

PS225-30 Further Methods for Psychology

26/27

Department

Psychology

Level

Undergraduate Level 2

Module leader

James Adelman

Credit value

30

Module duration

22 weeks

Assessment

65% coursework, 35% exam

Study locations

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry Primary

Distance or Online Delivery

Description

Introductory description

Further Methods for Psychology addresses conceptual, design and analysis issues in psychological research, with a project component.

Module aims

The module will consolidate and extend your skills and understanding of issues in research methods that affect you as a producer and consumer of research. The module provides Research Methods instruction at the Level 5/Diploma (Year 2) level, in line with BPS accreditation requirements and prepares students for empirical final year projects (also an accreditation requirement) by developing knowledge and skills relating to quantitative and qualitative research and through empirical research in groups.

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.

Significance testing and its rationale (including power).

Specific analyses and hypothesis tests and the designs for which they are appropriate: One-sample and two-sample tests; Extensions to >2 levels; Two-factor designs, moderation/interactions, simple effects; Correlation, regression, multiple regression.

Design, validity and reliability. Questionnaire/survey design and validation. Project design and management

Data re-organization techniques to support hypothesis testing.

Qualitative Methods.

Ethics and ethical issues.

Conducting projects.

Learning outcomes

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

- explore a data set and systematically test hypotheses about the data.
- evaluate the suitability of data for analyses and understand techniques to attenuate problems of data quality or reliability..
- present the results of data analysis clearly and concisely.
- understand methodological issues that affect validity.
- perform and report some qualitative analyses.
- propose a theoretically motivated extension to a published study.
- execute a medium-sized project implementing that extension.
- present work in poster and journal submission format.
- appreciate the ethical context of psychological research.
- follow procedures for the protection of participants in the light of ethical issues.
- understand and critique effective research design

Indicative reading list

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

Research element

Qualitative group work will involve either the collection and analysis of qualitative data or the analysis of existing qualitative data, and the writing of a group qualitative report.

Project work will involve as group work the design of a replication-extension study, the execution of that design and the presentation of a poster and as independent work, the writing of a journal article style report.

Subject specific skills

understanding of the principles of psychological research, different methods of research and the principles of qualitative methods

developing and extending existing research, application of research methods training, development of ethical awareness.

Transferable skills

critical analysis, formulation and testing of hypotheses

written communication skills;

data analysis (use of SPSS);

qualitative data analysis;

team working, communication and collaboration, data analysis, presentation skills

time management,

Study

Study time

Type	Required	Optional
Lectures	16 sessions of 1 hour (5%)	
Seminars	4 sessions of 1 hour (1%)	2 sessions of 1 hour
Project supervision	3 sessions of 1 hour (1%)	
Practical classes	8 sessions of 1 hour (3%)	
Online learning (independent)	8 sessions of 1 hour (3%)	12 sessions of 30 minutes
Assessment	261 hours (87%)	
Total	300 hours	

Private study description

No private study requirements defined for this module.

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	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Homework practice sheets	5%	40 hours	Yes (waive)
Online homework worksheets for quantitative lectures supported by practical classes, leading to the exam. Delivered via the method.psych.warwick.ac.uk system to accommodate types of questions/answers not supported by standard systems. Assessed with low weighting (despite time required) to reflect their role as practice.			

Reassessment component

Homework reassessment online test			No
Students will complete a series of problem sets in one sitting, similar to those used in the weekly homeworks			

Assessment component

Qualitative assessment	20%	56 hours	No
Group Work in groups of 4 or 5			

Reassessment component

Qualitative assessment			No
Short presentation be based on the student completing the same tasks as the individual students working in the groups			

Assessment component

Poster	5%	12 hours	No
A poster about the project element of the module.			

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Second Year Project	35%	100 hours	No
Individual report on an empirical project that is a replication and extension of prior empirical work, the prior work being selected from a list provided by the supervisor.			

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Centrally-timetabled examination (Online)	35%	53 hours	No
Questions in similar formats to the homework sheets.			

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- Online examination: No Answerbook required

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Homework feedback will be composed of automated feedback for questions marked automatically, augmented by group feedback as online recording.

Group exam feedback discussing issues affecting multiple questions across the question pool.

Academic guidance forms and annotations for feedback on written reports.

Academic guidance form for poster evaluation.

[Past exam papers for PS225](#)

Availability

Pre-requisites

To take this module, you must have passed:

- All of
 - [PS125-30 Research and statistical methods for psychology students](#)

Post-requisite modules

If you pass this module, you can take:

- PS302-30 Final Year Project
- PS369-30 Linguistics and Psychology Project

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 2 of UPSA-C800 Undergraduate Psychology
- Year 2 of UPSA-C804 Undergraduate Psychology with Education Studies
- Year 2 of UPSA-C802 Undergraduate Psychology with Linguistics