



Module Specification

Evidence Based Research Project

Version: 2024-25, v2.0, 19 Jul 2023

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Evidence Based Research Project

Module code: UZSYGB-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2024-25

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Sociology and Criminology

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: An opportunity for learners to demonstrate research skills and proficiency in academic writing in a topic relevant to Policing.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module will build on knowledge acquired across students' degree programme allowing them to demonstrate a systematic understanding of key aspects of policing and situate this in relation to an evidence-based research project.

It will allow students to evidence that they can identify and develop an appropriate problem or question in the discipline area, design and carry out a project drawing on appropriate methodologies, deploy established techniques of analysis and enquiry relevant to Evidence-based Policing (EBP), and demonstrate critical and conceptual skills in the analysis of the project findings. In doing, so the module will enable students to demonstrate that they have a comprehensive understanding of Policing as relevant to the 21st Century context and that they can apply this learning to modern Policing issues.

Through completion of this independent piece of work, students will demonstrate qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment both as a Police Constable, but also in other contexts. This includes the ability to exercise initiative and personal organisational skills', to engage in decision making in dynamic contexts and to critically evaluate and synthesise complex information. Students will also demonstrate the learning ability needed to undertake appropriate further training of a professional or equivalent nature, which will be particularly relevant for those seeking operational Policing roles, where EBP practices are now an expectation.

Outline syllabus: CoP Curriculum:

Research Methods:

4 Demonstrate a structured approach to studying, writing essays and referencing content

4.1 Critical reading, thinking and writing skills

4.2 Answering problem questions

4.3 Listening and note-taking skills

4.4 Appropriate referencing

4.5 Academic misconduct (e.g. plagiarism)

5 Review and assess literature and case law in order to develop critical arguments and draw conclusions

5.1 Academic writing

5.2 Effective reading

- 5.3 Research of relevant undergraduate literature
- 5.4 Critiquing literature
- 5.5 Developing critical analysis and argument
- 5.6 Communication and presentation skills
- 7 Apply key concepts in relation to models of learning and reflective practice
 - 7.1 Learning styles
 - 7.2 Critical thinking
 - 7.3 Models of learning
 - 7.4 Reflective practice
- 9 Demonstrate autonomy, as well as accountability and working with others, in a study skills context
 - 9.1 Personal responsibility
 - 9.2 Effective independent and confident self-directed learning
 - 9.3 Working with others, including working in teams (action learning sets)
- 10 Demonstrate proficiency in academic writing and presentation, in accordance with ethical protocols
 - 10.1 Academic writing
 - 10.2 Critiquing literature
 - 10.3 Developing critical analysis and argument
 - 10.4 Working in teams
 - 10.5 Communication and presentation skills
 - 10.6 Create a sound research question, based on critical reading of appropriate literature and research
 - 10.7 Develop a proposal for research to explore the nature, extent and causes of the issue/problem, including:
 - Research aims and questions
 - Consideration of different research designs
 - Strengths and weakness of different research methods
 - Project management details (e.g. timescales, resources)
- 12 Apply quantitative and qualitative research techniques, including the interpretation of data
 - 12.1 Analysis of quantitative and qualitative data
 - 12.2 Numerical and statistical information gathering
- 13 Present research on the identified issue/problem and proposals for tackling it

13.1 Writing a summary of the research project, including:

- Background to the research
- Previous literature
- Research questions and methods
- Evidence of critical analysis, argument and discussion
- Conclusions and proposals arising from critical analysis

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Students will be expected to engage in substantial and focused independent work in this module in order to complete their project. This will be supported by an allocated academic supervisor alongside a combination of lectures, seminars, and workshops which will focus on topics such as literature searches and bibliographies, ethical issues, research methods and methodologies, dissemination, and employability

Our interactive, student facing pedagogy should be fully realised within this module as students will be encouraged to lead the learning process as relevant to their skills, expertise, and project needs. In addition, appropriate use will be made of online resources and learning environments with the project building directly on the research proposal submitted at level 5 (during Year 2 studies).

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

MO1 Demonstrate a well-founded knowledge of the discipline area and its methodologies through all stages of the project.

MO2 Plan and execute a project as an independent piece of work within a specified timespan and, if relevant to the project type, in an ethical fashion.

MO3 Interpret and critically evaluate the project findings within an appropriate body of literature, identifying the strengths and limitations of the work as well as providing relevant recommendations or strategies for improved practice.

MO4 Demonstrate knowledge of what Evidence-based Policing (EBP) is in relation to problem solving criminology and crime prevention, and clearly communicate the value of an evidence-based approach to the policing context.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Lectorials = 72 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/F207E7D7-FE41-7A4C-4531-77D1FFC7A915.html?lang=en-GB&login=1>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Summative assessment for this module will be a 10,000-word research project (up to 8,000 words written report plus references and any additional appendices e.g. ethics approval, interview schedule, survey questions).

The evidence-based research project will evidence the cumulative knowledge developed throughout the degree programme in the format of an original piece of research. In this module students are working independently with the support of an academic supervisor to develop and undertake valuable research which should engage with relevant literature on their chosen topic. It specifically builds on the learning and assessment in the level 5 analysing policing trends module which provides students with a foundation in a range of research design approaches and skills, which they are able to put into practice within the context of this assessment. Formative assessment on their work and progress will be provided by the supervisor and within seminar settings.

Formative assessment of learning will take place during scheduled teaching building on content taught and independent study tasks. Methods comprise of workshops,

question and answer sessions, group discussions and debates, in-class knowledge checks, and work products as produced. Additional formative support will be provided in study skills workshops on research, literature reviews, creation of abstracts, and referencing.

Assessment tasks:**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: 8,000-word dissertation

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: 8,000-word dissertation

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Professional Policing [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23