

**MODULE SPECIFICATION**

<b>Part 1: Information</b>			
Module Title	Researching Crime and Society		
Module Code	UZSY7F-15-1	Level	1
For implementation from	September 2018		
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5
Faculty	Health and Applied Sciences	Field	Sociology and Criminology
Department	Health and Social Sciences		
Contributes towards	BA (Hons) Criminology BA (Hons) Criminology with Foundation Year		
Module type:	Project		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

<b>Part 2: Description</b>
<p>This module provides a grounding in the link between theory and research, and introduces students to the key research strategies that underpin criminological research. It aims to equip students with a foundational understanding of the distinction between quantitative and qualitative research methodologies and methods of data collection. Students will learn about designing social research, the ethical considerations involved in conducting social research, and the appropriateness of a range of data collection methods as applied to different criminological problems. This provides students with a framework for engagement with the module 'Nature and Use of Research' at Level 2, as well as their dissertation at Level 3. The main topics that will be covered by this module would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Research Process</li> <li>• Ways of 'knowing' and understanding the social world: Ontology(ies) and Epistemology(ies)</li> <li>• Quantitative and Qualitative Methodologies</li> <li>• Surveys and Questionnaires</li> <li>• Interviewing</li> <li>• Focus groups</li> <li>• Observation</li> <li>• Secondary data analysis</li> <li>• Content analysis</li> <li>• Participatory action research</li> <li>• Case studies</li> <li>• Sampling methods</li> <li>• Research Ethics</li> </ul>

**Part 3: Assessment**

The assessment for this module comprises a portfolio of work that includes:

1. 2 x 500words summaries of the students' learning experiences from seminar sessions (such as a particular research approach or method). This will be both formative and summative in nature. Students will be able to submit a number of reflections throughout the semester, for which they will receive feedback. Students can then act upon this feedback and then resubmit two reflections of their choice (40%). (Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5).
2. 1200words case study evaluation. Students will be asked to consider the appropriateness of, or develop an appropriate approach and design for, a piece of research as set out in the case study provided (60%). (Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5).

The assessment strategy for this module was selected in order to contribute to the development of key L1 skills and module learning outcomes, and to contribute to the diversity of assessment methods on the programme as a whole. The module adheres to the UWE Academic Regulations and Assessment Cycle Policy, and assessment and feedback will form a critical aspect of the students learning process in line with UWE's Assessment Cycle Policy and will follow UWE's inclusivity guidance. As the case studies are individualised each assessment will unique to students

Identify final timetabled piece of assessment  
(component and element)

**Component A**

**% weighting between components A and B** (Standard modules only)

**A:****100%****B:****First Sit**

**Component A** (controlled conditions)

**Description of each element**

1. 2 x 500 word Session Summaries  
A 1200 word Case Study Evaluation

**Element weighting**  
(as % of component)

40%

60%

**Component B**

**Description of each element**

N.A.

**Element weighting**  
(as % of component)

**Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)**

**Component A** (controlled conditions)

**Description of each element**

1. 2 x 500 word Session Summaries  
A 1200 word Case Study Evaluation

**Element weighting**  
(as % of component)

40%

60%

**Component B**

**Description of each element**


**Element weighting**  
(as % of component)

**Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods**

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

1. Understand and distinguish between a range of quantitative and qualitative research strategies and methods of data collection (Components A element 2).
2. Recognise the strengths and weaknesses of using different research strategies and data collection methods in gaining criminological knowledge (Components A

