

BMHP5019_BIRM

Introduction to Research

Week 4

Revision of key concepts and workshop for Component 1

Trawsnewid Addysg, Trawsnewid Bywydau
Transforming Education, Transforming Lives

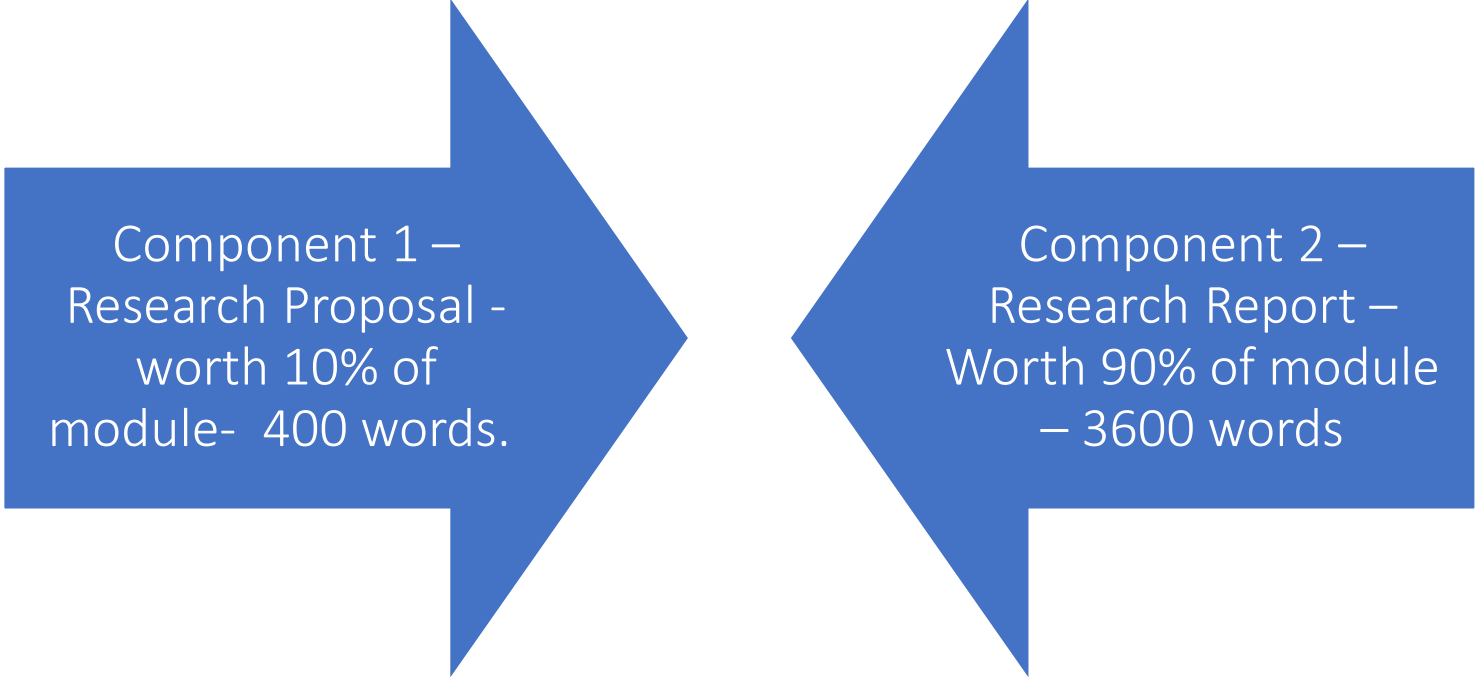
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During this session...

Clarify key terms
and concepts

Provide support
for the completion
of Component 1

The Component 1 and 2 Assignments



Component 1 –
Research Proposal -
worth 10% of
module- 400 words.

