# PRIFYSGOL glyndŵr UNIVERSITY

# MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

| Module Title: Research Project | Level: 6 | Credit Value: 20 |
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| Module code: EDP616 (if known) | Cost Centre: GAPE | JACS3 code: X370 |
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| Semester(s) in which to be offered: 1 – 3 | With effect from: September 2013 |
|---|---|

| Office use only: To be completed by AQSU: | Date approved: July 2013 Date revised: - Version no: 1 |
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| Existing/New: New | Title of module being replaced (if any): |
|---|---|

| Originating Academic area: | Education | Module Leader: | Professor Patrick Costello |
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| Module duration (total hours) | 200 | Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate): | Core BA (Hons) Education Studies |
|---|---|---|---|
| Scheduled learning & teaching hours | 36 | | |
| Independent study hours | 164 | | |
| Placement hours | N/A | | |

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

None

| Programme(s) in which to be offered: | BA (Hons) Education Studies | Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): | None |
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**Module Aims:**

The module aims to provide an opportunity for students to undertake a small-scale research project and to present their research findings in the form of a professional poster and abstract.

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**Expected Learning Outcomes**

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

Knowledge and Understanding:

1. Examine relationships between theory and practice in undertaking research.
2. Implement a range of subject-specific research skills and ethical procedures within a small-scale research project.
3. Critically interpret, evaluate and reflect upon a range of data in terms of their significance to and relationship with practice-based issues and professional development.
4. Analyse the findings from their research and present them in the form of a professional poster and abstract.
5. Reflect upon their own ideas regarding the value of research in the workplace.

Transferable/Key Skills and other attributes:

- critical thinking, reasoning and argument skills;
- problem-solving skills in a research context;
- analysis, critical reflection and evaluation;
- communication;
- working with others;
- presentation skills;
- scholarly activity to support development of own practice.

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

Students will complete a small-scale research project and present the findings from this in the style of a professional poster and abstract.

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| Assessment number | Learning Outcomes to be met | Type of assessment | Weighting | Duration (if exam) | Word count (or equivalent if appropriate) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 - 5 | Poster Presentation | 100% | | 4,000 |

**Learning and Teaching Strategies:**

The module will be delivered using an interactive, reflective approach drawing upon the experiences of the participants. The strategies to be adopted will include tutor directed sessions, workshops, investigations, seminars and supported self-study based on learners' own research. Peer learning and peer review are important aspects of this module. The use of the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) is also encouraged through interactive activities, forums and discussion groups.

**Syllabus outline:**

- relationships between theory and practice in a research context;
- the nature of a professional poster and abstract;
- reading for, planning and writing a professional poster;
- developing a research project;
- collecting research data: design and evaluation of primary research tools, including questionnaire, interview and observation;
- analysing and presenting research data;
- ethical issues and Glyndŵr University procedures associated with conducting research.

# Bibliography

**Essential Reading**

Bell, J. (2010), *Doing Your Research Project: A Guide for First-time Researchers in Education and Social Science.* Fifth Edition. Milton Keynes: Open University Press.

Blaxter, L., Hughes, C. and Tight, M. (2006), *How to Research.* Third Edition. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Denscombe, M. (2009), *Ground Rules for Social Research: Guidelines for Good Practice.* Second Edition. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

**Other indicative reading:**

Clough, P. and Nutbrown, C. (2007), *A Student's Guide to Methodology.* Second Edition. London: Sage Publications.

Cohen, L., Manion, L. and Morrison, K. (2007), *Research Methods in Education.* Sixth Edition. Abingdon: Routledge.

Costello, P.J.M. (2011), *Effective Action Research: Developing Reflective Thinking and Practice.* Second Edition. London: Continuum.

Denscombe, M. (2007), *The Good Research Guide for Small-scale Social research Projects.* Third Edition. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Kellett, M. (2010), *Rethinking Children and Research Attitudes in Contemporary Society.* London: Continuum.

Menter, I., Elliot, D., Hulme, M., Lewin, J. and Lowden, K. (2011), *A Guide to Practitioner Research in Education.* London: Sage Publications Ltd.

Robson, C. (2011), *Real World Research.* Third Edition. Oxford: Blackwell.

**Web sites:**

British Educational Research Association, (BERA), (2004), *Revised Ethical Guidelines for Educational Research.* Electronically available at:

http://www.bera.ac.uk/files/2008/09/ethica1.pdf

British Educational Research Association, (BERA), (2004), *Good Practice in Educational Research Writing.* Electronically available at: http://www.bera.ac.uk/files/2008/09/goodpr1.pdf

Department of Education and Training (2010), *Action Research in Education: Guidelines.* Second Edition. State of New South Wales: Department of Education and Training. Electronically available at: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/proflearn/docs/pdf/actreguide.pdf

Smith, M.K. (2007), 'Action research', *The Encyclopaedia of Informal Education.* Electronically available at:

http://www.infed.org/research/b-actres.htm Waters-Adams, S. (2006), 'Action research in education'. Electronically available at:

http://www.edu.plymouth.ac.uk/resined/actionresearch/arhome.htm