

EQ926-60 Dissertation MA Psychology & Education

21/22

Department

Education Studies

Level

Taught Postgraduate Level

Module leader

Dimitra Hartas

Credit value

60

Module duration

48 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

The dissertation is an opportunity to explore, in depth, an area of academic and/or professional interest related to your degree. Building on the knowledge and skills developed during the Research Methods module, and your other modules, you will conduct an independent research project, developing a deeper understanding of your chosen topic. From your research project you will produce a dissertation, with guidance from a supervisor who will be allocated to you. Through the dissertation you will demonstrate the ability to analyse and synthesise relevant literature, produce coherent arguments supported by relevant evidence and logical discussion, and acknowledge sources of ideas and information.

Module aims

This module provides students with either:

(a) an opportunity to conduct and report empirical research in the field of psychology and education, or:

(b) an opportunity to consider an area of substantive academic/professional interest related to psychology and education.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Following introductory and preparation sessions delivered within the prerequisite research methods module, needs analysis and discussion with tutors, students select either a topic for empirical research within the field of psychology and education, or an area of scholarship related to psychology and education. Students on this module also have an opportunity to apply to work on existing research and scholarship alongside researchers within the university. Students write a 15,000 word dissertation, in consultation with their supervisor. In order to undertake the study, students select and read appropriate theoretical and methodological literature, in consultation with their supervisor.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate detailed knowledge and understanding of a specific topic within the field of Psychology and education
- Written communication skills
- Demonstrate use of information technology eg via use of the internet
- Use of relevant research skills
- Demonstrate ability in critical analysis
- Demonstrate ability to understand and articulate new concepts
- Demonstrate ability to plan and structure a sustained report of research or a piece of sustained academic scholarship related to psychology and education

Indicative reading list

Auspurg, K., & Hinz, T. (2015). *Quantitative Applications in the Social Sciences: Factorial survey experiments*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. doi: 10.4135/9781483398075

Bieger G R and Gerlach G J (1996) *Educational Research: A Practical Approach* (Wadsworth Publishing).

Grey, D. (2004) *Doing Research in the Real World*. (Sage)

Hao, L., & Naiman, D. Q. (2010). *Quantitative Applications in the Social Sciences: Assessing inequality*. : SAGE Publications, Inc. doi: 10.4135/978141299389

McIntyre, A. (2008). *Qualitative Research Methods: Participatory action research*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. doi: 10.4135/9781483385679

Muijs, D. (2004) *Doing Quantitative Research*. (Sage/Paul Chapman) Opie, C. (2004) *Doing Educational Research*. (Sage/Paul Chapman). Prior, L. (2003) *Using Documents in Social Research*. (Sage)

Pauwels, L., & Mannay, D. (2020). *The sage handbook of visual research methods*. 55 City Road, London: SAGE Publications, Inc. doi: 10.4135/9781526417015

Rodriguez, N., & Ryave, A. (2002). *Qualitative Research Methods: Systematic self-observation*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. doi: 10.4135/9781412986076

Sternberg, R. (2020). *My biggest research mistake: Adventures and misadventures in*

psychological research. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. doi:
10.4135/9781071802601

Wolcott, H. F. (2009). Writing up qualitative research (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. doi: 10.4135/9781452234878

Also:

Journals (all available in Warwick library, most electronically)

American Psychological Association (2010). Preparing manuscripts for publication in psychology journals: A guide for new authors. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Research element

Students complete an independent research study related to a chosen aspect of psychology and education.

Subject specific skills

- examine, evaluate and deploy the findings of empirical and theoretical studies related to education and psychology
- reflect upon the ethics of studying aspects of education and psychology
- generate and explore suitable research questions
- carry out empirical or desk-based studies ethically
- use appropriate methods of data collection to answer research questions
- analyse data
- present and evaluate research findings

Transferable skills

- Analysis and decision making
- Communication skills
- Critical thinking
- Data handling
- Emotional intelligence
- Intellectual ability
- Judgement and decision making
- Negotiation
- Planning and organisational skills
- Problem solving
- Reasoning
- Using IT effectively

Study

Study time

Type	Required	Optional
Seminars	(0%)	4 sessions of 2 hours
Tutorials	10 sessions of 30 minutes (1%)	
Private study	595 hours (99%)	
Total	600 hours	

Private study description

Independent study hours include background reading, completing reading/other tasks in preparation for timetabled teaching sessions, undertaking research using the library resources,

follow-up reading work, working on individual and group projects, the completion of formative and summative assignments, revision.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A1

	Weighting	Study time
Dissertation	100%	
1 x 15,000 Words dissertation		

Feedback on assessment

Standard Education Studies feedback form via Tabula

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 3 of TEQA-C8X3 Postgraduate Taught Psychology and Education

This module is Core optional for:

- TEQA-C8X3 Postgraduate Taught Psychology and Education
 - Year 1 of C8X3 Psychology and Education
 - Year 2 of C8X3 Psychology and Education
- Year 2 of TEQA-C8X4 Postgraduate Taught Psychology and Education