Module specification

Module code	SOC732
Module title	Postgraduate Research Project
Level	7
Credit value	60
Faculty	FSLS
Module Leader	Professor Iolo Madoc-Jones
HECoS Code	100484
Cost Code	GACJ

Programmes in which module to be offered

MA Criminology and Criminal Justice	Core

Pre-requisites

None

Breakdown of module hours

Type of module hours	Amount
Learning and teaching hours	43 hrs
Placement tutor support	0hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	5 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	48 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	568 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	600 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	May 2021
With effect from date	September 2021
Date and details of revision	NA
Version number	1

Module aims

This module aims to provide students with an opportunity to undertake in-depth self-directed critical study in a chosen topic. Academic abilities will be enhanced in planning, preparation, undertaking and writing up a research project. Undertaking research will enable students to integrate knowledge- empirical or theoretical gained within the Master's programme to the topic of their choice. A critical and enquiring approach to a particular area of study will be encouraged and evidence of independent thought, application of theory, research and synthesis of concepts will be expected

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Synthesize knowledge in relation to a subject of criminological concern to identify a rationale and question(s) for further research
2	Provide a coherent account of the ontological, epistemological and axiological foundations of the research undertaken
2	Apply a paradigmatically appropriate sampling strategy to answer a specific research question(s)
3	Collect data in a systematic, rigorous and ethical manner
4	Analyse complex, incomplete or contradictory data using paradigmatically appropriate analytical techniques to draw conclusions in relation to the research question(s)
5	Report on, and present research findings clearly using approaches appropriate for the paradigm informing the research.
6	Identify the implications of research findings for criminal justice policy /practice
7	Reflect on the conclusions reached; identify strength and weaknesses in the research process and the potential that exists for future research in the chosen area.

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

Students are expected to engage in primary data collection and to present their research and findings in the form of a 10,000 word research report.

The postgraduate research project involves completing an original piece of research and reporting on the findings, the proposal having already been completed as part of the L7 Advanced Research methods Module. The Final project will include
i) Literature Review 2,500 words
ii) Summary of Methodology and methods actually used: 2,500 words
iii) Findings section 2,500 words
iv) Discussion and conclusion 2,500 words
v) Appendices e.g. questionnaire, interview schedule, consent forms

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1-7	Project	100%

Derogations

None

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The learning and teaching strategy is grounded in the University's commitment to an Active Learning Framework (ALF) so that learning will be both accessible and active, and include synchronous and a-synchronous elements. Online panopto based lectures are supplemented by interactive elements and students will be expected to complete activities such as watching videos; undertaking Other Indicative Reading; completing quizzes and posting responses to a-synchronous debate. These activities are the subject of formative feedback by the module tutor. Regular real time online sessions ensure students also have access to staff who thereby provide presence, challenge and support for student throughout the module.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

Writing a background literature chapter
Writing a methodology
Analysing and presenting data
Conclusions chapters

Indicative Bibliography:

Essential Reads
- Thomas, G (2017) How to do your Research project: A Guide for Students London: Sage. Third Edition.
- Swetnam, D. and Swetnam, R. (2009) Writing your dissertation, Oxford: How to books
- Bell, J. (2018), Doing Your Research Project, (7th edn), Maidenhead, Open University Press.
- Denscombe, M. (2017), The Good Research Guide: For Small-scale Social Research Projects, (6th edn), Maidenhead, Open University Press.

Additional Indicative Reading
As directed.