

Module code: MOD006811	Version: 4 Date Amended: 15/Dec/2021
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1. Module Title
Essential Research Methods

2a. Module Leader
Craig Owen

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:	None		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

Advance your knowledge of research methods for study at post-graduate level. Throughout this module, you'll be encouraged to develop a more autonomous and critical approach to research. You'll be challenged to develop your research philosophy, consider the impact research can have on society and effectively analyse data using a range of statistical and analytical techniques relevant in sport and exercise or psychological research. This module will help you become critical researchers, to be able to draw conclusions using multiple sets of data, effectively compare and contrast data and use literature to support ideas and / or theories. Use real world research questions, with example datasets provided to facilitate understanding of statistics and qualitative analysis through a combination of lectures, practical sessions and online tasks. This module will equip you with a wide range of highly useful and transferable research and analytical skills (e.g., numerical skills, use of research software, experimental design, presentations), which are highly relevant in the research and employment environment

6b. Outline Content

Research process

Research philosophy

Research design

Quantitative techniques (e.g. ANOVA, Multiple Regression Models)

Qualitative techniques (e.g. Thematic Analysis)

Becoming a critical researcher

Critiquing research process / literature

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

A dedicated computer laboratory and student access to data analysis packages (i.e., SPSS, Excel)

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 appraise relevant research philosophies and how this informs the research process
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate an advanced understanding of several specialised analytical methods
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically evaluate appropriate analysis methods and process data utilising relevant advanced techniques
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Analyse and interpret quantitative data
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Analyse and interpret qualitative data

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	12	1-5	x1 hour lecture for 12 weeks
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-5	x2 hour practicals for 12 weeks
Student managed learning	264	1-5	x7 hours per 12 weeks; 100 hours coursework preparation; 80 hours practical preparation
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	1-5	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Patchwork portfolio of practical tasks (4500 words equivalent)					

Assessment components for Element 010				
Component No.	Assessment Title	Submission Method	Weighting (%)	Components needed for Mark Calculation?
010/1	Quantitative analysis report	Canvas	33 (%)	All
010/2	Qualitative analysis report	Canvas	33 (%)	
010/3	Report on paradigm underpinning proposed research	Canvas	34 (%)	

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]
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