



Module Specification

Organisational Investigation

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Organisational Investigation

Module code: USPJMN-45-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 45

ECTS credit rating: 22.5

College: College of Health, Science & Society

School: CHSS School of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Psychology

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: This module aims to equip students to conduct an applied piece of original research around a business and organisational psychology related issue.

Features: This module is run as part of the Business and Organisational Psychology MSc. It is designed for blended learning delivery.

Educational aims: This module aims to blend theory with research practice and prepare students for work as a business and organisational psychologist by

understanding more about the key elements of psychological theory and research in an organisational context. It will include topics such as:

Conducting research.

Methods of analysis.

Dissemination of research.

Potential for publication.

Outline syllabus: The module content will typically include:

Specialist area of study within business and organisational psychology selected by the student with the advice of a supervisor with expertise in the psychological/business research methods being used as well as some expertise in the topic of research;

Research methods advice appropriate to the selected area of study;

Understanding and adhering to relevant ethical codes of conduct;

Understanding and adhering to best practice for communicating research.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module will include one-to-one supervision and face-to-face workshops.

Scheduled learning: Each student will be allocated a dissertation supervisor. Supervision will be on an individual basis or in groups, depending on the project. A programme of regular supervision sessions will be planned with each student who will be encouraged to prepare work for discussion at each meeting. Once the research question and protocol are established a research timetable will be agreed with each student.

Access to dissertation resources will be provided online for the students to engage with at their own pace, which will include coverage around particular aspects of the research process, including applying for University Ethics approval, approaches, data analysis and research communication, as appropriate.

Independent learning: students will be expected to carry out a literature review in their chosen research area, to read widely in this area, to plan and design an appropriate research project, to obtain ethical approval for their research, to undertake their research (in keeping with relevant ethical codes of conduct) and to communicate their research in the form of a written dissertation.

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

MO1 Critically apply the principal research traditions and approaches in business and organisational psychology research.

MO2 Conceptualise a research problem in the field of business and organisational psychology and devise an appropriate research strategy.

MO3 Show a critical appreciation of the theory and empirical research relevant to the topic area.

MO4 Effectively collect data using quantitative and/or qualitative methods based on a critical analysis of the strengths and limitations of these methods.

MO5 Analyse rigorously and synthesise different sources of data to reach well-supported conclusions.

MO6 Produce a written report of the research demonstrating an in depth understanding of the chosen area of study.

Hours to be allocated: 450

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 414 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 0

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/29C6024E-1B19-FD82-6099-B07A0CCC1AAB.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/29C6024E-1B19-FD82-6099-B07A0CCC1AAB.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The module will be assessed directly through summative assessment of the design, conduct and presentation of an original research project in the form of i) a research proposal (weighted 5%) and ii) a dissertation portfolio (weighted 95%) consisting of a maximum 8,000-word (word count excludes reference list and appendices) write up of the project dissertation and may comprise one or more separate pieces of work within the portfolio (e.g., presentation slides, reflections - the constituents of the portfolio will be stated in the module handbook). Students will receive one mark for the research proposal and one mark for the portfolio.

Formative assessment is provided from the start of the module through the consideration of research ideas and journal articles identified. Formative assessment may also include presentation of research ideas. The dissertation supervisor during the dissertation phase will provide continuous formative assessment.

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Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: A research proposal outlining design of research project.

Weighting: 5 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Dissertation (First Sit)

Description: Dissertation portfolio consisting of a maximum 8,000-word write up of the project dissertation and may comprise one or more separate pieces of work within the portfolio (stated in the module handbook).

Weighting: 95 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: A research proposal outlining design of research project.

Weighting: 5 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Dissertation (Resit)

Description: Dissertation (8000 words).

Weighting: 95 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Business and Organisational Psychology [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26