

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: PHILOSOPHICAL APPROACHES AND FRAMEWORKS
Status: Definitive
Code: **7505BLWMR** (101422)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2012

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool Business School
Teaching School/Faculty: Liverpool Business School

Team	Leader
Joanne Meehan	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7
Credit Value: 20.00
Total Delivered Hours: 32.00
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 168

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	8.000
Workshop	24.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	Assignment (5,000 words)	100.0	

Aims

The module provides students with a thorough understanding of contrasting philosophical approaches and frameworks and promotes students' critical awareness of claims to knowledge made by themselves and other researchers.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Critically appraise the different philosophical assumptions 'hidden' beneath research and identify the strengths and weaknesses of each approach.
- 2 Appreciate how different philosophical assumptions influence the criteria for judging research quality.
- 3 Appreciate their own philosophical assumptions and evaluate how epistemology might be relevant to their research.
- 4 Evaluate how different philosophical approaches influence different methods of collecting and analyzing data.
- 5 Develop a critical and reflexive awareness of arguments used in research.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

ESSAY 1 2 3 4 5

Outline Syllabus

Contrasting traditions: positivism versus social constructionism.

Broadening the philosophical debate: ontology and epistemology; epistemology and methodology.

Research philosophies underlying research practice: positivist research; realist research; social constructionist research.

Overview of other philosophies: critical theory; feminism; hermeneutics; postmodernism; pragmatism and structuration theory.

Strengths and weaknesses of different epistemologies.

Learning Activities

A blended learning approach will be used with a mix of formal lectures, guest lectures, tutorial sessions, student-led sessions, individual and group activities, directed study and Peer Learning Group. Learning activities will be centred on 4 block sessions, the first of which will orientate the students to the module's learning activities.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Benton, T
Publishing Year	2001
Title	The Philosophy of Social Science
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Easterby-Smith, M, Thorpe, R and Jackson, P R
Publishing Year	2008
Title	Management Research
Subtitle	
Edition	3rd edition
Publisher	Sage, London, UK
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Johnson and Duberley
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Understanding Management Research
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Sayer, A
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Realism and Social Science
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Sage, London, UK
ISBN	

Notes

The learning activities carried out during the block sessions will provide informal formative feedback to the students during the course of the module. The formative feedback will inform the summative assessment, which takes the form of a 5,000 word written assignment which focuses on a critical appraisal of the student's philosophical assumptions and the implications of these assumptions for an area of research.