Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	**Module Title**	Introduction to Research
2	**Module Credits**	40
3	**Module Level**	5
4	**Module Code**	SOW5xxx

5	Module Overview

In line with the philosophy and aims of the Social Work programme, this module will focus on pursuing excellence in social work practice, and assisting you to become practice-led, employable and have a local, national and global outlook.

This module is designed to provide an introduction to research, research design and research methodology. You will learn the relevance and purpose of research in the context of social work practice, how to carry out research and follow a research process whilst taking into account, research paradigms, research approaches, sampling, piloting, data collection, data analysis and data presentation. The module content will facilitate your knowledge and understanding of research in the following areas;

- Understanding research theory and the relevance and importance in relation to research design.
- Selecting and evaluating a topic relating to a specific social work issue, and producing a feasible research proposal that identifies the relationship between research and social challenges.
- Evaluating and analysing data by drawing upon the use of information technology to support analysis.
- Reflecting on the application of learning gained within the context of social work practice.

A range of teaching methods will be employed but will largely focus on lectures and group work. There will be small group exercises, online e-learning materials, and self- study activities. Additional support through structured tutorial sessions to concentrate on consolidation and broadening the student knowledge base, and responding to issues raised pertaining to the assignment will be available to students.

6	Indicative Content

Research is situated at the core of our society at local, national and global perspectives, which makes it important to gain insight and understanding of how it can challenge, change and improve social work practice.   This module will prepare you with essential research knowledge, which will enable you to gain insight into the basic principles of formulating a research proposal.   Learning how to understand the appropriate research tools to explore how to develop a hypothesis or research question related to your chosen social work topic. Exploring the significance of using information technologies including

library resources to support your knowledge and understanding of research methods. To explore how ethics can be applied within the context of social research.

7	Module Learning Outcomes
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:
1	Identify and analyse a suitable topic that relates to social work practice that could be the subject of social research.
2	Demonstrate understanding and critical analysis of research design, process, paradigms, approaches and methods through devising a research proposal.
3	Demonstrate an understanding of how research can influence social work practice and critically reflect on your own developing research mindedness.
4	Demonstrate the application of learning from research to your emerging professional practice.

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		80 Hours
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE		32 Hours
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams		288 Hours
Total Study Hours:		400 Hours