

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: Dissertation	Level: 7	Credit Value: 60
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Module code: PSY715	Cost Centre: GAPS	JACS2 code*: C800
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Semester(s) in which to be offered: 1 and 2	With effect from: Sept 2011
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Existing/New: New	Title of module being replaced (if any): N/A
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Originating Subject: Psychology	Module Leader: Dr Mandy Robbins
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Module duration (contact hours/directed private study): 600 (30 hours contact and 570 hours Private Study)	Status: Core core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate):
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Percentage taught by Subjects other than originating Subject (please name other Subjects):	Nil
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Programme(s) in which to be	Pre-requisites per	Co-requisites per programme
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offered: MSc Teaching of Psychology MSc Psychology of Religion	programme (between levels): None	(within a level): None
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Module Aims:

The aim of this module is to produce an independent piece of empirical research pertinent to the focus of the MSc course.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the module, students should be able to:

1. Undertake a significant piece of research that fully and critically explores key issues;
2. Produce a research report of a publishable standard, showing critical awareness of the implications of findings for both theory and practice.

Transferable skills

Research skills.
IT skills.
Critical thinking.
Synthesis and presentation of material.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes	Type of assessment	Weighting	Word count (if coursework)
1	1 ,2	Dissertation	100%	20,000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The primary strategy will be self-directed learning supported by on-line discussions and on-line tutorials

e-mail support – as required
telephone support – as required
Moodle/Adobeconnect – throughout the course to ensure engagement through the dissertation year.

Syllabus outline:

Content will be identified and negotiated in and through individual and group on-line discussion via Moodle and/or Adobeconnect

Bibliography:**Essential reading:**

Hart, C (1998). *Doing a literature review: Releasing the social science research imagination*. London: Sage Publications. (5 copies: class mark: 300.72)

Rudestam, K. E. (2007). *Surviving your dissertation: A comprehensive guide to content and process*. London: Sage Publications. (3 copies: class mark 387.242)

Other Indicative reading

Bersoff, D.N. (2004). *Ethical conflicts in psychology*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. (3 copies: class mark 174.915)

Field, A. (2009). *Discovering statistics using SPSS*. London: Sage. (5 copies: class mark 519.5)

Harris, P (2002). *Designing and reporting experiments (2nd ed)*. Milton Keynes, UK: Open University Press. (3 copies: class mark 150.72)

Howell, D.C (2007). *Statistical methods for psychology (6th ed)*. Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadworth. (1 copy: class mark 150.72)

Rosnow, R.L., & Rosenthal, R. (1997). *People studying people: Artifacts and ethics in behavioural research*. New York: W.H. Freeman. (3 copies: class mark 150.72)

Seale, C. (2004). *Researching society and culture*. London: Sage. (3 copies: class mark 300.72)

Seale, C. (2004). *Social research methods: A reader*. London: Routledge. (1 copy: class mark 300.72)

Sternberg, R.J. (2010). *The psychologist's companion: A guide to writing scientific papers for students and researchers*. New York: Cambridge University Press. (3 copies: class mark 150.72)

Zuber-Skerrit, O. (1996). *New directions in action research*. Bristol, PA. Falmer Press. (3 copies: class mark 300.72)

Plus other books and journals dependent on research topic.