

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: RESEARCH METHODS FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES
Status: Definitive
Code: **7503TEF** (103428)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2016

Owning School/Faculty: Sports Studies, Leisure and Nutrition
Teaching School/Faculty: City College University

Team	Leader
Hazel Andrews	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7
Credit Value: 20
Total Delivered Hours: 85
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 115

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	20
Online	60
Seminar	5

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1	Research Plan and Proposal for Masters Dissertation (5000 words)	100	

Aims

Enable participants to examine plan and evaluate issues surrounding qualitative and quantitative research processes for social sciences.

Enable participants to examine the relationships between Philosophy, Science and Empiricism.

Enable participants to develop skills in qualitative design and analysis, using anthropological, ethnographic phenomenological and positivist approaches.

Enable participants to undertake a quantitative research design incorporating exploratory, descriptive and causal methodologies.

Enable participants to develop skills in a range of analytical methods, using SPSS.

Enable participants to critically evaluate research design, undertaken epistemic approaches, distinguish interpretive approaches and realist philosophies and develop hypotheses.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 identify the salient qualitative and quantitative issues surrounding a research problem
- 2 plan and identify the stages and tasks for an evaluation of a research problem, incorporating preliminary research approaches, primary and secondary data requirements, sampling frame and sampling methods
- 3 produce a research design and proposal for a Masters level research project in social science

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Research Plan and Proposal	1	2	3
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Outline Syllabus

Philosophy of Social Sciences - Kuhns Analysis, Paradigms, Popperian critique, Interpretive Approaches, Realist Approaches, Ethics, Epistemology, Critical Theory. Qualitative Approaches - Anthropology, Ethnography, Subjectivity, Phenomenology and Positivism, Narratives and Stories, Meanings and Metaphors, Writings and Representation, Audience and Reader analysis.

Data - Primary and Secondary sources, Data Types, Sampling procedures and methods.

Quantitative Approaches - Univariate, Bivariate and Multivariate models. Descriptive, Exploratory, Causal Research. Hypothesis Testing.

Analysis and Reporting - Use of SPSS, critical writing, dissertation and report design.

Managing the Research Process - Timescales, Project Management.

Learning Activities

Lectures, seminars and workshops.

Notes

This module provides an approach to research methods for social sciences. It is concerned with those disciplines that surround qualitative and quantitative research methods. The latter employs use of SPSS for quantitative analysis. The module focus will enable participants to prepare a comprehensive research proposal and plan for a Masters level dissertation.