

MD1B3-15 Methods of Enquiry

23/24

Department

Warwick Medical School

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Gurpreet Chouhan

Credit value

15

Module duration

8 weeks

Assessment

40% coursework, 60% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module will provide an introduction to research in health and medical sciences. It will cover why and how we do research (evidence, study design, research methods) and specific methods of enquiry (including interpretation of results and bias).

Students will acquire skills in data acquisition and management, analysis and interpretation, and communication of findings to different audiences.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

To introduce students to the importance of conducting high quality research in health and medical sciences and to provide them with a basic understanding of how this is achieved.

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.

This module will run alongside the integrated illness and wellbeing modules, students will be expected to interlink their knowledge and understanding of methods of enquiry to the taught and

CBL content in those blocks.

Students will cover the following topics:

- Writing an important research question and
- Introduction to qualitative and quantitative research methods
- Introduction to systematic reviews
- Introduction to data analysis (thematic and descriptive)
- Concepts of bias, inference and study design
- Introduction to different types of evidence, evidence quality, and using evidence in research
- Communication of research to different audiences

Learning outcomes

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

- To demonstrate a basic familiarity with the use of appropriate research designs and methods to answer health-related research questions
- To use appropriate research methods (quantitative, qualitative and systematic literature review) to obtain and process data so it may be simply interpreted.
- To use different methods/styles to communicate information effectively.

Indicative reading list

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Subject specific skills

Ability to consider health and medical sciences research in context

Ability to undertake basic statistical analysis and basic coding of qualitative data

Ability to interpret research findings and evaluate research

Transferable skills

Presentation skills, critical appraisal, excel skills, Self-directed learning, evidence-based approach to problem solving, time management

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	10 sessions of 1 hour (12%)
Seminars	4 sessions of 1 hour (5%)
Total	82 hours

Type	Required
Practical classes	10 sessions of 1 hour (12%)
Online learning (independent)	12 sessions of 1 hour (15%)
Private study	46 hours (56%)
Total	82 hours

Private study description

Students would be expected to engage in self-directed learning outside other learning and teaching activities outlined above. We expect this time will be spent on background reading prior to classes, research for written assignments and examination preparation. We anticipate that 60% of this time will go on preparations for assessments; however all activities including background reading prior to the class will also benefit preparations for assessments.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group D1

	Weighting	Study time
Poster presentation	40%	28 hours
Design and present a research study using a poster		
Locally Timetabled Examination - Exam	60%	40 hours
This component will assess your knowledge on the core topics taught in the module including study designs, systematic literature review, quantitative and qualitative research methods.		

Feedback on assessment

Both assessments will provide feedback to the students (including individualised feedback) in line with WMS assessment criteria, including submission to Plagiarism software. Further verbal feedback will be available to students on request. Every student who fails an element of assessment will be offered an appointment for face to face feedback.

[Past exam papers for MD1B3](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- UMDA-B990 Undergraduate Health and Medical Sciences
 - Year 1 of B990 Health and Medical Sciences
 - Year 1 of B990 Health and Medical Sciences