

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Research: Methods of Enquiry
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	7
4	Module Code	LBR7339

5	Module Overview
<p>This module specifically addresses the broader programme aims related to “pursuing excellence” and “practice-led, knowledge applied” through a flexible provision that encourages students to develop their research ideas, enabling those on various Health MSc programmes to satisfy their individual learning needs, whilst contributing to their area of study.</p> <p>Specifically, this module will contribute towards students’ personal and professional development fostering independent study. This will be done by encouraging students to further develop their critical thinking and research skills in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • challenge and critically appraise the existing evidence base in their area of study; • identify the gaps in knowledge; • propose primary or secondary research to inform their area of study. <p>Consistent with the learning, teaching and assessment strategies of the programme which this module serves, a range will be employed during its delivery. This will include 36 hours of scheduled learning and teaching activity comprising of lectures, demonstrations, workshops and tutorials with support from the module leader and teaching team. It will also involve 164 hours of independent study which includes guided reading and self-directed study activities with feedback available in class or on-line.</p> <p>Learning resources are on the module Moodle site. These include lecture notes, journal articles, links to key evidence-based resources, self-directed study activities, and an electronic reading list citing seminal Evidence Based Practice and Research Methods texts suitable for level 7 study.</p> <p>Each student will have a choice, to either complete a research proposal for a primary piece of research, or a protocol for a systematic review for their summative assessment. Preparation of these detailed plans help prepare students to undertake a Research Project or a Systematic Review for an MSc Dissertation and to prepare bids in the workplace.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
<p>Session Topic/s (incl. delivery style and indicative formative learning activities)</p>	
<p>Philosophical underpinnings of research</p> <p>Ethics</p> <p><i>Lectures</i></p>	
<p>Generating the question</p> <p>Retrieving the Information</p> <p>Hierarchies of Evidence</p> <p><i>Lectures and workshop</i></p>	
<p><u>Quantitative Primary Sources of Evidence:</u> Randomised controlled trials (RCTs), Cohort, and Case - Control Designs</p> <p><i>Demonstration and lecture</i></p>	
<p>Quantitative Primary Sources of Evidence: Survey designs</p> <p><i>Lecture</i></p>	
<p>Quantitative data collection:</p> <p>Sampling and reliability and validity of instruments</p> <p><i>Demonstration</i></p>	
<p>Quantitative data analysis covering basic descriptive statistics, inferential statistics and levels of measurement</p> <p><i>Lecture</i></p>	
<p><u>Qualitative Primary sources of evidence:</u> Phenomenology, Ethnography, Grounded Theory</p> <p><i>Lectures</i></p>	
<p>Qualitative Primary sources of Evidence: Post Modernism, Feminist Research and Critical Theory</p> <p><i>Lectures</i></p>	
<p>Qualitative data collection;</p> <p>Interviews, Observation and Documents</p> <p>Sampling and credibility, confirmability, transferability and dependability issues</p> <p><i>Demonstration</i></p>	
<p>Qualitative data analysis covering thematic coding analysis</p> <p><i>Lecture</i></p>	
<p>Evaluations</p> <p><i>Lecture</i></p>	

<p>Secondary Sources of Evidence (quantitative and qualitative):</p> <p>Systematic Reviews</p> <p>Cochrane library</p> <p><i>Demonstration and lecture</i></p>
<p>Measures of effectiveness</p> <p><i>Lecture and workshop</i></p>
<p>Designing a research proposal or designing a systematic review protocol</p> <p><i>Workshops</i></p>

7	Module Learning Outcomes	
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:	
	1	Differentiate between quantitative and qualitative research approaches and paradigms in relation to the types of research question they are designed to address.
	2	Compose focused research questions and search strategies to locate evidence and identify gaps in the evidence base.
	3	Critically appraise reviewed evidence to established hierarchies of evidence to distinguish between studies with robust or limited methodological integrity.
	4	Rigorously justify a research design and its associated data collection and data analysis strategies to address a pertinent research question.

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	24	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	140	
Total Study Hours:	200	