

Module Code	ECPR7004
Title	Research Methods and Practice
Date	11/12/2019
Level	7
Credits	30
Pre-Requisites	

AIM(S)

- To apply practice to research and consolidate areas of specialist knowledge.
- To engage in research practices, consolidate professional practice and develop specialism in practice through a practical understanding of empirical research skills which can be communicated to the wider field.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon the successful completion of this module, the student should be able to:

- Utilise research evidence or organisational guidance to ensure an appropriate therapeutic response for specific clients.
- Implement methodologies to audit and evaluate the process and outcome of therapy.
- Critically appraise published research on counselling and psychotherapy and integrate relevant research findings into practice.
- Reflect on the role and function of counselling and psychotherapy in society.
- Appraise the interrelatedness of truth claims, belief and ideology, and their influence on professional practice.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

Module content will be taught through the following elements:

- **Research methods and practice**

The profile of research within the Health professions in general has increased significantly within the last ten years; this is particularly true within the discipline of Counselling. The tools and techniques for working with questions, hypothesis, hunches and proofs have significantly increased to match the significance of research within contemporary society globally. The debates associated with the validity of method and the legitimacy of underpinning methodologies, philosophies and values continue to disrupt and construct new perspectives on ontology and epistemology. However, at the base of all research is the need to produce work of quality. This module will therefore consider and engage in the processes involved in research which have been developed to meet those quality standards. The concept of research methods will be investigated as a set of tools in which to do the job of research, and much like any other job there are specific tool that will be more suitable to do a better job. In considering the range of tools the module will then look at how these are applied in carrying out different investigations in collecting and analysing data. In this module questions will be asked, such as what is data, who are the participants, what do we mean by research artefacts? The module will construct a frame around the research practice itself, such as ethical standards, research proposals, research supervision, publishing research.

- Planning research

- Designing research
- Deciding methods
- The research process
- What is data?
- Gathering data
- Analysing data
- E – research
- Integrated research
- How to discuss findings
- Evaluating research
- Research ethics
- Research participants/co researchers
- Methodological implications
- Writing and using research
- Publishing research
- Critical responses to the ‘fetishism’ of research and the knowledge economy
- Critical responses to methodological tensions
- Critical responses to the research base of Counselling
- **Application of a research method to practice**
- Legal, professional and organisational requirements
- Professional limitations and referral
- Supervision
- Diversity, mental health and sustainability
- The therapeutic alliance
- The therapeutic contract
- Diversity and the therapeutic relationship
- Counselling and power
- Professionalism and responsibilities

Study Time Allocation

The study time for the module is divided as follows:

Activity type	Hours	Percentage
Scheduled learning	80	25%
Independent learning	220	75%
Placement learning		
TOTAL	300	100%

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Component 1

☐ Written exam ☐ Coursework ☒ Practical

Mode of assessment	Volume	Weighting
Presentation	20 minutes	50%

Assessment Component 2

☐ Written exam ☒ Coursework ☐ Practical

Mode of assessment	Volume	Weighting
Academic Review	4,000 words	50%

Assessment Summary

Activity type	Percentage
Written exam	
Coursework	50%
Practical	50%
TOTAL	100%

The module name has changed, however the essence of the module is still the same. This module as with previous module is accredited as part of the whole programme by the NCS.

INDICATIVE READING LIST

Module Code	ECPR7004	
Module Title	Research Methods and practice	
Classification	Reading List entry	Electronic*
Essential	Bager-Charleson, S., 2014. <i>Doing practice-based research in therapy: a reflexive approach</i> . Poole, UK: Learning Matters	☐
Essential	Denscomb, M., 2012. <i>Research proposals: a practical guide</i> . Open University Press.E-book.	☐
Essential	Denstombe, M., 2007. <i>The good research guide for small-scale social research projects</i> . 4 nd ed. Berkshire, England: Open University Press/McGrawHill.	☐
Further	McLeod, J., 2010. <i>Case study research</i> . London: Sage.	☐
Further	Willig, C., 2013. <i>Introducing qualitative research in psychology</i> . 3 rd ed. McGrawHill/Open University.	☐
Further	Cooper, M., 2008. <i>Essential research findings in counselling and psychotherapy: the facts are friendly</i> . London: Sage.	☐
Further	Mustakas, C., 1990. <i>Heuristic Research: Design, Methodology, and Applications</i> . London: Sage.	☐

Further	McLeod, J. ,2003. <i>Doing counselling research</i> . 2nd ed. London: Sage	☐
Further	Creswell, John W., 2009, <i>Research design: qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches</i> . 3 rd ed. London: Sage.	☐
Further	Walliman, N., 2011. <i>Research methods, the basics</i> : London: Routledge.	☐