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Title: Research Methods for Arts, Professional and Social Studies  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **7103MR** (124553)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021  
  
Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science  
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
Colin Harrison	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ7      **Credit Value:** 30      **Total Delivered Hours:** 28  
**Total Learning Hours:** 300      **Private Study:** 272

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	12
Seminar	12
Workshop	4

**Grading Basis:** 50 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	Search narrative, 2000 words	40	
Essay	AS2	Comparative Analysis of Methods, 3000 words	60	

### Aims

*To introduce students to library, bibliographic, online and other facilities necessary for postgraduate research;*  
*To assist students in recognizing and applying appropriate strategies for developing*

*a research project – identifying research questions, theoretical problems, material for analysis and critical position;*

*To develop students' capacities for evaluating strengths and weaknesses in the methodologies of researchers in their field;*

*To help students gain confidence in communicating their ideas verbally to their peers, and conform to postgraduate-level standards for the presentation of written work.*

## **Learning Outcomes**

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Identify and access appropriate archives and bibliographical resources
- 2 Demonstrate an understanding of methodologies and theoretical approaches relevant to their own research project
- 3 Evaluate the methodologies of scholars in their own field
- 4 Outline the scope and content of their research project, writing in an appropriate style

## **Learning Outcomes of Assessments**

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

Search narrative	1	2
Comparative Analysis of Method	3	4

## **Outline Syllabus**

*Students will cover the following topics through a combination of presentations from APSS staff, reflection on the progress of their own research and discussion of set reading in which they will be invited to critique the methods of published research:*

- 1. Using resources / key search techniques*
- 2. Exploring, creating and analysing archives*
- 3. Developing a research question*
- 4. Defining methodology / engaging with theory*
- 5. Applying analytical skills*
- 6. Constructing and argument*
- 7. Oral and written presentation skills*

## **Learning Activities**

Lectures, seminars, workshops

## **Notes**

This module introduces and develops generic research skills for students in arts, humanities and social science. It is intended to guide them as they undertake individual research projects, helping them develop productive research questions, define the parameters of their research, apply suitable methods and present findings in a manner appropriate to their field. The module will also give students the opportunity to see themselves as part of a community of postgraduate researchers, and present their ideas to their peers accordingly.