Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD004977	**Version:** 5 **Date Amended:** 19/Aug/2026

1. Module Title
Research Methodology

2a. Module Leader
Nick Wrycraft

2b. School
School of Midwifery and Community Health

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Health, Medicine and Social Care

3a. Level
6

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:	None		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

With the increased emphasis on research and the use of evidence based practice, it's essential that you are familiar with research methodology. The ability to critically analyse and synthesise research is a necessary skill for all students, to be able to apply research in all areas of specialist interest in the delivery of effective practice. You'll revisit existing knowledge of the research process and we'll assist you in further developing skills of critical analysis and synthesis. You'll also have the opportunity to critically appraise the ethical dimensions of research studies that seek to develop, improve and advance service delivery.

6b. Outline Content

* Concept of research based practice. * Research methodology - different approaches to research. * Explore the ambiguities and limits in knowledge. * Research process, key research and statistical terms. * A comparison of qualitative and quantitative research data within health and/or social studies settings. * Analysis of statistical and/or non-statistical data. * Scientific rigour - reliability, validity/trustworthiness. * Research governance and ethical consideration. * Utilising research into the health or social studies setting. * Evaluation of existing research and the evidence base for policy and practice. * Critical analysis skills in relation to research topics.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

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	Critically analyse the use of various theoretical approaches to research in health and social studies.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Justify the suitability of several data collection and analysis methods utilised in health and social studies research.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically examine a range of research methodologies, designs and methods, evaluating strengths and weaknesses when applied to health and social studies.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Scrutinise the ethical dimensions of research reports when applied to health and social studies settings

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	0	None	None
Other teacher managed learning	20	1-5	20 hours - 9 x 2 hour seminars on campus, plus 2 x 1 hour tutorials on campus or via MS Teams.
Student managed learning	280	1-5	280 hours directed learning activities on Canvas, work, including a search of the literature for the chosen article for the assignment, and working on and submission of a formative and summative assignment.
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)

Students may choose to submit ONE of the following: - A 10 slide narrated presentation (max 2 minutes narration per slide), plus a reference list OR - A 2000 word written report, plus a reference list

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]