

EQ943-60 Dissertation

26/27

Department

Education Studies

Level

Taught Postgraduate Level

Module leader

Rebecca Morris

Credit value

60

Module duration

20 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 your foundation research training, and your other modules, you will conduct an independent dissertation 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. You will engage with a combination of small-group supervision sessions (5 x 1 hour) and a number of individual 1-2-1 tutorials with your supervisor. 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 an opportunity to consider in depth an area of academic and/or professional interest related to education. It is expected that the dissertation should demonstrate that the student can:

- Evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in their specialist field
- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of research methods applicable to their own

research and utilise these as appropriate to produce a Master's level piece of research within their specialist field

- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the key theoretical standpoints within their area of research
- Complete an advanced research project using an appropriate method(s) within their specialist field

Use their initiative and self-direction to solve problems encountered during the research process

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.

Students will work with their tutors and supervisors to determine a topic/focus for their dissertation study. Following this, students will independently plan and carry out their research in order to complete a 15,000 word dissertation. To inform their study, students will select, read and synthesise appropriate theoretical, empirical and methodological literature. Their work will build upon their MA modules to date, particularly the required Foundation Research Methods module.

Learning outcomes

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

- Communicates detailed knowledge and critical awareness of a specific topic within the field of education
- Demonstrates high quality written communication skills
- Demonstrates effective use of information technology (for example analysis of qualitative data, quantitative data, use of e-resources in the library, e.g. literature searches)
- Can evidence critical analysis of existing theory and research within fields relevant to the dissertation topic
- Demonstrates ability to understand and to articulate relevant and / or new concepts
- Demonstrates ability to systematically plan and structure a sustained report of research or a piece of sustained academic scholarship related to education
- Displays self-direction and originality in tackling problem solving within a research process

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

[Specific reading list for the module](#)

Research element

With guidance from supervisors, students undertake a small-scale independent empirical research study or a desk-based study related an area of education that they have chosen. This assessed outcome of this is the 15,000 word dissertation document.

Interdisciplinary

There is the potential for students to engage with their research project in an interdisciplinary way. It is possible, for example that students might draw upon sociological, psychological or economic thinking, theory and research in order to inform their own study.

International

There is scope for students to have an international focus for their dissertation, depending on their chosen topic. This could involve some international travel for fieldwork (but is not a requirement).

Subject specific skills

- Build skills to examine, evaluate and deploy the findings of empirical and theoretical studies related to educational research
- Reflect upon the ethics of studying aspects of education
- Generate and explore suitable research questions
- Carry out empirical or desk-based studies ethically
- Use research strategies and techniques appropriate to their chosen field of inquiry and research questions
- Analyse data effectively
- Can present and critically evaluate research findings in an appropriate form

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
- Cognitive flexibility
- Problem-solving

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Tutorials	5 sessions of 1 hour (2%)
Project supervision	5 sessions of 30 minutes (1%)
Private study	292 hours 30 minutes (97%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Independent study hours include background topic reading, undertaking reading around research methodologies, using the library resources, completing ethical review form, working on individual project, researching particular requirements (and permissions) of research project, carrying out

data collection, analysing data and writing-up study.

Costs

Category	Description	Funded by	Cost to student
Other	Books and resources for research (optional)	Student	
IT and software	IT required for standard Masters research needs (e.g. laptop, recording devices, software)	Student	
Other	Possible travel and subsistence for research purposes eg to visit educational institutions/schools as required by individual students' topics chosen	Student	

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A1

Assessment component	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Education Studies Masters Dissertation Masters dissertation	100%	300 hours	No

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Standardised department PGT Feedback and reflection sheet returned through Tabula

Availability

Pre-requisites

To take this module, you must have passed:

- Any of

- [IE909-30 Foundation Research Methods in Education](#)
- [EQ950-30 Research Methods in Education \(online\)](#)
- [EQ925-30 Research Methods in Psychology and Education](#)
- [EQ949-30 Research Methods in Education](#)
- [EQ945-30 Policy, Strategy and Resources in Education \(online version\)](#)

Courses

This module is Core for:

- TEQS-X32O Masters in Education Reconstruction (Ukraine)
 - Year 1 of X32O Masters in Education Reconstruction (Ukraine)
 - Year 2 of X32O Masters in Education Reconstruction (Ukraine)
- Year 1 of TIEA-X30F Postgraduate Taught Childhood in Society
- Year 1 of TIES-X3BA Postgraduate Taught Drama Education and English Language Teaching
- TIEA-X30C Postgraduate Taught Drama and Theatre Education
 - Year 1 of X3C2 Drama and Theatre Education by Dissertation
 - Year 3 of X3C2 Drama and Theatre Education by Dissertation
- Year 1 of TEQA-X35Q Postgraduate Taught Education (Full-time)
- Year 3 of TEQA-X35R Postgraduate Taught Education (Part-time - 2 year)
- TIEA-X31M Postgraduate Taught Educational Leadership and Management
 - Year 1 of X3M1 Educational Leadership and Management by Dissertation
 - Year 3 of X3M2 Educational Leadership and Management by Professional Route
- Year 1 of TEQS-X3AN Postgraduate Taught Global Education and International Development
- TEQA-C8X3 Postgraduate Taught Psychology and Education
 - Year 1 of C8X3 Psychology and Education
 - Year 3 of C8X3 Psychology and Education
- Year 3 of TEQA-C8X4 Postgraduate Taught Psychology and Education
- Year 1 of TEQA-X3V7 Postgraduate Taught in Islamic Education: Theory and Practice (Full-time)
- Year 2 of TEQA-X3V9 Postgraduate Taught in Islamic Education: Theory and Practice (Part-time - 2 years)
- Year 3 of TEQA-X3V5 Postgraduate Taught in Islamic Education: Theory and Practice (Part-time - 3 years)

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of TIEA-X30F Postgraduate Taught Childhood in Society
- TIEA-X30C Postgraduate Taught Drama and Theatre Education
 - Year 1 of X3C2 Drama and Theatre Education by Dissertation
 - Year 1 of X3C3 Drama and Theatre Education by Portfolio Route
- Year 1 of TIEA-X31L Postgraduate Taught Educational Innovation
- TIEA-X31M Postgraduate Taught Educational Leadership and Management
 - Year 1 of X3M2 Educational Leadership and Management by Professional Route
 - Year 2 of X3M2 Educational Leadership and Management by Professional Route

- TEQS-X3AN Postgraduate Taught Global Education and International Development
 - Year 1 of X3AN Global Education and International Development
 - Year 2 of X3AN Global Education and International Development
- 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

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 1 of TIEA-X30F Postgraduate Taught Childhood in Society
- Year 1 of TIEA-X31L Postgraduate Taught Educational Innovation

This module is Core option list C for:

- Year 1 of TIEA-X31M Postgraduate Taught Educational Leadership and Management

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 3 of TEQA-X3V5 Postgraduate Taught in Islamic Education: Theory and Practice (Part-time - 3 years)