MODULE SPECIFICATION PROFORMA

Module Code:	PSY508

Module Title:	Intermediate Research Methods

Level:	5	**Credit Value:**	20

Cost Centre(s):	GAPS	JACS3 **code**:	C800

School:	Social & Life Sciences	**Module Leader:**	Natalie Roch

Scheduled learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Guided independent study	170 hrs
Placement	0 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

Programme(s) in which to be offered (not including exit awards)	Core	Option
BSc (Hons) Psychology	✓	☐

Pre-requisites
None.

Office use only
Initial approval: 08/03/2018 Version no:1
With effect from: 24/09/2020
Date and details of revision: August 2020 updated reading list Version no: 2

Module Aims

- To build on the students' knowledge of research methodologies acquired at level 4 whilst developing the students' understanding of these and new methods introduced in this module at a much deeper level.
- To equip students with the ability to appraise research findings and develop an understanding of research design and analysis, as well as developing the student's ability to analyse data from both quantitative and qualitative research.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Key skills for employability

KS1	Written, oral and media communication skills
KS2	Leadership, team working and networking skills
KS3	Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
KS4	Information technology skills and digital literacy
KS5	Information management skills
KS6	Research skills
KS7	Intercultural and sustainability skills
KS8	Career management skills
KS9	Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
KS10	Numeracy

At the end of this module, students will be able to		Key Skills	
1	Evaluate the use of different methods and methodologies for specific questions and areas of practice	KS1	
		KS3	
2	Differentiate between sampling procedures and their statistical relevance	KS6	
		KS5	
3	Demonstrate appropriate use of methods of data presentation	KS6	
		KS3	
		KS4	
4	Discuss critically the interpretation of findings and implications of data analysis	KS10	
		KS6	
5	Demonstrate the ability to analyse data using qualitative methods	KS10	KS4
		KS6	
		KS3	
6	Demonstrate the ability to analyse data using quantitative methods	KS10	
		KS6	
		KS4	

Transferable skills and other attributes

It skills in SPSS
Contribute to working as a team
Interpret and present data
Communication skills

Derogations

None.

Assessment:

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

1. A critical appraisal of one piece of psychological research.
2. A research report based on data collected within the class room utilising a mixed methods approach/or analysis of secondary data.
3. A portfolio of tasks supported by the practical sessions.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1, 2, 4	Essay	40%	N/A	1,500
2	3, 5, 6	Report	40%	N/A	1,500
3	1, 2, 5, 6	Portfolio	20%	N/A	1000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The module is delivered over 12 weeks, and the learning and teaching strategy will employ formal lecture, group and independent working. The prime strategy will be 'learning by doing', this will be achieved through structured class based practical/workshop sessions.

Syllabus outline:

- Statistical inference
- Confidence intervals
- Selecting appropriate analyses
- Experimental design control, sampling, error, power
- Quasi experimental designs
- Statistics in research parametric and non-parametric e.g. ANOVA, regression, chi-square.
- Qualitative research – methodologies, qualitative data analysis, reliability, validity (thematic analysis)
- SPSS and data analysis
- Data presentation and discussion of findings.

- Common methods for dealing with missing data

Indicative Bibliography:

Essential reading

Bourne, V. (2017). *Starting out in methods and statistics in psychology: a hands-on guide to doing research.* OUP

Field, A. (2017). *Discovering statistics using IBM SPSS statistics* (5th ed.). London: Sage.

Braun, V. & Clarke, V. (2013). *Successful qualitative research: A practical guide for beginners.* London, UK: Sage

Other indicative reading

Coolican, H. (2019). *Research methods and statistics in psychology* (7th ed.). Abingdon: Routledge.

Vickers, A. (2010). *What is a p-value anyway? 34 stories to help you actually understand statistics.* Addison-Wesley. OUP

de Winter, P., & Cahusac, P. (2014). *Starting out in Statistics: An Introduction for Students of Human Health, Disease, and Psychology.* Wiley-Blackwell.

Smith, J. A. (Ed). (2015). *Qualitative psychology* (3rd ed.). London, UK: Sage.

Willig, C. (2009). *Qualitative research in psychology.* Milton Keynes, UK: Open University Press.

Students will also be directed to other relevant reading dependent on the nature of the data to be analysed for their research report.

Journals

No specific journals required for this module but every opportunity will be taken to introduce students to original articles.