Module specification

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Module code	NAD 505
Module title	Research Methods
Level	5
Credit value	20
Faculty	Social and Life Sciences
HECoS Code	100744
Cost Code	GADT

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
BSc (Hons) Nutrition and Dietetics	Core

Pre-requisites

N/A

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	**30** hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	170 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	**200** hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	31/8/22
With effect from date	September 2023
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1

Module aims

To equip students with skills required to locate and critically analyse research.

To enable understanding of the essential processes involved when conducting good scientific research;

To expose students to the importance of ethical and sustainable development considerations when conducting research in any discipline

To develop knowledge and understanding of key statistical methods used in nutrition research.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Consider a range of information retrieval systems in order to access primary and secondary literature for writing a research proposal.
2	Evaluate the fundamental principles of experimental design and critically apply different methods of problem solving in research.
3	Identify appropriate research methods to answer a subject-specific research problem, including the appropriate use, and critical appraisal, of qualitative and quantitative research.
4	Make effective use of IT, including SPSS and other software packages to demonstrate competence in analysing both quantitative and qualitative data;

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.

Assessment 1: Online statistical analysis test (1 hour)

Assessment 2: Research proposal (2500 words)

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	4	In-class test	20%
2	1-3	Coursework	80%

Derogations

A minimum grade of 40% must be achieved in all assessment components in order to pass the module and progress to level 6.

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The Active Learning Framework (ALF) will be utilised in the delivery of this module through synchronous and asynchronous content. It will consist of lectures, seminars, interactive online content, practical demonstrations and activities. Practical sessions provide the opportunity to gain experience with different population groups across a range of settings and will support lectures, enabling students to develop applied skills and foster creativity and innovation through the sharing of ideas.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

The module will cover the following indicative content:

Research methodology and applied research

The principles of epidemiology and the methods of applying descriptive and analytical epidemiology to dietetic practice.

Experimental and non-experimental design

Role and use of audit in evaluating outcomes

Systematic & Literature review

Research ethics, health and safety, and issues of sustainability in research

The regulations surrounding person identifiable information including: legislation, regulatory guidance, protocols and individual responsibility governing the security, confidentiality and sharing of information.

Common issues in the research process – including researcher bias

Proposal writing

Data analysis - qualitative and quantitative (SPSS)

Indicative Bibliography:

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

Essential Reads

Field, A. (2017*). Discovering Statistics Using IBM SPSS*. 5th ed. Los Angeles. Sage.

Nelson, M. (2020). *Statistics in Nutrition and Dietetics*. Wiley, Blackwell.

Other indicative reading

Holmes, D., Moody, P., & Dine. D., Truenman, L. (2017). *Research Methods for the Biosciences*. (3rd ed.) Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Lovegrove, J.A., Hodson, L., Sharma, S., Lanham-New, S., (2015). *Nutrition Research Methodologies*. Wiley, Blackwell.

Employability skills – the Glyndŵr Graduate

Each module and programme is designed to cover core Glyndŵr Graduate Attributes with the aim that each Graduate will leave Glyndŵr having achieved key employability skills as part of their study. The following attributes will be covered within this module either through the content or as part of the assessment. The programme is designed to cover all attributes and each module may cover different areas.

Core Attributes
Engaged
Creative
Ethical

Key Attitudes
Commitment
Curiosity
Resilience
Confidence
Adaptability

Practical Skillsets
Digital Fluency
Organisation
Critical Thinking
Communication