

MODULE CODE: DSAW7075
TITLE: Work-Based Research Methods
DATED: 03/08/2016

LEVEL: 7
CREDITS: 30

JACS CODE: X210

AIM(S)

- To develop critical awareness of research methods and methodologies for research in work-based settings.
- To enhance students' understanding of the importance of planning and designing work-based research and its impact on the workplace.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon the successful completion of this module, the learner should be able to demonstrate the ability to:

- evaluate and analyse a wide range of methodological approaches, research designs, and a range of methods appropriate to gather data from complex work-based settings;
- interrogate concepts, principles and practices of research in the analysis, interpretation and evaluation of data from a work-based setting;
- identify and critically evaluate the ethical issues surrounding research, with a particular focus on 'insider research' issues.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

- An examination of a wide range of epistemological and ontological viewpoints and a discussion of the way in which they affect research;
- An examination of a wide range of research methodologies and methods;
- An evaluation of the tools and techniques needed to analyse, interpret, evaluate, and report different types of data;
- Consideration and analysis of the ethical considerations relevant to research, with a particular focus on the most common ethical considerations within insider research;
- Identification and evaluation of potential research opportunities within a range of contexts, with a particular focus on the context of the learner.

LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY

Teaching sessions will introduce the learners to the relevant concepts, principles, and practices. Tutorials will introduce practical examples which will be used to support application, discussion, and evaluation.

The allocation of teaching to deliver the module is:

Activity type	Hours	Percentage
Scheduled learning	30	10%
Independent learning	60	20%
Placement learning – work-based	210	70%
TOTAL	300	100%

ASSESSMENT

Coursework: 100% - 8,000 words or equivalent.

Assessment Component 1 – 50%

Written Assignment – 4,000 words or equivalent

Exemplar:

‘Critically examine a range of research methods, indicating the ontology, epistemology, and methodology associated with each, and evaluate within a range of contexts.’

Assessment Component 2 – 50%

Written Assignment – 4,000 words or equivalent

Exemplar:

‘Outline and evaluate the possible method(s) used to generate a given data set, analysing any ethical considerations involved, and any possible issues of insider research. Analyse the data provided, discussing the likely conclusions resulting from your analysis.’

Assessment Summary

Activity type	Percentage
Written	0
Coursework	100%
Practical	0
TOTAL	100%

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ESD)

Does the module contribute to ESD?	Yes X
	No
By encouraging action research (a fundamental element of effective reflective practice), promoting in-work learning and improvement, and encouraging communication between students and their research participants at all levels, this module helps to meet 4 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act's 7 goals: a prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales, a more equal Wales, and a Wales of cohesive communities. The module also helps students learn to think more actively, helping them to prepare to not only weather change in their future, but to examine and evaluate that change and make future plans using the tools and techniques of effective research. Finally, the module is expected to encourage students to carry on in their academic careers and conduct a full-scale research project, helping them to engage more fully with long-term higher education.	