

Module Details	
Module Title	Methodological Issues and Qualitative Research
Module Code	PSY5012-B
Academic Year	2020/1
Credits	20
School	School of Social Sciences
Subject Area	Psychology
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 5
Pre-requisites	N/A
Co-requisites	N/A

Contact Hours		
Type	Hours	
Online Lecture (Synchronous)	18	
Practical Classes or Workshops	10	
Directed Study	172	

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1

Module Aims	
<p>The module builds on `Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology` and Critical and Philosophical Issues in Psychology studied in Year 1. Throughout the module you will be able to examine the philosophical underpinnings of psychological research and also consider the implications of these philosophical underpinnings in terms of the assumptions made about the social world and human behaviour. You will learn about the different criteria used to assess research carried out using qualitative methods, as well as develop knowledge and skills in qualitative research methods of data collection, data analysis and writing up</p>	

Outline Syllabus

- Understanding, interpreting and critically analysing the nature of science and scientific research.
- Methods of acquiring knowledge, outlining different paradigms and investigating qualitative research programmes.
- Critical approaches to psychology.
- Ethics and politics of research in psychology.
- Qualitative data collection: including interviewing, focus groups and documentary analysis.
- Different qualitative approaches to the analysis and presentation of qualitative data

While these topics will be covered, some will necessarily be covered in more depth than others.

Learning Outcomes

Outcome Number	Description
01	Demonstrate an understanding of the main philosophical and conceptual issues underpinning psychological research and theory.
02	Describe and evaluate a range of qualitative approaches in psychology.
03	Apply your knowledge to design, collect and analyse qualitative data.
04	Demonstrate an understanding of the social, moral and ethical implications of qualitative psychological research.
05	Demonstrate an ability to reflect upon the connectedness of research design, practice and theory.
06	Demonstrate the relationship between qualitative forms of evidence and psychological theory.
07	Communicate ideas and research findings by effectively using a range of written, oral and visual means.
08	Interpret and use qualitative forms of data.
09	Be computer literate for the purposes of furthering your own learning and in the analysis and presentation of ideas/research findings.
10	Approach problem solving in a systematic way.
11	Undertake self-directed study/project management in a supportive environment.
12	Recognise the need to assess your own skills and to harness them for future learning.
13	Recognise the value of knowledge and its ability to be transformative.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

This module uses a range of teaching and learning strategies. Lectures will be used to explore and examine some of the conceptual and historical issues underpinning major debates in psychology (LOs 1-6). Workshops and practical sessions are a central feature of this module enabling you to develop essential qualitative research methods skills (LOs 3, 5-11). Assessment task 1 assesses your ability to apply this understanding to their own data collection and analysis (LOs 1, 3, 4, 7, 9-13). Assessment task 2 examines the extent to which you have understood what comprises high quality research practice in the qualitative domain and tests LOs 1, 2, 5, 6 & 8.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting
Summative	Coursework	A 1500 word critical review of a piece of published research (published research paper will be provided)	N/A	30%
Summative	Coursework	2500 word portfolio evidencing skills and competencies developed during practical classes workshops	N/A	70%

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit <https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html>

Please note:

This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

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