Component 2 –
Research Report –
Worth 90% of module
– 3600 words

Component 1 Assessment Specification

TASK DESCRIPTION

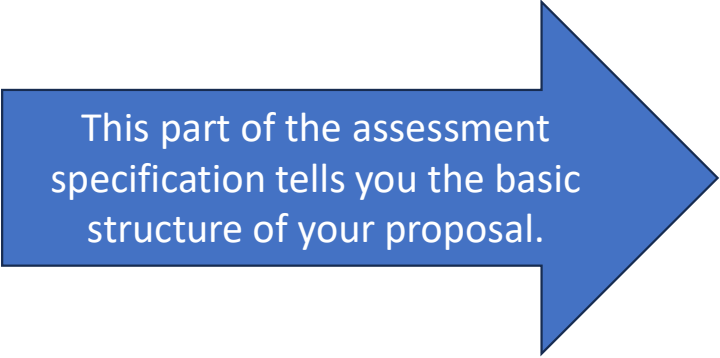
Component 1: Written Assignment (Research proposal) – 400 words (+/-10%) – 10% weighting

Students should identify a topic for their secondary research, related to practice in the health, social care, and / or digital health professions. Each student should prepare a 400-word Research proposal for their secondary research.

For their secondary research, students should use the method of scoping review of peer-reviewed primary and/or secondary research studies. In the Research proposal, students should describe briefly the review question, objectives, rationale, and methods of the scoping review that they plan to conduct in Component 2 (Research report) of the present module.

The topic of the Research proposal (Component 1) should be the same topic used in the Research report (Component 2) of the present module.

The students should justify the importance of the topic they chose and its relevance to health, social care, and / or digital health professions, using current literature/evidence.



This part of the assessment specification tells you the basic structure of your proposal.

Component 1

Assignment Brief

Accordingly, the Research proposal should include the following points:

- 1) Describe the topic of focus, review question, and objectives of their secondary research
- 2) Describe the rationale for choosing this topic – justify with cited sources the importance of this topic for health and social care nowadays.
- 3) Describe the methods that the student used for data collection and analysis, and
- 4) Describe the ethical considerations for their research.

Further guidance:

Students should provide in-text citations and a reference list using the University's Harvard referencing style.

GENERAL SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

- All submissions must include a cover page with the student's name, student number, module code and title.
- Use Arial font size 11 with 1.5 line spacing.
- Use an appropriate structure including a contents page with page numbers, clear sections with headings, and a reference list.

Component 1 Checklist

BMHP5019_BIRM - Introduction to Independent Research Skills Component 1 Checklist.	
Please ensure that you have read the assignment specification document for the component which is available in the assignment brief folder on the module Moodle page .	
Recommended word count distribution for your C1 proposal –	
- Title Page – Words not included in word count. - Introduction – 100 words - Rationale – 170 words - Methods – 80 words - Ethical consideration – 50 words - Reference List – Words not included in word count.	
Have I...?	Yes or No?
Have I chosen a topic to research which relates to practice in health and social care? Or a digital health profession?	
Have I understood that my proposal is to complete secondary research?	
Have I chosen a topic that I am also happy to research for my component 2 assignment?	
In my introduction, have I described the topic of focus?	
In my introduction, have I included a review (or research) question?	
In my introduction, have I included what objective I have for my secondary research? (What am I aiming to reveal? Or answer? Or find out? What gap are you filling in?)	

Have I included a <i>rationale</i> for choosing my topic? Stating why I believe that it is relevant and important to research this topic area.	
Have I supported my rationale points with citations to relevant literature? (Aim for five citations of relevant journal articles).	
Have I included a paragraph about my methods? Where will I search for articles? What search terms will I use? (REMEMBER – this is a plan, not a promise)	
In my methods section, have I stated that I will use 'thematic analysis' as detailed in component 2 as my methods for analysis? (You do not need to explain this at this stage)	
For more information - see pages 143 – 155 of chapter 6 of the Core Reading – Aveyard (2014) Doing a literature review in health and social care: a practical guide	
Have I included a paragraph about the ethical considerations that I will ensure during my proposed research?	
Have I included a reference list that details my five (or more) citations that have been used to support my rationale? Using UWTSD Harvard Style referencing.	

On the module Moodle page – week 4 folder – locate the [Component 1 Checklist](#)

The purpose of research

- Research is a process of inquiry and investigation which can help solve practical problems and increase knowledge.
- Research involves one or more of the following:
 - Reviewing, contributing to, or synthesizing existing knowledge.
 - Testing ideas, models and theories.
 - Investigating existing situations or problems,
 - Generating new knowledge,
 - Explaining a new phenomena,
 - Constructing or creating new procedures or systems.

