

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Research and Evidence Based Practice
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	5
4	Module Code	SPR5038

5 Module Overview

This module forms part of the Research and Evidence Based Practice strand that runs through the curriculum from level 4 to 6. It builds on the core concepts, which you were introduced to at level 4, of evidence-based practice (EBP) in Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) and the underpinning role research plays in this. In this module you will learn how to develop a feasible and answerable research question, conduct and write a literature review, and propose appropriate methodologies and data analysis methods for different types of research questions. Workshops on data analysis are scheduled to give you hands on experience in dealing with real data. You will also learn about principles of ethics in research and the implications of these principles for research design and for the conduct and dissemination of research more generally. This module will draw on examples taken from the SLT literature in order to relate theory to SLT practice.

The knowledge and understanding that you will acquire about research methodology, data analysis and ethics do not only form the foundation for the research project you will undertake at level 6, they are fundamental for your future clinical practice as an SLT (as recognised in the programme philosophy). It will enable you to assess the validity of the available evidence for the questions you will come across on a day-to-day basis in your practice. Given the importance of this practical skill, several workshops have been built into this module during which you will practise and develop this skill and assess the evidence for real-life clinical research questions.

The module is aligned with the programme philosophy, which recognises the underpinning role of research for Evidence-Based Practice. By teaching you methods to create or evaluate the (international) evidence base for your clinical practice, this module specifically and explicitly contributes to programme aim 1, 'Pursuing excellence' and programme aim 5 'Internationalisation', and underpins programme aims 2, 'Practice-led, knowledge-applied', and 4, 'Employability-driven'. The module builds on concepts introduced at level 4 and forms the foundation for the research project you will undertake at level 6 and as such aligns with the teaching and learning strategy of a spiralling curriculum of the programme.

This module helps the SLT programme to meet the following Standards of Proficiency for Speech and Language Therapy set out by the Health and Care Professions Council: 12.1, 12.2, 12.6, 12.7, 13.2, 14.1, 14.9, 14.10, 14.11, 14.12, 14.13, 14.14 and 14.15.

The module also helps the SLT programme to meet the relevant QAA benchmarks for Speech and Language Therapy (2001). It is also in line with the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapy



(RCSLT) Guidelines for pre-registration speech and language therapy courses in the UK (2011; section 2 – research methods) and the RCSLT Research Strategy (2009).

The delivery of this module combines traditional lectures with practical workshops. Lectures are organised in short blocks, each of which is followed by a practical workshop in which you will get the opportunity to apply the theory you have learned to practical and realistic problems.

6	Indicative Content		
Quantitative research methods (including observational and experimental study designs) quantitative			

Quantitative research methods (including observational and experimental study designs), quantitative data-analysis methods, qualitative research methods, qualitative data-analysis methods, literature review, critical appraisal and ethics.

7	Module Learning Outcomes On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:	
	1	Assess the evidence relevant to a clinical research question.
	2	Propose and justify an appropriate and ethically sound methodology for a research question.
	3	Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of data analysis.

8	Module Assessment			
Learning Outcome				
		Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1-3			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	34	
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	66	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	100	
Total Study Hours:	200	