

Research Methods for Practical Theology (TMM3541)

Module Level:	6
Module Credit Value:	20
Pre-requisites:	None
Co-requisites:	None
Excluded Combination of Modules:	None
Aims:	<p>To enable students to outline different approaches to conducting 'real world' research in social and human sciences.</p> <p>To develop students' understanding of the ethics of research and the importance of research design.</p> <p>To enable students to experience different methods for conducting research that could be drawn upon for a critical evaluation of practice or a research led dissertation.</p> <p>To enable students to grow in empathy through listening to, and developing understanding of, the experiences of others.</p> <p>Develop students' capacity for critical thinking in relation to own and others' work.</p>
Content:	<p>This module will provide an overview of quantitative and qualitative research methods used in the social and human sciences and how these are situating in practical and pastoral theology. This will include:</p> <p>literature search and literature reviews,</p> <p>designing and managing research:</p> <p>qualitative methods (i.e. interviews, questionnaires, focus groups and observations)</p> <p>quantitative methods (i.e. questionnaires, survey, published data)</p> <p>data analysis, validity and reliability in research</p> <p>triangulation in research</p> <p>reflexivity and interpretation in research</p> <p>theological method and interpretation.</p>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this module students will be able to:

Subject Knowledge [BA SSK 4] [Graduate Cert / Dip SSK 1, 2]

Demonstrate a systematic and detailed understanding of the nature, methods and ethical considerations of research in practical theology informed by the methodologies and findings of current research.

Subject Skills [BA SSS 3] [Graduate Cert / Dip SSS 2]

Undertake a research project, making use of appropriate research methods and critically evaluating their effectiveness.

Key Skills [BA / Grad Dip KS 1, 2, 3] [Grad Cert KS 1, 2]

Identify, gather, analyse and evaluate textual source materials, including material from primary sources and scholarly research, for a range of purposes, and communicate their findings with clarity and fairness to specialist audiences.

Critically evaluate ideas, arguments and assumptions, using them to construct and communicate coherent and well-reasoned arguments, showing critical awareness of their own and others' beliefs, commitments and prejudices, to specialist audiences.

Take responsibility for an extended project that involves the exercise of initiative, independent inquiry, and the effective management of time, resources and use of IT; engaging with others in planning and decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts; meeting deadlines; evaluating the project and learning from it.

Modes of Teaching and Learning:

Teaching methods to be specified by each TEI, using the 'Guidelines for Modes of Teaching and Learning'.

Learning Hours:

Learning hours to be specified by each TEI using the 'Guidelines for Learning Hours'.

Formative Assessment:

Formative assessment to be specified by each TEI in line with the published guidelines on formative assessment.

Summative Assessment:

Summative assessment to be specified by each TEI using the published guidance on assessment patterns for undergraduate modules.

Indicative Reading:

Indicative reading to be specified by each TEI in line with the published guidelines on creating bibliographies for undergraduate modules.