Module specification

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Module code	PSY763
Module title	Applied Research Methods
Level	7
Credit value	30
Faculty	FSLS
HECoS Code	100493
Cost Code	GAPS

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
MRes Psychology	Core

Pre-requisites

N/A

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	36 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	**36** hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	264 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	300 hrs

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Initial approval date	21/07/2021
With effect from date	01/09/2021

Module spec template 2020-2021

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Date and details of revision	
Version number	1

Module aims

This module aims to provide students with the knowledge and confidence to approach, quantitative and qualitative analyses in the context of applied research methods at an advanced level. The module will provide students with a brief overview of historical, philosophical and ethical issues with coverage of advanced aspects of statistical inference, evidence appraisal, research design, and practical issues in a variety of research contexts.

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

1	Critically discuss the philosophical approaches to research and inference, and apply them to applied psychological enquiry.
2	Analyse and interpret data from a variety of research settings at an advanced level
3	Critically appraise research methods and methodology applied to a range of psychological research topics
4	Demonstrate ethical awareness and understanding in relation to psychological research.

Assessment

Indicative assessments for this module are as follows:

Portfolio: A series of weekly tasks that focus on the development of critical appraisal and analysis skills, following the programme of study for this module (2500 words)

Written Assessment: Critical appraisal of a research method or a published/pre-printed article assigned at random. (2500 words)

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1, 2, 3, 4	Portfolio	50
2	1, 3, 4	Written Assignment	50

Derogations

The pass rate for this module is 50%.

Learning and Teaching Strategies

Students will receive weekly lectures (2hours), followed by a weekly activity (1hour) such as a seminar or practical workshop (e.g. a critical discussion on a research paper, the collection of data, practical demonstration of psychological testing equipment). Students will also learn via self-directed study through independent reading and the completion of assignments. Individual tutorials will be available to students as an additional point of contact if requested by the student.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Quantitative Methods: ethical and philosophical approaches to statistical analysis (e.g., frequentist, Bayesian, Likelihoods), questionnaire design and psychometrics, power, equivalence testing, general linear model and extensions of these techniques, and other more advanced approaches appropriate for applied research.
- Qualitative Methods: qualitative philosophy, interview schedules, observation practices, focus groups, thematic analysis, phenomenology, interpretative phenomenological analysis, grounded theory, narrative analysis.
- Experimental Enquiry: experimental design and relevant software/skills, psychology lab tour, experimental neuropsychology research.
- The nature and practice of mixed methods.
- The role of ethics in research.
- Publishing and professional research practice.

Indicative Bibliography:

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

Essential Reads

Brough, P. (2019). *Advanced Research Methods for Applied Psychology: Design, Analysis and Reporting.* Routledge.

Other indicative reading

British Psychological Society. (2018). BPS Code of Ethics and Conduct. BPS British Psychological Society. (2017).

Ethics Guidelines for Internet-Mediated Research. BPS

Smith, J.A. (2015). Qualitative Psychology: A Practical Guide to Research Methods. SAGE Smith, J.A,

Flowers, P & Larkin, M. (2009). Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis: Theory, Method, and Research.

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
Enterprising
Creative
Ethical

Key Attitudes
Commitment
Curiosity
Resilience
Confidence
Adaptability

Practical Skillsets
Digital Fluency
Organisation
Leadership and Team working
Critical Thinking
Emotional Intelligence
Communication