

MODULE AIMS

- To develop higher order research skills by identifying and undertaking a piece of primary research related to applied psychology which demonstrates scientific and ethical rigour in all respects.
- To enable students to demonstrate self-direction, autonomy, and originality in identifying, tackling and solving issues of relevance to an applied research question in social and/or health psychology.
- To provide students with the ability to demonstrate a professional standard of presentation skills through the presentation of their work at an internal conference.

MODULE LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of the module students will be able to:

1. Conduct an in-depth systematic literature review critically appraising the evidence-base relevant to the dissertation topic.
2. Design a research project identifying appropriate hypotheses/research questions and research methodology.
3. Carry out primary data collection using appropriate tools and methodology in compliance with relevant legal, ethical and data requirements.
4. Analyse data using appropriate quantitative and/or qualitative methods.
5. Interpret and critique the project results and findings and report them in the required format.
6. Reflect on the research process and methods, demonstrating clear understanding of ethical and research frameworks and lessons learned for future research/practice.
7. Present and discuss their work appropriately to an academic audience

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Component 1

30 minute individual presentation (25%): Students will be required to present their dissertation to peers at an in-house mini-conference and will be assessed on their presentation skills, engagement and ability to demonstrate understanding of all elements of their dissertation as set out in the Dissertation Handbook.

Assessment Component 2

Written dissertation (75%): Students will be required to write up their study and submit a 12,000 word written thesis following standard psychology reporting conventions through three core chapters preceded by a brief summary of the thesis.

- Executive Summary (500 words)
- Systematic literature review (4,500 words)
- Research paper targeted at appropriate journal (4,500 words)
- Reflective chapter (2,500 words)



PRIFYSGOL CYMRU
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
UNIVERSITY OF WALES
Trinity Saint David

Student number	
Word count	
Module	M7X01448 Part II Dissertation
Tutor/s	Dr Ceri Phelps/Dr Paul Hutchings
Submission Date	
Return Date	
Turnitin	

School of Psychology:
MSc Applied Social & Health Psychology
Part II Dissertation: Overall Summary Sheet

<i>Scale of achievement</i>	Very Unsatisfactory (below 40%)	Unatisfactory (40–49%)	Satisfactory (Pass) (50-59%)	Good (Merit) (60-69%)	Very Good/Excellent (Distinction) (70%+)	
Assesment Element					Weight	Mark
Assessment Component 1: 30 minute presentation (25% of overall module mark)						
Assessment Component 2: Written Dissertation (75% of overall module mark)						
	Executive summary				10%	
	Systematic Review				35%	
	Research Paper				35%	
	Reflective piece				20%	
Total Part II Mark						
Overall comments:						
Tutor’s signature: Date:						
Moderator:		Date:			Agree/Disagree	
Comments:						

Student number	
Word count	
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Tutor/s	Dr Ceri Phelps/Dr Paul Hutchings

School of Psychology:
MSc Applied Social & Health Psychology Reporting Sheet
Assessment 1: Presentation (25%)

<i>Scale of achievement</i>	Very Unsatisfactory (below 40%)	Unsatisfactory (40-49%)	Satisfactory (Pass) (50-59%)	Good (Merit) (60-69%)	Very Good/Excellent (Distinction) (70%+)
Subject specific criteria					Mark
Effective organization <i>Evidence of clear preparation and planning – good use of visual aids, slides and layout that clearly reflect the detail of all elements of the dissertation.</i>					20
Professional Presentation skills <i>Effective interaction and engagement with audience, pace, tone, volume of voice, positive positioning, use of guidance notes.</i>					30
Knowledge and understanding <i>Accurately conveys the the study context, theoretical and methodological underpinning, and study findings. Answers questions appropriately.</i>					20
Analytic and critiquing skills <i>Demonstrates clear critical understanding of the study context, theory, findings and implications for the field as well as own critical reflections on the dissertation process.</i>					30
Total mark:					
Overall comments:					
Tutor's signature: _____ Date: _____					
Moderator: _____ Date: _____ Agree/Disagree Comments: _____					



**School of Psychology:
MSc Applied Social & Health Psychology
Reporting Sheet
Assessment 2: Executive Summary**

Student number	
Word count	
Module	<i>M7X01448 Part II Dissertation</i>
Tutor/s	Dr Ceri Phelps/Dr Paul Hutchings

