

Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology

Module Code:	PSY4006-B
Academic Year:	2018-19
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Social Sciences
Subject Area:	Psychology
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 4

Pre-requisites:

Co-requisites:

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	22
Laboratory	11
Directed Study	167

Availability Periods

Occurrence	Location/Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Academic Year (Sept - May)

Module Aims

This module will introduce you to the basic concepts and procedures used to conduct and evaluate psychological research. Emphasis will be placed on understanding established research methods, applying robust techniques in order to produce interpretable and reproducible results and evaluating published scientific reports. The lab component of the course will focus on the skills required to produce original research in psychology. It will provide you with hands-on experience of analysing and writing up qualitative and quantitative data.

Outline Syllabus

- The nature(s) of psychological research
- Research aims and research designs
- The ethics of psychological research.
- Experimental design - variables, groups and conditions.
- Survey work.
- Observation.
- Sampling.
- Descriptive statistics and inferential testing (including SPSS, correlational studies).
- Validity and reliability.
- An introduction to qualitative research including its purposes.
- Handling qualitative data and thematic analysis.

Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

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| 1 | Demonstrate awareness of the principles of psychological research design; |
| 10 | Handle qualitative data thematically. |
| 11 | Communicate ideas and research findings by effectively using a range of written, oral and visual means; |
| 12 | Interpret and use numerical/statistical and qualitative forms of data; |
| 13 | Be computer literate for the purposes of furthering your own learning and in the analysis and presentation of ideas and research findings; |
| 14 | Approach problem solving in a systematic way; |
| 15 | Recognise the need to assess your own skills and to harness them for future learning. |
| 2 | Understand the nature and use of a range of statistical tests and the function of SPSS; |
| 3 | Understand the nature of qualitative research and the principles of thematic analysis; |
| 4 | Demonstrate knowledge about the ethical issues involved in psychological research; |
| 5 | Understand the rules of communicating the results of different types of psychological research. |
| 6 | Reason scientifically and demonstrate the relationship between theory and evidence; |
| 7 | Detect meaningful patterns in behaviour and experience; |
| 8 | Demonstrate competence in research skills through practical activities; |
| 9 | Use SPSS to manipulate quantitative data; |

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

A session will normally consist of a combination of lectures (LOs 1-5) accompanied by support workshops and/or practical exercises (LOs 6-15). The assessment will be two practical research articles, one being a quantitative study and the other a qualitative study. There will be ongoing assessment (through the workbook) of the development of your skills.

Learning outcomes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6-9 will be assessed in the quantitative research article.
 Learning outcomes 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 will be assessed in the qualitative research article.
 Learning outcomes 1, 2 & 5, 6-10 and 11-15 will be assessed in the practical labs and its coursework.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting	Final Assess'
Summative	Coursework	Workbook - ongoing assessment of practical assignments in the laboratory and the development of your skills	0 hours	20%	Yes
Summative	Coursework	Qualitative research article - 1500 words max	0 hours	40%	No
Summative	Coursework	Quantitative research article - 1500 words max	0 hours	40%	No

Legacy Code (if applicable)

SY-4012L

Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to [rebus:list](#).