The Research Cycle

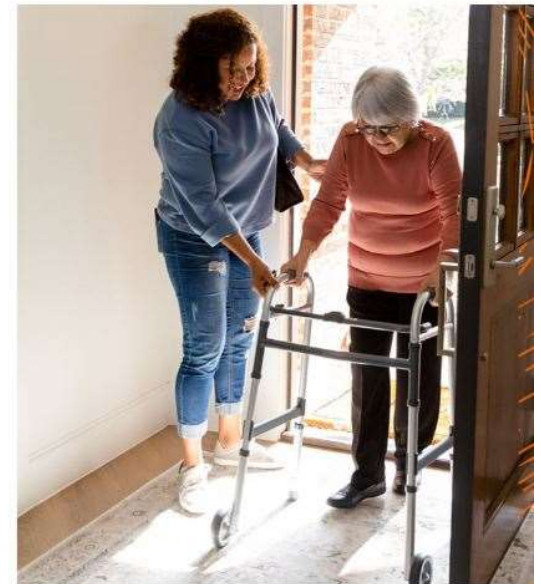


What impact does research have?

The Medical Research Council (MRC) is part of UK Research and Innovation. The MRC Impact Showcase provides information about how research has impacted the world we live in.

Preventing falls in older people

- Falls are a significant concern for older people and come at a cost of more than £2.3 billion per year to the NHS
- Home adaptation services – such as stairlifts, grab-rails and ramps – are available for those who want to continue living in their home. However, until now, there has been no evidence to demonstrate their effectiveness
- Researchers from the MRC-funded Health Data Research UK have created a dataset that shows these adaptations can help prevent falls and also identifies those most at risk of falling. The research could help inform policy for proactive interventions



Choosing a research topic

The topic that you choose to research has a great influence on how well you succeed in carrying out the investigation and in writing up your work.

Genuine interest – this will motivate you to complete the task to the best possible standard.

Available resources – choosing a topic area that has existing studies and research to allow you to read widely and in more depth.

Relevance – choosing a topic area that has relevance to improve practice in health and social care, or understanding the impact of a condition/illness/policy/event on the lives of people and society, will allow you to make clearly conclusions and recommendations.

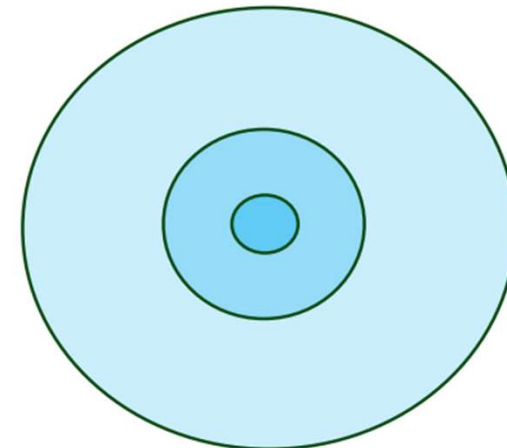
Initial Stages of Planning

Step 1 Decide on topic

Step 2 Identify topic area

Step 3 Formulate a focused question

Broad topic



What is a 'good' research question?

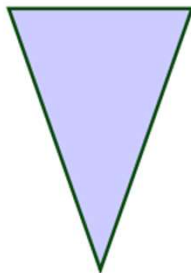
- Is of genuine interest to you
- Addresses gap in knowledge
- Focused
- Concise
- Manageable
- Answerable

Example: *What factors are associated with increased rates of childhood obesity in urban areas?*



