



PRIFYSGOL GLYNDŴR WRECSAM
GLYNDŴR UNIVERSITY WREXHAM

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: Dissertation	Level: 6	Credit Value: 40
----------------------------	----------	------------------

Module code: SOC 623	Cost Centre: GASW	JACS2 code: L310
----------------------	-------------------	------------------

Semester(s) in which to be offered: 1 and 2	With effect from: 2012
---	------------------------

Office use only: To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: Sept 2011 Date revised: Sept 2013 Version no: 2
---	--

Existing/New: NEW	Title of module being replaced (if any): N/A
-------------------	--

Originating Academic area: Social Work	Module Leader: Dr Dawn Jones
--	------------------------------

Module duration (total hours) 400 Scheduled learning & teaching hours 40 (direct) 60 (self-directed) Independent study hours 300 Placement hours 0	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate): Core
---	---

Percentage taught by Subjects other than originating Subject (please name other Subjects):
--

Programme(s) in which to be offered: BA (Hons) Social Work: Qualified Status BA (Hons) Social Welfare (exit/alternative award only)	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels):	Co-requisites per programme (within a level):
---	--	---

Module Aims:

To enable students to utilise previous learning to assist in the completion with guidance and supervision, an extended piece of critical independent study into area of social work/welfare. This will enable them to develop their ideas, understanding and critical thinking within a chosen area of interest.

Expected Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students should be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Devise a critical investigation into a key aspect of social work practice/or welfare service and how this impacts on specific service user groups,
2. Conduct a literature review that describes and comments upon particular aspects of current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline.
3. Write a structured proposal regarding their chosen topic that applies the methods and techniques that they have learned in order to review, consolidate, extend and apply their knowledge and understanding.
4. Collect data and synthesis information by deploying accurately established techniques of analysis and inquiry.
5. Critically analyse and synthesise the competing evidence, including an appreciation of the uncertainty ambiguity and limits of knowledge.
6. Critically evaluate a particular aspect of current scholarship to produce an extended investigation into a key aspect of their chosen field of study, including a critical evaluation of argument, assumptions and concepts.

Transferable/Key Skills and other attributes:

Gathering information, analysis and synthesis, intervention and evaluation, reflection and application, anti-discriminatory practice, IT and data management.

Assessment: please indicate the type(s) of assessment (eg examination, oral, coursework, project) and the weighting of each (%). ***Details of indicative assessment tasks must be included.***

Assessment One

-The student will plan, develop and construct a proposal on their chosen topic for study.

Assessment Two

-Dissertation on chosen area of investigation.

Marks for this module will be aggregated and students must pass the overall module at 40%
Two attempts only are permitted for the assessment of this module.

Assessment	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count or equivalent if appropriate
1	1,2, 3	Proposal	15%		1,500
2	1,2,4,5,6	Dissertation	85%		6,000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

A range of teaching and learning strategies will be utilised in this module but will primarily involve independent research activities to prepare and develop the skills of research and conducting an in-depth inquiry. This will enable opportunities for peer formative assessment, independent learning, working collaboratively as well as a variety of didactic methods to deliver the main content.

Syllabus outline:

Semester 1. To support students in their independent study the module will critically examine the following: identifying a topic worthy of investigation; critically investigating issues and dilemmas in social work; developing a critical understanding of existing evidence in their chosen topic; explore possible bias and ethical concerns; develop skills in critical assessment and writing; understanding how to conduct a thorough and extensive literature review; developing proposal writing skills; constructing a dissertation, developing skills in critical analysis and synthesis; utilising current research reports, discussion forums and journals, critically examining competing evidence and perspectives.

Semester 2: Ongoing supervisory support in confirmation of proposal, construction of dissertation and production of final submission. The focus of the study: enables the students to develop their own particular critical understanding of a highly contextualised element of practice and service user group, this includes but is not confined to considerations of life stages and development, experiences of discrimination and oppression, models of service provision and policy implementation.

Bibliography

Cresswell, J.W. (2009), *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods approaches*, 3rd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage

Denzin, N. and Lincoln, Y. (eds.). (2005). *The Sage book of qualitative research* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

McLaughlin, H (2009) *Involving Service Users in Health and Social Research*, London: Sage.

Recommended reading:

Bryman, A. (2006) 'Integrating quantitative and qualitative research: how is it done?' *Qualitative research*, 6 (1) pp.97-113, Sage.

Israel, Mark, and Iain Hay. (2006). *Research Ethics for Social Scientists: Between Ethical Conduct and Regulatory Compliance*. London and Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Lewis, V. Kellet, M. Robinson, C. Fraser, S. and Ding, S. (eds.) (2004) *The Reality of Research with Children and Young People*, London: Sage.