

ME956-60 Dissertation (Health and Wellbeing)

26/27

Department

Warwick Medical School

Level

Taught Postgraduate Level

Module leader

Felicity Boardman

Credit value

60

Module duration

12 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module meets the requirements of the ESRC DTC 1+3 MA in Social Research (Health and Wellbeing pathway). The students will complete a structured dissertation, that may include either an in-depth critical appraisal of the literature, or empirical research. Students will receive tuition in developing their research question and will produce a 12,000-15,000 word dissertation answering it.

It is expected that this piece of work will complement, but not be replicated within, the student's doctoral thesis. It may include a pilot study of methods to be used within the doctoral research.

This module will allow students to demonstrate an in-depth critical appreciation of their chosen area of enquiry as well as to showcase their learning developed from their ESRC core training modules 'Research Design, Practice and Ethics' (IM926), 'Philosophies of Social Science Research' (IM924), 'Foundations in Qualitative Research' (IM925) and 'Fundamentals in Quantitative Research Methods' (QS905) while developing transferrable skills of literature searching, critical appraisal, data collection and analysis and writing up research findings.

Module aims

To enable the students to apply knowledge and skills obtained in the taught modules of the MA Social Research to a research question of their choosing to facilitate their transition to independent doctoral research.

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.

To undertake a research project (either empirical or literature based), including the following aspects:

- A clear research question
- A research design that appropriately answers the research question
- Evidence of data generation (empirical or literature based)
- Evidence of data analysis and synthesis
- A substantial independent piece of academic work based on the findings of the analysis, informed by references to appropriate literature throughout.

Learning outcomes

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

1. Think critically about their chosen research topic and identify an appropriate theoretical perspective within which to situate their research approach.
2. Formulate a research question within their field of interest that may feasibly be answered within the constraints of an MA dissertation.
3. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of different research methodologies and how these might be applied to health-related research.
4. Develop a research protocol that complies with ethical principles and addresses their research question.
5. Demonstrate self-direction and independence in carrying out their chosen research project.
6. Demonstrate advanced skills in planning, information gathering, data interpretation and synthesis for their research enquiry.
7. Produce and communicate a substantial, independent piece of academic work based on the findings of their analysis, informed by references to appropriate literature throughout.

Indicative reading list

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

Subject specific skills

Sound understanding of subject
Critically evaluate

Reflection

Transferable skills

Numeracy

Thinking and problem solving

written communication

oral communication

Teamwork

Organisation & time management

Use of tools and technology

Commercial awareness

Independence and initiative

Adaptability/Flexibility

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Project supervision	12 sessions of 1 hour (2%)
Private study	488 hours (81%)
Assessment	100 hours (17%)
Total	600 hours

Private study description

Private Study.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A2

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
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Assessment component

Essay/Coursework 12,000-15,000 words	100%	100 hours	Yes (extension)
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Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Students will be offered formative feedback through their supervisions. Students will receive written feedback on their completed dissertations.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TIMA-L981 Postgraduate Social Science Research