

School / Faculty: Faculty of Education and Arts

Course Title: SOCIAL RESEARCH METHODS

Course ID: SOSCI2001

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): (SOSCI1002)

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED Code: 090399

Grading Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, etc.)

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	✓	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Examine key concepts of social research methods
- K2.** Recognise a range of qualitative research methods
- K3.** Develop an ethical understanding of research activities
- K4.** Identify the limitations of qualitative research

Skills:

- S1.** Establish a research question for a particular social issue to be researched
- S2.** Design and plan a research project
- S3.** Analyse and present research data in a coherent fashion

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Select and plan a research project utilising an appropriate research method
- A2.** Identify ethical considerations and concerns with a particular research project and method

Course Content:

Course Outline (Higher Education)

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The workshop sessions may include some of the following topics:

Topics may include:

- Introduction to social research methods
- Qualitative vs quantitative approaches
- Qualitative research methods
- Ethnography
- Grounded theory
- Phenomenology
- Activist Research
- Critical social research
- Research ethics
- Analysis and presentation of results
- Recruitment of research participants
- Reflexivity
- Role of research in influencing public policy

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

- V1.** Appreciate the importance of research to the social sciences
- V2.** Commit to conducting ethical research
- V3.** Develop a sense of inquiry

Graduate Attributes:

FedUni graduate attributes statement. To have graduates with knowledge, skills and competence that enable them to stand out as critical, creative and enquiring learners who are capable, flexible and work ready, and responsible, ethical and engaged citizens.

Course Outline (Higher Education)

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Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Knowledge, skills and competence	Students develop skills in social research which promotes a sense of inquiry	High
Critical, creative and enquiring learners	Students develop research skills which provide a basis for independent scholarship and a capacity to challenge conventional understandings	High
Capable, flexible and work ready	Students develop a capacity to engage as better informed citizens through research understandings	Medium
Responsible, ethical and engaged citizens	Students develop ethical understandings of research practice which encourage social responsibility	Medium

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1-K4, S1-S3, A1-A2	Participation in workshop / seminar activity including discussion, reflection, research and group work	Workshop participation and a summary of personal and group learning in each session	15-20%
K1, K2, K4, S1, A1	Work with a research case study and identify a research question	Develop a research question	10-20%
K1-K4, S2, S3, A1, A2	Based on the research case study identify an appropriate research method, discuss analysis of data, make comment on ethical issues and provide recommendations or conclusions in the form of a research report.	Research report	35-50%
K4	Write research paper on the limitations of qualitative research	Research paper	25-30%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA