

Module code: MOD002535	Version: 9 Date Amended: 06/Aug/2020
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1. Module Title
Issues in Scientific Research

2a. Module Leader
David Pearson

2b. School
School of Psychology, Sport and Sensory Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Science and Engineering

3a. Level
7

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
30

4b. Study Hours
300

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	MSc Research Methods in Psychology MSc Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience MSc Clinical Child Psychology MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology MSc Consumer Psychology		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description
This module is designed to help introduce you to the theoretical and practical complexities of the research process, including a number of different methods and methodologies used in psychology. You will undertake research training in the form of literature searching, constructing structured literature reviews, and also how to communicate and publicise your research. Other areas you will explore in this module include: the research process as a whole, various research techniques, research ethics and scientific writing skills.
6b. Outline Content
• Communication and Dissemination in Science • Conducting a Systematic Literature Review • Scientific Writing Skills • Critical Evaluation of Research • Research Ethics • Modern Technology in Research • Qualitative Research Methods
6c. Key Texts/Literature
The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/
6d. Specialist Learning Resources
The space should have computing and projection equipment installed as standard.

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Display comprehensive understanding of relevant on-line databases in psychology and how to conduct in-depth structured literature searches using appropriate search terms and inclusion/exclusion criteria
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Display a critical understanding of factors important for conducting high-quality scientific research, including an ability to assess relative strengths and weaknesses of different methods and research designs.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate ability to conduct a structured literature review in a specific area of psychological research
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically evaluate paradigms and methods used in a specific area of psychological research and reflect on related ethical issues

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	24	1-4	12 x 2 hour lectures
Other teacher managed learning	0	None	None
Student managed learning	276	1-6	109 hours preparing and writing Assessment 010; 84 hours preparing and writing Assessment 011; 83 hours module-related reading and preparatory work
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
Length: 5000 words essay					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]