

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Research: Methods of Enquiry
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	Level 7
4	Module Code	LBR7339
5	Semester Taught	Both

6	Module Overview
<p>This module specifically addresses the broader programme aims related to “pursuing excellence” and “practice-led, knowledge applied” through a flexible provision that encourages students to develop their research ideas, enabling those on various Health and Social Work MSc programmes to satisfy their individual learning needs, whilst contributing to their area of study. The module develops students’ skills to become research-minded practitioners.</p> <p>Specifically, this module will contribute towards students’ personal and professional development fostering independent study. This will be done by encouraging students to further develop their critical thinking and research skills in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • challenge and critically appraise the existing evidence base in their area of study; • identify the gaps in knowledge; • propose primary or secondary research to inform their area of study. <p>Consistent with the learning, teaching and assessment strategies of the programme which this module serves, a range will be employed during its delivery. This will include 36 hours of scheduled learning and teaching activity comprising lectures, workshops and tutorials with support from the module leader and teaching team. It will also involve 164 hours of independent study which includes guided reading and self-directed study activities with feedback available in class or on-line.</p> <p>Learning resources are on the module Moodle site. These include pre-recorded lectures, journal articles, links to key evidence-based resources, self-directed study activities, and an electronic reading list citing seminal Evidence Based Practice and Research Methods texts suitable for level 7 study.</p>	

7	Indicative Content
<p>Philosophical underpinnings of research</p> <p>Ethics</p> <p>Generating the research question</p> <p>Retrieving the Information</p> <p><u>Quantitative Primary Sources of Evidence:</u> Randomised controlled trials (RCTs), Cohort, and Case - Control Designs</p> <p>Quantitative Primary Sources of Evidence: Survey designs</p>	

Quantitative data collection: Sampling and reliability and validity of instruments
Quantitative data analysis covering basic descriptive statistics, inferential statistics and levels of measurement
<u>Qualitative Primary sources of evidence:</u> Phenomenology, Ethnography, Grounded Theory
Qualitative Primary sources of Evidence: Post Modernism, Feminist Research and Critical Theory
Qualitative data collection; Interviews, Observation and Documents Sampling and credibility, confirmability, transferability and dependability issues
Qualitative data analysis covering thematic coding analysis
<u>Secondary Sources of Evidence (quantitative and qualitative):</u> Systematic Reviews
Measures of effectiveness

8	Module Learning Outcomes	
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:	
	1	Demonstrate appropriate application of quantitative and qualitative research concepts
	2	Compose a focused research question with an evidence-based rationale
	3	Design and justify high quality research appropriate to a research question

9	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome Number <i>(from table 8)</i>	Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1,2,3			Oral presentation 100%

10 Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities		
Learning Activities	Hours	Details of Duration, Frequency and other comments
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops as specified in timetable	36	Lectures and workshops including online pre-recorded lectures and face to face workshops
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, peer group learning external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	24	Activities
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	140	Reading, preparation for assessment.
Total Study Hours:	200	

11 Key Texts and Online Learning Resources	
<p>There is an online reading list that is regularly updated. Indicative content includes the following:</p>	
<p>Boland, A., Cherry MG., Dickson R (Eds.) (2014) <i>Doing a systematic review: a student's guide</i>. London: SAGE</p> <p>Flick, U (2009) <i>An Introduction to Qualitative Research</i> (Fourth Edition) London: Sage</p> <p>Polgar, S., Thomas, SA (2013) <i>Introduction to research in the health sciences</i> (6th ed): Oxford: Churchill Livingstone</p>	
<p>Bruce, N., Pope, D., Stanistreet, D (2008) <i>Quantitative methods for health research: a practical interactive guide to epidemiology and statistics</i>. Chichester: John Wiley</p> <p>Creswell, JW (2012) <i>Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches</i> (Third Edition) London: Sage</p> <p>Dawes, M (2005) <i>Evidence-based practice: a primer for health care professionals</i> (2nd ed.) Edinburgh: Elsevier Churchill Livingstone</p> <p>Greenhalgh, T (2014) <i>How to read a paper: the basics of evidence-based medicine</i> (5th ed.) Chichester, West Sussex: Wiley; BMJ Books</p> <p>Harris, M., Taylor, G (2014) <i>Medical statistics made easy</i> (3rd ed.) London: Martin Dunitz,</p>	

Lincoln, Y., Denzin S, Norman K (2011) *The Sage handbook of qualitative research* (4th ed.) Thousand Oaks: Sage

Miles, MB., Huberman, AM., Saldaña, J (2014) *Qualitative data analysis: a methods sourcebook* (3rd ed.) Thousand Oaks, California: SAGE

Rowntree, D (2000) *Statistics without tears*. London: Penguin

Recommended

Bray, JN., Lee, J., Smith, L., Yorks, L (2000) *Collaborative inquiry in practice: action, reflection, and making meaning*. London: SAGE

Evans, I (2011) *Testing treatments: better research for better healthcare* (2nd ed.) London: Pinter & Martin

Higgins, J., Green, S (2008) *Cochrane handbook for systematic reviews of interventions* MyiLibrary Electronic books. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell

Jadad, AR (1998) *Randomised controlled trials: a user's guide* London: BMJ Books

Seedhouse, D (2007) *Ethics: the heart of health care* (3rd ed.) Chichester: John Wiley

Booth, A (2011) *Systematic approaches to a successful literature review*. London: Sage