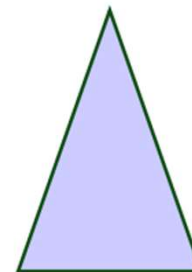
Getting the question right

Too broad
Too many papers



Needs to be
narrowed

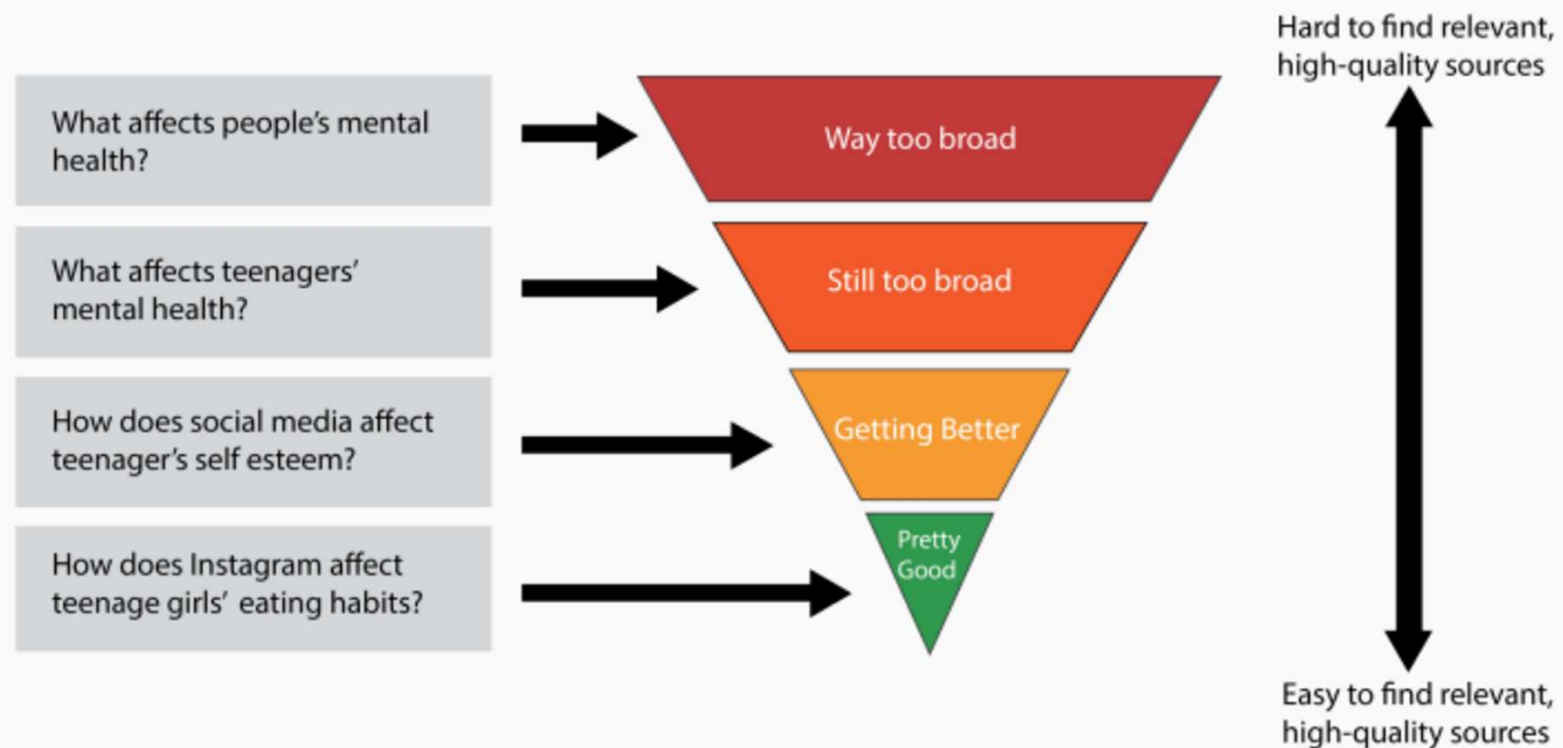
Too narrow
No paper



Needs to be broadened



Narrowing Down Research Questions



Developing a research or review question.

The writer should focus on picking a topic that is:

- Current and relevant to society and
- Can be argued logically.
- Debatable,
- Researchable,
- Manageable.

Let's do an example of refining a topic into a research/review question together.

Example Topic – Eating Disorders

This topic is **too broad** (general) to write about in a short paper. We **need to make it narrower** (more specific).

Who?

TOPIC: EATING DISORDERS

Populations

Age

Gender

Race or
Ethnicity

NEW TOPIC:

Eating disorders
in elderly females

What?

