consolidate students' understandings of the philosophical underpinnings of different approaches to research, including ontological and epistemological issues.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Critically examine the philosophy of social scientific research
- 2 Critically reflect ethical questions in social scientific research
- 3 Examine the relationship between ethics and research design

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Research Proposal 3000 words	1	2	3
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Outline Syllabus

Recap: The place of philosophy in social scientific research

Recap: Ethical issues in the conduct of social scientific research

Developing a methodological argument. Designing a study to explore the HIV prevention needs of young gay men.

Grounding philosophical thinking in your dissertation/thesis

Introduction to 'standpoint epistemologies'

Small group work to include discussion of different standpoints in research.

Students choose between two of the following: feminist research, critical race theory, critical disability studies, 'partnership research' with service users.

Ethical issues in standpoint research

Applying for ethical approval for research

Discussion of individual research plans and the ethical issues raised by that work

Learning Activities

Lectures

Seminars

Discussion

Presentation of research plans

Review of ethics application process

Notes

This module will provide an opportunity for review/revision of some of the material that has already been considered on previous modules. Ethical issues have also been raised throughout the programme, as relevant to the content of individual modules; at this point there will be a further review/reiteration of some core principles in ethical practice.

The module will also introduce students to a series of 'standpoint methodologies' employed in research including critical race theory, critical disability studies, feminist research and 'partnership research' with service users. The module will contribute to

students' understandings of how such theoretical frames impact upon all stages of the research process. The ethical issues out of which these 'standpoints' have emerged and the ethical implications of working within these standpoints will be discussed.

The module will provide an opportunity for students to talk about their dissertation research, the philosophical underpinnings of how they intend to proceed and a consideration of the ethical issues that their research will raise. These discussions will include consideration of insider/outsider issues in respect of research.