

MODULE SPECIFICATION PROFORMA

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PRIFYSGOL GLYNDŴR WRECSAM
GLYNDŴR UNIVERSITY WREXHAM

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: Research Methods	Level: 7	Credit Value: 20
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Module code: PSY702	Cost Centre: GAPS	JACS2 code*: C831
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Module code: (if known)	Semester(s) in which to be offered: 1 F/T 2 P/T	With effect from: Sept 2011
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Existing/New: New	Title of module being replaced (if any):
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Originating Subject: Psychology	Module Leader: Dr Emyr Williams
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Module duration (contact hours/ directed/directed private study):	80 hours private study, 80 hours directed learning including on-line engagement, 20 hours peer group study (via VLE forums) 20 hours taught (via email and Moodle). Total 200 hours.	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate):	Core
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Percentage taught by Subjects other than originating Subject (please name other Subjects):	None
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Programme(s) in which to be offered:	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels):	Co-requisites per programme (within a level):
MSc Psychology of Religion	None	None

Module Aims:

- to introduce, and to build on students' knowledge of, research methods used within the psychology of religion;
- to equip students with a critical understanding of research methodologies, and the research methods underpinning those;
- to equip student to critically appraise research methodologies;
- to prepare students to carry out their own research analysis.

Expected Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and Understanding:

1. Discuss critically the use of different methods and methodologies for research.;
2. Demonstrate appropriate use of quantitative and/or qualitative research methods within the psychology of religion;
3. Be conversant with computer software for quantitative data analysis e.g. SPSS;
4. Discuss critically the interpretation of findings and implications of data analysis.

Transferable/Key Skills and other attributes:

Numeric skills

Interpretation skills

Competent and confident discussion and debating skills

Critical thinking skills

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

1. Project proposal
2. Mini-research project

All assessment to be agreed with module leader/tutor.

Assessment	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count or equivalent if appropriate
1	1, 2, 3, 4	Coursework portfolio	100%		4,000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

A variety of teaching and learning strategies will be adopted included directed reading, on-line discussions, on-line tutorials, self-directed learning, and formative assessment.

Feedback from weekly engagement exercises

Feedback from formative assessment.

e-mail support – as required

telephone support – as required
VLE forums – throughout the course
Moodle/Adobeconnect directed learning – throughout the course

Syllabus outline:

Paradigms of Research
Experimental and quasi-experimental design
Utilising questionnaires in research
Interviews, focus groups and observations
Data analysis and the SPSS environment
Psychometrics and Probability Theory
ANOVAs and ANCOVAs
Regressions in research
Ethical considerations
Writing your Research Proposal

Bibliography

Essential reading:

Field, A. (2009). *Discovering statistics using SPSS*. (3rd ed). London: Sage. (5 copies: Class mark 519.5 FIE)

Loewenthal, K.M. (2001). *An introduction to psychological tests and scales*. Sussex: Psychological Press (1 copy: Class mark ordered)

Swinton, J., & Mowett, H. (2006). *Practical theology and qualitative research*. London: SCM Press. (on order)

Recommended reading:

Clark-Carter, D. (2004). *Quantitative psychological research*. Hove: Psychology Press. (3 copies: Class mark 150.72 CLA. Also available as an e-book)

Journals

Journal of mixed methods research (via ATLA from 2007)
Qualitative research QR (via ATLA from 2001)