TOPIC: EATING DISORDERS

Types

Anorexia

Bulimia

Compulsive
eating

NEW TOPIC:

Anorexia in
elderly females

When?

TOPIC: EATING DISORDERS

Timeframes

Current or
historical
view

Period
of life



NEW TOPIC:

Bulimia in middle-
aged females

Where?

TOPIC: EATING DISORDERS

Places

States

Regions

Countries

NEW TOPIC:

Anorexia in
Australian women

Why?

TOPIC: EATING DISORDERS

Evaluate

Causes

Treatments

Outcomes



NEW TOPIC:

Successful
methods for
treatment of
compulsive eating

Mix n' Match

- Combine any number of elements that you derive from asking these questions until you find an interesting topic to research.
- **Some examples:**
 - Causes and treatment of anorexia in college athletes
 - Prevalence of bulimia in teen-age males in the United States
 - Changes in treatment for compulsive overeaters, 1950-present.

Rationale

Once you have chosen a review question, clarify your rationale (reasons) for choosing it.

Why look at the topic?

- Is this topic a local issue?
- Is this issue impacting a large number of people in UK?

Why now?

- Has there been a recent incident? Review? Investigation?
- Is there a developing issue that is relevant today and in the future?

Is there a gap in knowledge?

- Do you see a gap (deficit) in the understanding about this topic?
- Will your study help to close the gap?

Topic Area – Your Week 1 Ideas

In week 1 you shared your ideas and interests of research are you interested in.

[Your week 1 Ideas - Padlet](#)

Have your ideas changed?

Have you refined your ideas?



Research Proposal – what to include

Your research question may become refined as your progress.

For secondary research, which libraries or data bases will you use? What search term will you use? What time period will you focus on?

1

Introduction and your chosen research question and objectives

2

Rationale – Why is it relevant or important to research this topic?

3

Your proposed **method** (What? Who? How?)

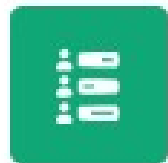
4

Ethical considerations.

Developing a rationale

Well done to everyone that completed the Week 3 activity.

Reflect on your ideas, build on this activity to help you develop your rationale section.



Your Rationale Ideas

Research terms

Hypothesis

- A hypothesis is a provisional idea whose merit requires further evaluation. In research, a hypothesis must be stated clearly and is often directional (increase or decrease or difference)

Rationale

- The explanation of the reason or reasons for researching something. We focused on this in week 3.
- A clear description of why researching a topic has relevance and why your particular study is important in filling a 'gap' in our current understanding.

Literature review

- A literature review are systematic syntheses of previous work around a particular topic.
- We will explore this process in detail during week 5.

Analysis

- The process of breaking down the data collected into meaningful information that conveys some meaning. For component 2, we will be using a simplified version of Thematic analysis which will be detailed and actively supported during your week 8 session.

Ethics of Component 1 & 2

As you are conducting secondary research and developing a scoping review of existing literature in component 2, you **will not** be collecting primary data.

However, you must remain ethical as a researcher, the UWTSD Research Ethics & Integrity Code of Practice details the in section 17 the seriousness of fairly and accurately representing the literature that you review.

Research misconduct can take many forms, including:

- **Fabrication:** making up results or other outputs (eg, artefacts) and presenting them as if they were real
- **Falsification:** manipulating research processes or changing or omitting data without good cause
- **Plagiarism:** using other people's material without giving proper credit

As a researcher – you must avoid doing any of the above.



UWTSD Library Support

Academic and InfoSkills

Our Skills programme is designed to create opportunities for students to develop their transferable academic and information skills, facilitating both their academic success and employability. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics – from finding library resources to fake news to managing your online presence.

Our team of Academic Liaison Librarians have developed a series of online Units that allow you to develop your skills anywhere, anytime, to suit you. Click the tiles below to get started:



The UWTSD Library team have provided additional support to help you to develop your research skills. These are available for you to work through at your own pace.

For the remainder of the session..

- **Develop** your draft of your component 1 research proposal.
- You **must** all **show** your lecturer some 'working progress' towards your component 1 assignment.
- **Use** the assignment specification document and component 1 checklist to **support** you.



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Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

Trawsnewid Addysg, Trawsnewid Bywydau
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