

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: RESEARCH METHODS
Status: Definitive
Code: **7504MASEN** (103409)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2016

Owning School/Faculty: Education
Teaching School/Faculty: City College University

Team	Leader
Michael Aiello	Y
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Academic Level: FHEQ7 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 21

Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 179

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	21

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	A research proposal reflecting engagement with an understanding of research methodologies and processes at a Master's level of competence - (2,500 word equivalence)	100	

Aims

To prepare students to develop an empirical evidence base for the analysis of theory and practice and the application of research methodologies appropriate to the nature of the identified area of enquiry.

To encourage students to develop critical faculties in relation to the application of research methodologies in workplace/professional challenges.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate a sound critical appreciation of the relationship between theory and practice from the perspective of own experience and the knowledge base reflected in the literature.
- 2 Synthesise an appropriate theoretical approach to the use of research methods within the professional context and area of interest from an analysis of empirical evidence and methodological alternatives.
- 3 Develop sustained criticality in relation to the application of educational research methodologies.
- 4 Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the issues, strengths and limitations of a range of research methodologies and the tools of data collection and analysis.
- 5 Demonstrate mastery of the principles of research ethics to research planning within the context of a proposed area of study.
- 6 Produce a Master's level dissertation proposal.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Research proposal	1	2	3	4	5	6
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Outline Syllabus

Research paradigms: the nature of education/professional research activity and its relationship to concepts of professionalism, quantitative and qualitative methodologies, case study, action research and other approaches.

Ethical issues in researching professional practice.

Selected research methods (design of research instruments and analysis and interpretation of data) including:

a) The use of literature and other documentary evidence

b) Selected statistical techniques including a consideration of the use of quantitative surveys/questionnaires

c) The use of surveys/questionnaires to collect qualitative data

d) The use of interviews/focus groups

e) The use of observation techniques.

Issues related to validity, reliability, objectivity and subjectivity.

Approaches to reporting research.

Learning Activities

Lectures, seminars, workshops/group activities and individual tutorials.

Notes

This module equips students with a critical overview of the major research methodologies and methods for critical reflection on professional practice and wider research applications.