

## Module specification

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<b>Module Code</b>	SOC732
<b>Module Title</b>	Postgraduate Research Project
<b>Level</b>	7
<b>Credit value</b>	60
<b>Faculty</b>	FSLS
<b>HECoS Code</b>	100484
<b>Cost Code</b>	GACJ
<b>Pre-requisite module</b>	N/A

### Programmes in which module to be offered

<b>Programme title</b>	<b>Core/Optional/Standalone</b>
MA Criminology and Criminal Justice	Core
MSc Policing	Core

### Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	43 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision hours	5 hrs
<b>Active learning and teaching hours total</b>	<b>48 hrs</b>
Placement hours	0 hrs
Guided independent study hours	568 hrs
<b>Module duration (Total hours)</b>	<b>600 hrs</b>

### 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:

<b>1</b>	Synthesize knowledge in relation to a subject of criminological concern to identify a rationale and question(s) for further research
<b>2</b>	Provide a coherent account of the ontological, epistemological and axiological foundations of the research undertaken
<b>3</b>	Apply a paradigmatically appropriate sampling strategy to answer a specific research question(s)
<b>4</b>	Collect data in a systematic, rigorous and ethical manner
<b>5</b>	Report on, and present research findings clearly using approaches appropriate for the paradigm informing the research.
<b>6</b>	Identify the implications of research findings for criminal justice policy /practice
<b>7</b>	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:

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

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

- Literature Review 2,500 words
- Summary of Methodology and methods actually used: 2,500 words
- Findings section 2,500 words
- Discussion and conclusion 2,500 words
- Appendices e.g. questionnaire, interview schedule, consent forms

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	1-7	Dissertation/Project	10,000 words	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.

## Welsh Elements

Students can present assessed and non-assessed work in Welsh, and can access all forms, resources, and email correspondence in Welsh where preferred. Students are also able to undertake personal tutorials and, where applicable, work placements through the medium of Welsh. All module information aligns with the Welsh language expectations set out in the programme specification, and appropriate support is available to ensure students can fully engage with the module in their chosen language.

## Indicative Syllabus Outline

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

## Indicative Bibliography

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

## 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.

## Other indicative reading

As directed.

## Administrative Information

For office use only	
Initial approval date	May 2021
With effect from date	September 2021
Date and details of revision	April 2026, addition of MSc Policing programme.
Version number	2