

Module Title:	Dissertation – Informational Analysis 3	Level:	6	Credit Value:	40
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Module code:	SWK602	Is this a new module?	YES	Code of module being replaced:	SOC623
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Cost Centre:	GASW	JACS3 code:	L500
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Trimester(s) in which to be offered:	1, 2	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	364 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	400 hrs

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

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

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 facilitate the development of ideas, understanding and in-depth, critical thinking within a chosen area of interest.

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	Critically consider key aspects of social work practice and how these impact on individuals and communities	KS5	KS6
		KS9	
2	Conduct and record a literature review that comments on particular aspects of current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline.	KS1	KS3
		KS4	KS5
		KS6	
3	Synthesise information by deploying accurately established techniques of analysis and inquiry.	KS2	KS6
		KS10	
4	Approach the process of knowledge pursuit with an awareness of the partial and incomplete nature of knowledge production.	KS7	KS9

MODULE SPECIFICATION PROFORMA

5	Produce an extended investigation into a key aspect of their chose field of study, including a critical evaluation of argument, assumptions and concepts.	KS9	KS7
		KS5	KS6
6	Have a good awareness of reflexivity and the role that the individual's values and assumptions play in the production of knowledge, and the impact this may have on others.	KS3	KS9
		KS5	
Transferable/key skills and other attributes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical skills of analysis and evaluation; • Data analysis; • The production of a structured report. 			

Derogations

Two attempts only at the assessment.

This module must be passed at least 40% and above

Assessment:

Assessment 1 - Dissertation on chosen area of investigation, as identified in the final assignment of Research for Social Work Practice module (Level 5)

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, 5, 6	Dissertation	100%		7,000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

A range of teaching and learning strategies will be utilised in this module but following initial classroom based teaching, it will primarily involve independent research activities to prepare and develop the skills of research and conducting an in-depth inquiry. These will be supported by on-going tutorials/seminars with an allocated supervisor.

Syllabus outline:

Semester 1:

- Developing an understanding of the identified topic worthy of investigation through the critical investigation of issues and dilemmas in social work;
- From research topic to research question: what is it I want to find an answer to and how will I gather and present my evidence?
- Developing a critical understanding of existing evidence in the student's chosen topic through the process of conducting a thorough and extensive literature review.;
- Putting the dissertation together: how to structure the dissertation effectively and keep the research question focused throughout.
- The importance of reflexivity – the role of the researcher in the production of knowledge.

Semester 2:

- Ongoing supervisory support in construction of dissertation and production of final submission. Students are enabled to develop their own particular critical understanding of a highly contextualised element of social work. Dissertations are likely to have a practice/methods policy, or theory orientation, but all will have to actively consider social work practice within anti-oppressive and Welsh contexts.

Bibliography:

Essential reading

Carey, M. (2013) *The Social Work Dissertation: Using Small-Scale Qualitative Methodology*. (2nd edn) Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Other indicative reading

Aveyard, H. (2014) *Doing A Literature Review In Health And Social Care: A Practical Guide* (3rd edn) Maidenhead: Open University Press

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

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

Denscombe, M. (2014) *The Good Research Guide: For Small-Scale Social Research Projects* Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Hart, C. (2006) *Doing a Literature search: A Comprehensive Guide for the Social Sciences*. London: Sage.

Kiteley, R. & Stogdon, C. (2014) *Literature Reviews in Social Work*. London: Sage.

McLaughlin, H. (2012) *Understanding Social Work Research* (2nd edn) London: Sage.

Webber, M. (2014) *Applying Research Evidence in Social Work Practice*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.