

University of the West of England

Module Specification

Revised December 2009

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|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Title | Criminological Research and Investigation |
| New Code | UZSNMW-30-2 |
| Version | 5 |
| Versions | |
| Last Updated | 17/02/2011 11:27:20 |
| Level | 2 |
| UWE Credit Rating | 30 |
| ECTS Credit Rating | 15 |
| Module Type | Project |
| Module Leader | MCCARTAN, K |
| Module Leaders - Additional | There are no additional module leaders |
| Owning Faculty | Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, Health and Social Care |
| Faculty Committee approval | HSC Quality and Standards Committee |
| Faculty Committee approval Date | 16/06/2011 00:00:00 |
| Approved for Delivery by | |
| Field | Health and Applied Social Sciences |
| Field Leader | Billie Oliver |
| Valid From | 01/09/2011 00:00:00 |
| Discontinued From | |
| Pre-requisites | None |
| Co-requisites | None |
| Entry requirements: | None |
| Excluded combinations | 'Social Investigation and Measurement' and 'Social Investigation and Interpretation'. |
| Module Handbooks | |
| Learning Outcomes | |

demonstrate:

1. An understanding of the different approaches to research in criminology (Component A part A & B of the portfolio).
2. A critical grasp of a range of important contemporary topics or themes of research in the field of criminology and criminal justice (component A – the complete portfolio).
3. An understanding of how research methods provide the tools to study theoretical positions in real world settings (component A The complete portfolio, but particularly part c).
4. How to plan, execute and write up a piece of research (Component A part C of the portfolio).

Syllabus Outline

This module will include a range of workshops (which where appropriate will be based around the course work element) covering areas of research methods and issues in criminology:

- What is research? (Including an introduction to research methods & research themes in criminology; types of methodology used in criminology; critical analysis; ethics; designing a research proposal)
- Quantitative research methods in criminology (including Survey and questionnaire building; Analysis quantitative data: SPSS 1 (incl. correlation; chi sq; t-tests); Writing up quantitative research)
- Qualitative research methods (including Literature based research; Reflection; Interviews; Analysis quantitative data; Writing up Qualitative research)
- Mixed methods research (Including Triangulation & Evaluation based research)
- There is also the allowance for guest lecture provision where necessary.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The module will be taught through weekly 2 hour workshops. Each week the students will be taught research methods through an applicable and hands on approach, whereby they will read preliminary material (book chapter and/or research paper) and then attend the workshop where they will work, separately or collectively, through material prepared by the lecturer. Electronic media such as SPSS, Blackboard discussion groups, UWE blackboard, email will also be utilised

Reading Strategy

Students will be required to read at least one book chapter or journal article to prepare for each workshop. The readings will be geared around them being able to competently and comprehensively carry out the practical aspects of the workshops and build towards to coursework. Where appropriate, book chapters will be digitised and made available through Blackboard and recommended journal articles will be available electronically through the UWE library. As there is a strong element of student-led learning (through the research

portfolio), students will be expected to identify relevant sources for those topics they elect to study in more detail. They will therefore be encouraged to use the library catalogue, bibliographic and full text databases and internet resources.

Indicative Reading List: (see guidance notes)

The following list is offered to provide validation panels/accrediting bodies with an indication of the type and level of information students may be expected to consult. As such, its currency may wane during the life span of the module specification. However, as indicated above, CURRENT advice on readings will be available via other more frequently updated mechanisms.

Bryman, A (2008), *Social Research Methods, 3rd Edition* Oxford University Press.

Flick, U (2006), *An introduction to qualitative research, 3rd edition*. London: Sage Publications.

Jupp, V , Davies, P, & Francis, P (2000), *Doing Criminological Research*. Sage: London.

King, R D & Wincup, E (2008), *Doing research on Crime and Justice, 2nd Edition* Oxford University Press.

Pallant, J (2007), *SPSS survival manual, 3rd edition* McGraw Hill.

Ritchie, J & Lewis, Y (2004), *Qualitative Research Practice* London: Sage.

Robson, C (2011), *Real world research, 3rd Edition* Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.

Assessment

Where necessary, and appropriate, an alternative medium of assessment may be negotiated.

Weighting between components A and B (standard modules only) A:100 % B:%

Final Assessment: Component A Element 3 Component A Element 3

Attempt 1

First Assessment Opportunity (Sit)

Component A

| Element | Description | Element Weighting |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | 3000 word Quantitative research methods report based on practical, empirical research | 40% |
| 2 | 3000 word Quantitative research methods report based on practical, empirical research | 40% |

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|---|------------------------------------------|-----|
| 3 | 1000 word Dissertation research overview | 20% |
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Second Assessment Opportunity (ReSit)

Attendance is not required

Component A

| Element | Description | Element Weighting |
|----------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 3000 word Quantitative essay | 40% |
| 2 | 3000 word Quantitative essay | 40% |
| 3 | 1000 word Dissertation research overview | 20% |

Exceptional Second Attempt (Retake)

Attendance is not required