<i>Scale of achievement</i>	Very Unsatisfactory (below 40%)	Unatisfactory (40-49%)	Satisfactory (Pass) (50-59%)	Good (Merit) (60-69%)	Very Good/Excellent (Distinction) (70%+)
Subject specific criteria			<i>Please note that an overall mark for this piece of work is given based upon the comments below</i>		
Knowledge and understanding of the subject <i>Demonstrates accurate and appropriate details of the research study</i>					
Intellectual, contextualising and critiquing skills <i>Conveys critical understanding of the context, rationale, study findings, recommendations and implications</i>					
Professional presentation and style <i>Demonstrates ability to summarise work appropriately for a non-specialist audience and within the required word count.</i>					
Mark					
Overall comments:					
Tutor’s signature: _____ Date: _____					
Moderator: _____			Date: _____		
Comments:			Agree/Disagree		

Student number	
Word count	
Module	<i>M7X01448 Part II Dissertation</i>
Tutor/s	Dr Ceri Phelps/Dr Paul Hutchings

School of Psychology:
MSc Applied Social & Health Psychology Reporting Sheet
Assessment 2: Systematic Literature Review

Scale of achievement	Very Unsatisfactory (below 40%)	Unatisfactory (40-49%)	Satisfactory (Pass) (50-59%)	Good (Merit) (60-69%)	Very Good/Excellent (Distinction) (70%+)
Subject specific criteria			Please note that an overall mark for this piece of work is given based upon the comments below		
Knowledge and understanding of the subject <i>Demonstration of appropriate depth and breadth of understanding of review area given inclusion/exclusion criteria and overall focus of thesis</i>					
Critiquing and contextualising skills <i>Demonstration of ability to reflect, analyse, synthesise and critique empriical research and to draw logical conclusions from the existing evidence base</i>					
Sytematic review structure <i>Use of appropriate style for a systematic review, showing a logical presentation of each step of review and including a table of study findings.</i>					
Professional presentation and style <i>Demonstrates ability to produce a professional standard of work appropriately and within the required word count, with appropriate referencing</i>					
Mark					
Overall comments:					
Tutor's signature: Date:					
Moderator: Date:			Agree/Disagree		
Comments:					



Student number	
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School of Psychology:
MSc Applied Social & Health Psychology Reporting Sheet
Assessment 2: Research Paper

Scale of achievement	Very Unsatisfactory (below 40%)	Unsatisfactory (40-49%)	Satisfactory (Pass) (50-59%)	Good (Merit) (60-69%)	Very Good/Excellent (Distinction) (70%+)
Subject specific criteria			Please note that an overall mark for this piece of work is given based upon the comments below		
Justification and rationale for research question and associated methodology <i>Demonstration of clear empirical and topical justification for research question and identification of appropriate research methodology</i>					
Practical Research skills <i>Evidence of ability to plan and carry out a study appropriately in order to answer a specific question and clear awareness of associated professional and ethical issues</i>					
Accurate reporting and critical consideration of study findings <i>Accurate and appropriate analysis and presentation of study findings, including logical consideration of how findings link to the research questions</i>					
Professional presentation and style <i>Demonstrates ability to report work appropriately for a specific journal, following journal conventions (including reference list) and within the required word count.</i>					
Mark					
Overall comments:					
Tutor's signature:			Date:		
Moderator: Comments			Date:		Agree/Disagree



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School of Psychology:
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Assessment 2: Reflective chapter

<i>Scale of achievement</i>	Very Unsatisfactory (below 40%)	Unatisfactory (40-49%)	Satisfactory (Pass) (50-59%)	Good (Merit) (60-69%)	Very Good/Excellent (Distinction) (70%+)
Subject specific criteria			<i>Please note that an overall mark for this piece of work is given based upon the comments below</i>		
Knowledge and understanding of the subject <i>Recognition of appropriate methodological, ethical and professional issues encountered</i>					
Research reflection skills <i>Demonstration of ability to critically reflect on own research competenices throughout the research process and consider the role of the researcher and other factors on the research process</i>					
Professional and personal reflection skills <i>Demonstration of ability to reflect on own professional and interpersonal development throughout the research process</i>					
Professional presentation and style <i>Professionally produced written piece evidencing clear reflective style supported by references where appropriate, and within the required word count.</i>					
Mark					
Overall comments:					
Tutor’s signature: _____ Date: _____					
Moderator: _____			Date: _____		
Comments:			Agree/Disagree		

