

BEDU400 Dissertation

ECTS Value: 20 ECTS

Overall Objectives and Outcomes

This module requires course participants to undertake an individual research project in an area of specialisation identified by the participant. This part of the course requires the individual to construct research questions, identify and critically evaluate appropriate literature of the respective field, devise and carry out appropriate research methods, and critically interpret and examine the results and contribution of one's research. In the process, the course participant is expected to comply with academic rigour and present findings in a well-structured and cogently argued form.

By the end of this module, the learner will be able to:

Competences

- a. critically assess and evaluate current literature on the chosen subject to define an area of study and formulate the research questions;
- b. employ the appropriate methodology to achieve the research targets as formulated in the research questions;
- c. clearly communicate to a specialised and non-specialised audiences of own research findings;
- d. manage a research project within a specified timeframe.

Knowledge

- a. identify the theoretical, scientific and/or empirical knowledge appropriate for the study;
- b. determine the contextual framework for the research;
- c. demonstrates critical knowledge of theoretical and evidence-based practices within the educational field;
- d. identify ethical and social issues within the field of educational research;
- e. illustrate an in-depth knowledge of the specific subject matter.

Skills

- a. design a research project related to a pedagogical and/or educational theme;
- b. adapt appropriate research methods to the field of study;
- c. formulate methods of collecting, manipulating and analysing data;
- d. compare research findings with published literature.

Assessment Methods

This module will be assessed through: Dissertation

Suggested Readings

Core Reading List:

1. Thomas, G. (2017). How to do your Research Project. (3rd edition). Sage Publications Ltd.

Supplementary Reading List:

1. De Vaus, D. A. (2001). Research design in social research: Sage.
2. Bryman, A., (2004). Social Research Methods. (2nd ed.) Oxford: Oxford University Press
3. Clough, P., and Nutbrown, C. (2012). A Student's Guide to Methodology (3 ed.): Sage Publications.
4. Cohen, L., Manion, L. and Morrison, K., (2011). Research Methods in Education. (7th ed.) Routledge
5. Creswell, J. W. (2013). Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches: Sage.
6. Crotty, M. (1998). The foundations of social research: Meaning and perspective in the research process: Sage.
7. Neuman, W. L., (2003). Social Research Methods – Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches. (5th ed.) USA: Pearson Education, Inc.
8. Opie, C., (2010). Doing Educational Research. London: SAGE
9. Tashakkori, A. & Teddie, C., (1998). Mixed Methodology – Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches. London: SAGE.