	<p>element 2).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Consider the applicability of relevant research methodologies and apply these appropriately to different criminological problems (Components A element 2).</li> <li>4. Understand the ethical dimensions of research into criminological problems and identify ethically appropriate action when conducting research (Components A element 2).</li> <li>5. Demonstrate the ability to synthesise and summarise key topic areas relating to research methods and methodology (Components A element 1).</li> </ol>																
<p>Key Information Sets Information (KIS)</p> <p>Contact Hours</p> <p>Total Assessment</p>	<p><b>Key Information Set - Module data</b></p> <p>Number of credits for this module <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">15</span></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="520 730 1294 925"> <thead> <tr> <th>Hours to be allocated</th> <th>Scheduled learning and teaching study hours</th> <th>Independent study hours</th> <th>Placement study hours</th> <th>Allocated Hours</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>150</td> <td>36</td> <td>114</td> <td>0</td> <td>150</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>The module is based on a combination of lectures, seminars and workshops equating to a minimum of 36 hours over 12 weeks.</p> <p>The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a;</p> <p><b>Coursework:</b> Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project or in class test</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="628 1238 1324 1467"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Total assessment of the module:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Coursework assessment percentage</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours	150	36	114	0	150	Total assessment of the module:		Coursework assessment percentage	100%		100%
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<p>Reading List</p>	<p><a href="https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/7FE12906-DDA8-0641-68E4-184968209F7C.html">https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/7FE12906-DDA8-0641-68E4-184968209F7C.html</a></p> <p><b>Key Textbooks</b></p> <p>Bachman, R. and Schutt, RK. (2016). <i>The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice (6<sup>th</sup> Ed)</i>, London: Sage.</p> <p>Barbour, R. (2014). <i>Introducing Qualitative Research (2nd Ed)</i>, London: Sage.</p> <p>Bryman, A. (2015). <i>Social Research Methods (5<sup>th</sup> Ed)</i>, London: Sage.</p> <p>Chamberlain, JM. (2013). <i>Understanding Criminological Research: A Guide to Data Analysis</i>, London: Sage.</p> <p>Crowther-Dowey, C. and Fussey, P. (2013). <i>Researching Crime: Approaches, Methods and Application</i>, Hampshire: Palgrave.</p> <p>Davies, P., Francis, P. and Jupp, V. (2011). <i>Doing Criminological Research (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed)</i>,</p>																

London: Sage.

Denscombe, M. (2014) *The Good Research Guide (5th Ed)*, Buckingham: Open University Press.

Flick, U. (2009). *An Introduction to Qualitative Research (4th Ed)*, London: Sage.

Frankfort-Nachmias, C., Nachmias, D. and DeWaard, J. (2014). *Research Methods in the Social Sciences (8th Ed)*, Hampshire: Palgrave.

Gadd, D., Karstedt, S. and Messner, SF. (2012). *The Sage Handbook of Criminological Research Methods*, London: Sage.

Gilbert, N. (2008). *Researching Social Life (3rd Ed)*, London: Sage.

Hagan, FE. (2014). *Research Methods in Criminal Justice and Criminology (9th Ed)*, Essex: Pearson.

Jacobsen, MH. (ed) (2014). *The Poetics of Crime: Understanding and Researching Crime and Deviance through Creative Sources*, Oxford: Routledge.

King, R. and Wincup, E. (eds.) (2000). *Doing Research in Crime and Justice*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Maxfield, M. G. and Babbie, E. (2017). *Research Methods for Criminal Justice and Criminology (7th Ed)*, California: Wadsworth Publishing.

Noaks, L. and Wincup, E. (2004). *Criminological Research: Understanding Qualitative Methods*, London: Sage.

Seale, C. (2011). *Researching Society and Culture (3rd Ed)*, London: Sage.

Tewksbury, R. and Mustaine, EE. (2004). *Controversies in Criminal Justice Research*, London: Routledge.

Walliman, N. (2016). *Social Research Methods: The Essentials*, London: Sage.

Westmarland, L. (2011). *Researching Crime and Justice: Tales from the Field*, Oxford: Routledge.

Withrow, B. (2013). *Research Methods in Crime and Justice*, London: Routledge.

Wincup, E. (2017). *Criminological Research: Understanding Qualitative Methods (2nd Ed)*, London: Sage.

### **Key Journals**

*Cultural Studies - Critical Methodologies*

*Forum Qualitative Sozialforschung / Forum: Qualitative Social Research*

*International Journal of Social Research Methodology*

*Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice Research and Education*

*Journal of Mixed Methods Research*

*Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice & Criminology*

*Ethnography*

*Methodology: European Journal of Research Methods for the Behavioral and Social Sciences*

*Sociological Methodology*

*Sociological Methods & Research*

*Sociological Research Online*

*Qualitative Inquiry*

*Qualitative Research*

*Qualitative Research Journal*

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