

Module specification

When printed this becomes an uncontrolled document. Please access the **Module Directory** for the most up to date version by clicking on the following link: [Module directory](#)

Refer to guidance notes for completion of each section of the specification.

Module Code	PSY776
Module Title	Research in Psychology 2
Level	7
Credit value	20
Faculty	Social and Life Sciences
HECoS Code	100497
Cost Code	GAPS

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
MSc Psychology (conversion)	Core

Pre-requisites

None

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	8.5 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	8.5 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	191.5 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs



For office use only	
Initial approval date	15 th May 2024
With effect from date	September 2024
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1

Module aims

The module will build on the knowledge and understanding gained during Research in Psychology 1 of the different approaches to data analysis within psychological research. Students will develop a critical understanding of further approaches to data analysis within psychological research. Students will build on their already working knowledge of the different approaches to data analysis, considering both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. Students will gain practical data analysis skills and develop confidence in knowing what analysis method is appropriate given the research question posed. The module will enable students to acquire an appreciation of the strengths and limitations of these different approaches, including both parametric and non-parametric methods. The module will enable students to use the knowledge already gained from the previous research methods module to critically evaluate both the philosophical underpinnings of research methods as well as the different methods and methodologies used within research.

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

1	Critically evaluate the use of different methods and methodologies and apply this to peer reviewed journal articles.
2	Evaluate the interpretation of findings and implications of data analysis,
3	Critically synthesise interpretation of data analysis with relevant literature.
4	Analyse and interpret data using both qualitative and quantitative methods.
5	Critically evaluate the philosophical underpinnings of research methods in psychology

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.



1. Written Assignment – 1,500-word Critical Appraisal of a journal article focused on methodology and method

2. Portfolio – Students will be required to work through a portfolio of tasks that will demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of both qualitative and quantitative data analysis methods and practical research skills. Tasks included in this assessment may comprise elements such as:

Analysing given data using quantitative methods such as ANOVA and Regression, Analysing given data using qualitative methods such as narrative analysis and IPA. Provide research design's that would answer research questions utilising, observation, experimental and questionnaire designs. Explore non-parametric alternatives. Design research that would answer research questions utilising grounded theory, IPA and discourse analysis. Provide interpretation of findings and synthesise these with existing literature. Critically evaluate the philosophical underpinnings of research methods.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1	Written Assignment	40
2	2,3,4,5	Portfolio	60

Derogations

None

Learning and Teaching Strategies

A variety of teaching and learning strategies will be adopted in this module including lectures, tutorials, case studies, workshops, and directed and self-directed learning. The University's Active Learning Framework (ALF) is embedded with asynchronous and synchronous teaching, which supports the blended learning nature of this module. Students will also learn by engaging in remote discussions via forums on the VLE (Moodle), accessing webinars/presentations/recorded lectures shared by the module leader, and completing independent reading into the topic.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Principles of additional approaches to qualitative analysis i.e., IPA, narrative analysis, discourse analysis and grounded theory
- Observation design
- Questionnaire design
- Experimental design
- Ethical and practical considerations when conducting research
- Research Management
- Experience of collecting naturally occurring data and conducting appropriate analysis
- Exploratory Factor Analysis
- Scale constructs



- Inferential statistics i.e. ANOVA and Regression
- Non-parametric alternatives
- Revisiting the philosophical underpinnings of research methods

Indicative Bibliography:

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

Essential Reads

Banyard, P., Dillon, G., Norman, C., & Winder, B. (Eds.). (2024). *Essential Psychology* (4th ed.). SAGE.

Field, A. (2024). *Discovering statistics using IBM SPSS statistics* (6th ed.). SAGE.

Sullivan, C., & Forrester, M. A. (Eds.). (2018). *Doing qualitative research in psychology: A practical guide* (2nd ed.). SAGE.

Willig, C. (2022). *Introducing qualitative research in psychology* (4th ed.). Open University Press.

Other indicative reading

Bourne, V. (2017). *Starting out in methods and statistics for psychology: A hands-on guide to doing research*. Oxford University Press.

Braun, V. & Clarke, V. (2013). *Successful qualitative research: A practical guide for beginners*. SAGE.

Clark-Carter, D. (2024). *Quantitative psychological research: The complete student's companion* (5th ed.). Psychology Press.

Horst, J.S., (2015). *The psychology research companion: From student project to working life*. Routledge.

Some resources through the medium of Welsh can be found at www.porth.ac.uk, which is the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol resource portal.

