

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	QUALITATIVE PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH		
MODULE CODE	PS2050 (L5)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK CREDITS / 10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF SCIENCES		

MODULE AIMS

The aim of this module is to give students the skills to carry out, and write up, their own independent empirical studies using qualitative methods of data collection and analysis.

MODULE CONTENT

Indicative syllabus content:

Teaching will cover key issues and techniques in a range of data collection and analysis methods that are used in psychological research. Particular attention will be paid to the collection of data with interviews, both one to one and focus group. A variety of methods for analysing data will be introduced and described – for example, thematic analysis, discourse analysis and phenomenological methods. Current debates and issues relating to qualitative methods in psychology will be covered as will issues relating to the evaluation of qualitative research.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:

1. Design and carry out empirical projects that address psychological research questions with qualitative research methods.
2. Write up the results of qualitative research studies according to relevant conventions and standards.

TEACHING METHODS

The core knowledge content of the module will be taught by lectures including discussions and activities within lectures and will be supported by Blackboard. The skills of designing, conducting and writing up their own qualitative research studies will be developed within a series of small group practical sessions, where students will discuss issues affecting the design and conduct of research as well as practising practical tasks such as interviewing and coding in a supportive environment. These tasks will provide formative feedback on skills development. Discussion of writing up will reinforce written guidance about the requirements of empirical reports and facilitate students in applying these to their submissions. This approach will be used for both labs: one collecting data via focus groups and another using one to one interview data.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through two empirical reports.