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| Module Title: | Research for Social Work Practice - Informational Analysis 2 | Level: | 5 | Credit Value: | 20 |
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| Module code: | SWK506 | Is this a new module? | YES | Code of module being replaced: | SOC 513 |
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| Cost Centre: | GASW | JACS3 code: | L500 |
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| Trimester(s) in which to be offered: | 1, 3 | With effect from: | September 17 |
|---|------|--------------------------|--------------|

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| School: | Social & Life Sciences | Module Leader: | Dr Dawn Jones |
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| Scheduled learning and teaching hours | 36 hrs |
| Guided independent study | 164 hrs |
| Module duration (total hours) | 200 hrs |

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| Programme(s) in which to be offered | Core |
| BA (Hons) Social Work: Qualified Status | ✓ |
| BA (Hons) Social Welfare (exit/alternative award) | ✓ |

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| Pre-requisites |
| None |

Office use only

Initial approval April 17

APSC approval of modification N/A

Version 1

Have any derogations received Academic Board approval?

Yes ✓ No

Module Aims

This module will enable students to understand and analyse basic social science research. It aims to introduce and develop students' understanding of the evidence base, and the agencies that generate it, for social work practice. At the core of this module are critical assessment of research methodologies, the ideas that underpin them, and the skills of analysis and argument that utilise the evaluation of competing evidence.

Students will have the opportunity to learn the development of skills in information retrieval and analysis and as the culmination of this will produce a research proposal that will link to their level 6 dissertation module. Key social work values will be apparent throughout, such as anti-oppressive agenda that guides social work research, and the Welsh context through which it should be understood.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Key skills for employability

- KS1 Written, oral and media communication skills
- KS2 Leadership, team working and networking skills
- KS3 Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
- KS4 Information technology skills and digital literacy
- KS5 Information management skills
- KS6 Research skills
- KS7 Intercultural and sustainability skills
- KS8 Career management skills
- KS9 Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
- KS10 Numeracy

At the end of this module, students will be able to

Key Skills

| At the end of this module, students will be able to | | Key Skills | |
|---|--|------------|-----|
| 1 | Demonstrate an understanding of the research process and its constituent methodological elements. | KS5 | KS6 |
| 2 | Analyse information and account for a multiplicity of perspectives. | KS3 | KS5 |
| | | KS6 | |
| 3 | Demonstrate an understanding of information technologies for the purpose of information searching and presentation of research | KS1 | KS4 |
| | | KS5 | KS6 |
| | | KS10 | |

MODULE SPECIFICATION PROFORMA

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| 4 | Have the understanding of what is required to put together a research proposal that leads to the level 6 dissertation module. | KS1 | KS2 |
| | | KS4 | KS6 |
| | | KS10 | |
| 5 | Present an understanding of the impact of research for individuals and communities within the context of Welsh social work. | KS3 | KS6 |
| Transferable/key skills and other attributes | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • data analysis; • proposal writing; • critical thinking | | | |

Derogations

Two attempts only at each assessment
All assessments must be passed at 40% and above
This module cannot be trailed to the next level

Assessment:

Assessment 1 – Essay which provides a critical evaluation of a recent journal article accounting for primary research to inform social work practice.

Assessment 2 – a Research Proposal on a specific area of practice –to inform level 6 dissertation studies

| Assessment number | Learning Outcomes to be met | Type of assessment | Weighting (%) | Duration (if exam) | Word count (or equivalent if appropriate) |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---|
| 1 | 1,2,3,4 | Essay | 70% | | 2,000 |
| 2 | 1,4,5 | Research Proposal | 30% | | 1,000 |

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

This will include interactive lectures, group work, workshops/seminars, e-learning, the use of case studies, and the use of visiting speakers (researchers within the Social Sciences).

Syllabus outline:

- Introduction to the module: what is social research?;
- What has social research got to do with social work/social care?;
- The research process: methods and methodologies – an overview;
- Positivism/interpretivism;
- Quantitative/qualitative methods;
- Triangulation;
- Data collection, sampling, data analysis,
- Ethics and consent;
- Consideration of different designs;
- Exploration of the role of individual and carer involvement in the co-production of social work knowledge;
- Evidence-based practice and the 'research-aware' social practitioner;
- Narrative methods;
- Critical discourse analysis;
- Action-research;
- Case studies from social work/social care practice;
- Research ethics;
- How to write a research proposal

Bibliography:

Essential reading

Alston, M. & Bowles, W (2012) *Research for social workers: an introduction to methods* (2nd edn) London: Routledge.

Bell, L. (2017) *Research Methods For Social Workers*. London: Palgrave.

Bryman, A. (2012) *Social Research Methods* (3rd edn). Oxford, Oxford University Press.

Gilbert, N. (2008) *Researching Social Life* (3rd edn) London: Sage.

Other indicative reading

Best, S., (2012) *Understanding and Doing Successful Research: Data Collection and Analysis for the Social Sciences*. London: Routledge.

Chamaz, K. (2014) *Constructing Grounded Theory* (2nd edn) London, Sage.

David, M & Sutton, C, D (2011) *Social Research; An Introduction* (2nd edn) London, Sage,

Davies, M. & Hughes, N. (2014) *Doing a Successful Research Project: Using Qualitative or Quantitative Methods* (2ⁿ edn) London, Sage.

D'Cruz, H. & Jones, M. (2006) *Social Work Research – Ethical and Political Contexts* London: Sage.

Denscombe, M. (1998) *The good research guide for small-scale research projects*. Buckingham: Open University Press.

- Everitt, A & Hardiker, P. (1996) *Evaluating for Good Practice*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Fraser, S, Lewis, V, Ding, S, Kellet, M & Robinson, C (2006) *Doing Research with Children and Young People* London: Sage.
- Gilbert, N. (2008) *Researching Social Life* (3rd edn) London, Sage.
- Hall, I & Hall, D. (2004) *Evaluation and Social Research –introducing Small-Scale Practice* Basingstoke; Palgrave Macmillan.
- Hart, C. (2006) *Doing a Literature Search* London: Sage.
- Humphries, B. (2008) *Social Work Research for Social Justice* Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan
- Kiteley, R. & Stogdon, C. (2014) *Literature Reviews in Social Work*. London: Sage.
- McIntyre A (2008) *Participatory Action Research: Qualitative Research methods Series 52*. London, Sage.
- McLaughlin, H. (2012) *Understanding Social Work Research* (2nd edn) London: Sage.
- Punch, K.F. (2014) *Social Research Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches* (3rd edn) London, Sage.
- Shaw, I. Lawson-Briar, K. Orme, J. & Ruckdeschel, R. (2009) *Social Work Research* London: Sage.
- Silverman, D. (2013) *Doing Qualitative Research* (4th edn). London: Sage.
- Rose, G (2012) *Visual Methodologies* (3rd edn) London, Sage.
- Thomas, G. (2011) *How to do your Case Study: A Guide for Students and Researchers*, London, Sage.
- Whitaker, A. (2012) *Research Skills for Social Work* (2nd edn) London, Sage/Learning Matters.
- Yin, R. K. (2009) *Case Study Research; Design and Methods* (4th edn) London, Sage