

Module Title	Social Research Methods
Course Title	BSc Criminology; BSc Criminology (Black Studies); BSc Criminology (Social Policy) BSc Criminology (Sustainability); BSc Criminology with Psychology BSc Sociology; BSc Sociology (Black Studies); BSc Sociology (Criminology); BSc Sociology (Social Policy); BSc Sociology (Sustainability) BA International Relations; BA International Relations (Black Studies) BA International Relations (Social Policy); BA International Relations (Sustainability); BA Politics; BA Politics (Black Studies); BA Politics (Social Policy); BA Politics (Sustainability).
School	<input type="checkbox"/> ASC <input type="checkbox"/> ACI <input type="checkbox"/> BEA <input type="checkbox"/> BUS <input type="checkbox"/> ENG <input type="checkbox"/> HSC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LSS
Division	Social Sciences
Parent Course (if applicable)	BSc Sociology
Level	5
Semester	1
Module Code (showing level)	DSS_5_SRM
JACS Code (completed by the QA)	
Credit Value	20 credit points
Student Study Hours	Contact hours: 45 Student managed learning hours: 155
Pre-requisite Learning	None
Co-requisites	None
Excluded combinations	None
Module co-ordinator	TBC
Short Description (max. 100 words)	This module introduces students to key concepts, methods and techniques used in social research. Students learn how to evaluate the methodological choices of researchers and to conduct their own social research. Students are introduced to both qualitative methods in the first half and quantitative methods in the second half. Within each half the module focuses on evaluative criteria (e.g. ethics and measurement validity) for social research, data collection methods (e.g. qualitative interviews and surveys) and data analytic methods (e.g. grounded theory and statistical methods).
Aims	The module aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To introduce students to key concepts and methods regularly used in qualitative and quantitative research. • To enable students to evaluate the validity of research carried out by others. • To enable students to design and carry out empirical research that addresses key research. • To introduce students to statistical software and online sources of secondary data.
Learning Outcomes	At the end of the module students will have developed:

(4 to 6 outcomes)	<p>Knowledge and Understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge and understanding of criteria for assessing the validity of research. • knowledge and understanding of data collection methods in qualitative and quantitative research. • knowledge and understanding of statistical analysis and software used to analyse data. <p>Intellectual Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • skills of critical and conceptual thinking about methodological choices researchers make in research. • skills of designing research relevant to theoretical and policy debates.the ability to complete and present a logically coherent written argument using good quality empirical evidence.
Employability	<p>Students will be more employable at the successful conclusion of the module by developing skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenting effectively in front of a group. • Effective use of analytic software. • Ability to read and interpret tables of evidence. • Ability to write clearly and logically. • Ability to manage time and meet deadlines.
Teaching and learning pattern	<p>Contact hours includes the following: (please click on the checkboxes as appropriate)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lectures <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Work: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seminars <input type="checkbox"/> Tutorial: <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workshops <input type="checkbox"/> Practical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VLE Activities</p>
Indicative content	<p>The topics covered will include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Selecting a research question 2. Research ethics 3. Research methods, epistemology and ontology 4. Qualitative interviews 5. Ethnographic methods 6. Discourse and textual analysis 7. Post-positivist methodologies 8. Coding techniques 9. Probability sampling 10. Measurement theory 11. Significance testing 12. Data presentation 13. Simple linear regression and correlation
Assessment method (Please give details – of components, weightings, sequence of components, final component)	<p>Formative assessment: Weekly seminar presentations by students.</p> <p>Summative assessment: CW1: Three 500-word seminar reports (50%) CW2: 1500-word statistics assignment (50%)</p>

Mode of resit assessment (if applicable)	As above
Indicative Sources (Reading lists)	<p>Core materials Agresti, A. and Finlay, B. (2013) <i>Statistical Methods in the Social Sciences</i>. London: Pearson Clark, T., Foster, L., Sloan, L. and Bryman, A (2021) <i>Bryman's Social Research Methods</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press Maruyama, G. and Ryan, C. (2014) <i>Research Methods in Social Relations</i>. London: Wiley and Sons</p> <p>Optional reading Bernard, H Russell (2012) <i>Social Research Methods</i>. London: Sage Field, A., Miles, J. and Field, Z. (2012) <i>Discovering Statistics Using R</i> London: Sage Fielding, J. and Gilbert, N. (2006) <i>Understanding Social Statistics</i>. London: Sage</p>
Other Learning Resources	The Module will be supported by the Virtual Learning environment Moodle. Students will also use statistical software SPSS as well as accessing datasets from UK Data.