Module Descriptor

Title	Research Methods in Psychology		
Session	2025/26	**Status**	Validated
Code	PSYC11005	**SCQF Level**	11
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Education and Social Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	G Maciejewski		

Summary of Module

The module covers key theoretical and practical topics and issues of quantitative research design and analysis in psychology. In the research design section, students will learn, for example, about the scientific method, principles of research design, sampling techniques, and ethical standards and procedures. In the data analysis section, the focus will be on practical skills - in particular, using a range of descriptive and inferential statistics to analyse quantitative data as well as interpreting and communicating analysis results. The module is specifically designed for psychology students; it enhances their psychological literacy and the ability to conduct an empirical research project. By the end of the module, students will have become analytical, inquiring, digitally literate, and research- and ethically-minded.

Module Delivery Method	**On-Campus[1]** ☒	**Hybrid[2]** ☐	**Online[3]** ☐	**Work -Based Learning[4]** ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☐ Lanarkshire ☒ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	

Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☒	Term 2	☐	Term 3	☐

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Demonstrate a critical awareness of the nature and structure of psychological research design
L2	Show a critical understanding of the appropriate use of quantitative methodologies
L3	Demonstrate the ability to conduct, interpret, and evaluate the analysis of different types of psychological data
L4	Demonstrate a critical awareness of the ethical issues involved in conducting psychological research
L5	Show the ability to communicate the outcome of data analysis, both in verbal and written forms

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 11** Exhibit a critical understanding of quantitative research in relation to how its theoretical principles relate to and are implemented in professional practice
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 11** Use acquired theoretical knowledge to identify, plan, design, analyse, interpret and report the outcome of a research project
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 11** Communicate complex ideas and issues both in verbal and written forms and critically evaluate own and others' work Identify and analyse issues with quantitative methodologies
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 11** Use statistical software to interpret and analyse data Verbally present the output to peers in groups Communicate the interpretation of the output in written form using conventional standards
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 11** Take responsibility for the completion of their own formative and summative assessments, meeting rolling deadlines

Prerequisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**
	Other	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**

Learning and Teaching

In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.

This module will include 48 hours of on-campus workshops, supported by readings, resources, and other asynchronous activites for students to complete before and after the workshops to enhance their learning. The workshops will include a range of student-centred learning activities that provide opportunities for active, problem-based, and practical learning.

Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Laboratory / Practical Demonstration / Workshop	48
Independent Study	152
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

American Psychological Association. (2020). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association: The official guide to APA style (7th ed.). Amercian Psychological Association.

Haslam, S. A., McGarty, C., Crywys, T., & Steffens, N. K. (2024). Research methods and statistics in psychology (4th ed.). Sage Publications Ltd.

(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements

In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

The university is committed to providing a supportive learning environment that actively facilitates student success. You are academically engaged if you are regularly engaged with scheduled live sessions on campus, including engaging with online learning activites in your own time, course-related learning resources, and with timely completion and submission of assessments.

Whilst we understand that there may be times when conflicting priorities make participation challenging, for you to gain the most from this module it is recommended that you participate

in all scheduled live classes and complete your self-directed learning activities in a timely manner. It may be difficult to pass the assessments associated with this module if you are not regularly engaging with the module work and live classes. We may reach out to check how things area going and offer support if we oberve that you have not been attending sessions or completing online activities.

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code. In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. Where modules require practical and/or laboratory based learning or assessment required to meet accrediting body requirements the University will make reasonable adjustment such as adjustable height benches or assistance of a 'buddy' or helper.
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Psychology Social Work**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	UG/PG Psychology
Moderator	L Calderwood
External Examiner	D Barrett
Accreditation Details	British Psychological Society
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	1.0

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Portfolio of written work
Assessment 2
Portfolio of written work
Assessment 3
n/a

(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed.

(ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Portfolio of written work	☒	☒	☐	☒	☐	50	0

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Portfolio of written work	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒	50	0

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
n/a	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	0 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**
Descriptor transferred to the new template	20/12/24	G Maciejewski
Status and external examiner updated	02/06/25	G Maciejewski