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Title: CTP RESEARCH METHODS
 Status: Definitive
 Code: **7104TRNPSY** (113700)
 Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

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

Team	Leader
Les Lancaster	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7 **Credit Value:** 20.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 34.00

Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 166

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Online	34.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	critique of published research paper (2000 words)	40.0	
Essay	AS2	report of collaborative study (3000 words)	60.0	

Aims

1. To convey an understanding of the roots of science and the role of participatory science in contemporary research.
2. To enable an indepth understanding of the relations between methods typically employed in investigating the transpersonal and methods of psychological research more generally.
3. To examine key epistemological issues in transpersonal research, including the

role of subjectivity, relative strengths of first-person and third-person approaches, and the role of transformational methods.

4. To encourage preliminary work (e.g., pilot study) towards the research thesis (module PSYCDM005)

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate indepth knowledge and understanding of the epistemological bases of CTP research
- 2 Identify suitable methodologies for a research task in the CTP area.
- 3 Critically evaluate a published research paper relevant to the CTP field in terms of its conceptual base, research design, treatment of data and conclusions.
- 4 Conduct and report a study into a topic of interest in the CTP area, demonstrating due concern for design and methodological issues, data analysis, and the appropriate conventions in report writing.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Critique	1	2	3
Report of study	1	2	4

Outline Syllabus

First-person and third-person methods in consciousness studies and transpersonal psychology; the rise of participatory science; historical and epistemological issues; influence of postmodernism; pluralistic approaches.

Overview of CTP methods: quantitative—experimental, questionnaire and survey designs; qualitative—phenomenology, heuristic research, grounded theory, participatory research; hermeneutic research, discourse and narrative analysis; transformational methods.

Examples of integral science: neurophenomenology, neuropsychanalysis, neurotheology.

Approaches to coding in qualitative research; use of Computer Assisted Qualitative Data Analysis Software (CAQDAS).

Learning Activities

Content is delivered via synopses of key issues presented on Blackboard, together with suggested readings available either through purchase or via online access (journals and web sites). These issues will be further explored through (unassessed) online discussion forums. In their preliminary consideration of published research papers (preparation for assessment 1), students will be encouraged to collaborate with fellow students via their own e-mail systems or via Blackboard forums (optional).

The collaborative project (assessment 2) will require collaboration in production of a semi-structured interview protocol and in the analysis of transcripts.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Braud, W. G. & Anderson, R
Publishing Year	1998
Title	Transpersonal Research Methods for the Social Sciences
Subtitle	Honoring Human Experience
Edition	
Publisher	Sage
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Smith, J. A.
Publishing Year	2003
Title	Qualitative Psychology
Subtitle	A Practical Guide to Research Methods
Edition	
Publisher	Sage
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Heron, J
Publishing Year	1998
Title	Sacred Science
Subtitle	Person-Centred Inquiry into the Spiritual and the Subtle
Edition	
Publisher	PCCS Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Moustakas, C
Publishing Year	1994
Title	Phenomenological Research Methods
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Sage
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Valle, R.
Publishing Year	1998
Title	Phenomenological Inquiry in Psychology

Subtitle	Existential and Transpersonal Dimensions
Edition	
Publisher	Plenum
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Velmans, M. (ed.)
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Investigating Phenomenal Consciousness
Subtitle	New Methodologies and Maps
Edition	
Publisher	John Benjamins
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Friedman, H. L. & MacDonald, D. A. (eds.)
Publishing Year	2003
Title	Transpersonal Measurement and Assessment.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	The transpersonal Institute.
ISBN	

Notes

This module addresses epistemological issues raised by research in consciousness and transpersonal psychology, and introduces students to a pluralistic approach to research design in the area. Students will engage in a collaborative project designed to investigate phenomenological features of transformative experience.