



Module Specification

Preparing for Doctoral Study

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Preparing for Doctoral Study

Module code: UTLGY4-15-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2021-22

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

Department: ACE Dept of Education and Childhood

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Frenchay Campus

Field: Secondary Education and Lifelong Learning

Module type: Standard

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module is intended to introduce students to a range of threshold concepts within social research. This may inform their methodological positions and their research decision making process as they progress through the degree. With students on the programme coming from all around the world, it is also paramount to ensure that the expectations of the programme are established, and that the foundations of knowledge required are delivered consistently to all students. In

addition, the module also aims to be a starting point in the development of cohort identity and assuring that students are able to share their professional and academic backgrounds with the group. The module is designed to deliver the fundamental principles to engage with the rest of the course and formally introduce the structure of the summer school.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: To support students to independently identify and critically engage with relevant examples of approaches to research.

To enable students to engage with different approaches to research, and their underlying philosophical assumptions, positionality and bias.

To support students to identify and critically engage with relevant examples of research/literature.

Outline syllabus: Students will be engaging with different perspectives on research design and methodologies.

This will include research time planning, conducting a literature review and using UWE Harvard referencing, ontological and epistemological knowledge debates. Students will engage with the research design process, including designing research questions, access and sampling.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Students will engage with a range of synchronous and asynchronous resources, including a study skills workbook.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Explain, and evaluate, the research design and methodological approach of examples of research.

MO2 Articulate a developing critical understanding of philosophical debates within approaches to research.

MO3 Identify and analyse relevant examples of research, considering views, context and methodology which drive education research.

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 120 hours

Face-to-face learning = 30 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: One component

A (100%)

2,500 word essay

This will enable the teaching team to help students to write at doctoral level - and to identify/signpost study skills support where necessary.

Assessment components:

Written Assignment - Component A (First Sit)

Description: 2,500 word essay

A 2,500 word essay providing a critical examination of a methodological research paper. Papers can be selected from the suggested module list or you may select your own paper and agree this with your module tutor. Your examination should identify and evaluate information relating to the study's philosophical assumptions,

methodology and research design. You should consider how contextual factors, such as intended audience, may have influenced this and utilise understanding of research paradigms to consider the potential for alternative approaches and quality criteria.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Written Assignment - Component A (Resit)

Description: 2,500 word essay

Critically examine an example of a methodological research paper, including engagement and interrogation of the threshold concepts introduced in the module.

For example:

- Philosophical assumptions
- Research Design
- Bias
- Positionality
- Context
- Quality Criteria

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Doctor of Education (International) [Apr][PT][4yrs] EdD 2021-22

