

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Applied Sociological Research
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	5
4	Module Code	SOC5052

5	Module Overview
<p>This module begins with questioning what applied sociological research is, what is its meaning and rationale and value in a social context. In this regard, this module explores the principles of sociological research strategies and designs, and how these principles may be applied in practice. Within the module there is a focus on qualitative methodologies, which will encourage students to clarify how research questions, strategies, methods and forms of analysis influence each other. Students are expected to complete and follow ethical procedures as part of this module.</p> <p>The module provides students with a critical overview into a range of key qualitative social research methods and examine their possibilities, strengths and weaknesses in relation to specific research questions and strategies, both in theoretical terms and through the examination of various practical case studies. In this regard, students are familiarised with historical and contemporary examples of differing social research methods, theoretical epistemological perspectives and ethical implications.</p> <p>In relation to the programme aims this module aims to encourage students to apply and do sociological research. Specifically, this module relates to the Programme Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that students graduate with in-depth sociological knowledge and a broad range of academic, personal, and professional skills • To encourage engaged and deep - rather than passive and surface-level –learning • To facilitate students becoming independent learners engaged in a range of pre-, and post-, sessional tasks outside the classroom, such as reading, research, collaborative work, and practical experience 	

6	Indicative Content
	Introduction to Module & What is Sociological Research? Approaches to social research Practical group work session- deciding approach to social research Critical Issues in Social Research: Values, Politics and Power Practical group work session- Exploring the values, politics and power of your research Research Ethics Practical group work session- Research ethics application Qualitative methodologies- interviews, ethnography and focus groups Quantitative methodologies Practical group works session Applying your methodological framework Data collection and Data Analysis Practical group work session- Data analysis Peer Assessment-recording of group presentations Peer Assessment-recording of group presentations Module Review

7	Module Learning Outcomes
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:
	1 Demonstrate critical skills in the evaluation of different types of research design and methodologies.
	2 Identify and effectively collate, conduct and analyse qualitative data.
	3 Demonstrate awareness of the theoretical, methodological, ethical and practical issues when conducting sociological research.
	4 Present research projects in an engaging, clear and concise manner.

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1-4			x

9 Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities	
Learning Activities	Hours
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	36
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	48
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	116
Total Study Hours:	200