

## Module specification

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Module Code	YCW615
Module Title	Dissertation
Level	6
Credit value	40
Faculty	Social and Life Sciences
HECoS Code	100466
Cost Code	GAYC
Pre-requisite module	None

### Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Core/Optional/Standalone
BA (Hons) Youth and Community Work (JNC)	Core

### Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	24 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0 hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision hours	24 hrs
<b>Active learning and teaching hours total</b>	<b>48 hrs</b>
Placement hours	0 hrs
Guided independent study hours	352 hrs
<b>Module duration (Total hours)</b>	<b>400 hrs</b>

### Module aims

Students will complete a small-scale research project that will require them to demonstrate their ability to collect and analyse empirical data in line with University research ethics procedures. Drawing on learning from the Connecting Research and Practice Module students will critically evaluate existing research in the field, identify and justify chosen research methodologies and methods, undertake ethical data collection and analyse to form recommendations for future youth work practice, policy and theory.

### Module Learning Outcomes



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

1	Critically appraise relevant theory and research on the chosen area of research.
2	Select and justify an appropriate research methodology and methods for chosen area of research.
3	Critically examine the need for appropriate ethical research practice and successfully apply for ethical approval.
4	Engage in empirical data collection to analyse findings to inform a critical discussion of the research.
5	Propose conclusions and recommendations for practice and research.

## 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.*

There are 2 elements of assessment for this module:

- 1) Attendance – students must maintain attendance of 80% to meet the requirements of the professional qualification.
- 2) Over semester 1 & 2 students will work towards completing a final dissertation based on a piece of empirical research that will inform practice, policy or theory. Students will need to successfully engage in the university research ethics process to collect primary data that will be analysed to inform a critical discussion of the findings and to propose recommendations for practice and research.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1		Attendance	N/A	Pass/Refer	N/A
2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Dissertation/Project	6,500 words	100%	N/A

## Derogations

None

## Learning and Teaching Strategies



A variety of teaching and learning activities will be employed on this module, predominantly those that emphasises interactive learning and student participation. These will include practical classes and workshops; case studies and problem-based learning activities, class and small-group discussion, simulation and group work.

This module will adopt a Hy-Flex approach to teaching and learning, in line with the Active Learning Framework. This means that students can join the classroom in person or join synchronously online to engage in the learning activities. Sessions will also be recorded for students to engage with alongside asynchronous online learning activities to scaffold the learning from the module.

Students on this module will also be supported through 1:1 dissertation supervision with a member of the programme team.

### Welsh Elements

Welsh speaking students can participate in group discussion and activities in Welsh.

### Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Review of Writing a literature review & getting your methodology right
- Review of Developing your research tools & methods, Sampling and recruitment
- Review of Writing your methodology
- Reflexivity and the position of the researcher
- Research ethics & submitting your ethics forms
- Analysing your data
- Writing your discussion chapter
- Evaluating your own research

### Indicative Bibliography:

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

### Essential Reads

O' Leary, Z. and Tennent, E. (2025), *The Essential Guide to Doing Your Research Project*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. London: SAGE.

Silverman, D. (2024), *Interpreting Qualitative Data*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. London: SAGE.

### Other indicative reading

Bradford, S. and Cullen, F. (eds.) (2012), *Research and Research Methods for Youth Practitioners*. London: Routledge.

Flick, U. (2023), *An Introduction to Qualitative Research*. London: SAGE.

Paris, D. and Winn, M. T. (2018), *Humanising Research; Decolonising Qualitative Inquiry with Youth and Communities*. London: SAGE.

Schmid, E. and Garrels, V. (2025) Ethical Pitfalls in Research with Young People: How Can They Be Identified and Addressed? *Young*, Vol. 33, No. 1, pp. 56–71.

Tcherni-Buzzeo, M. and Pyrczak, F. (2024), *Evaluating Research in Academic Journals; A Practical Guide to Realistic Evaluation*. 8<sup>th</sup> ed. London: Routledge.

### Youth Work NOS (2019) evidenced by this module

YW20	Determine, evaluate and prioritise your organisation's objectives for youth work in the community
YW22	Influence and develop youth work strategy
YW23	Engage young people in the strategic development of youth work
YW24	Monitor and evaluate the impact of youth work strategy and delivery
YW25	Work as an effective and critically reflective youth work practitioner
Signpost 29	Develop your knowledge, skills and competence to meet the requirements of your work
Signpost 40	Promote the needs, rights and interests of individuals and groups in the community

### Administrative Information

<b>For office use only</b>	
Initial approval date	12/05/2025
With effect from date	Sept 2025
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1