Module Title	**Psychological Research Methods 2**
Programme(s)/Course	BSc (Hons) Psychology, BSc (Hons) **Psychology (Child Development),** BSc (Hons) Psychology (Clinical), BSc (Hons) Psychology with Criminology
Level	4
Semester	2
Ref No:	
Credit Value	20 CAT Points
Student Study hours	Contact hours: 44 Student managed learning hours: 156
Pre-requisite learning	None
Co-requisites	None
Excluded combinations	None
Module Coordinator [Name + e mail address]	Dr Jamie Smith-Spark smithspj@lsbu.ac.uk
Parent Department	Psychology
Parent Course	BSc Psychology
Description [100 words max]	The module builds and expands upon the descriptive and simple inferential statistical methods introduced in Psychological Research Methods 1. Lectures and seminars consider more advanced principles of research design, qualitative data analysis, and statistical analysis using SPSS. The module is assessed by two practical report writing assignments and a short answer examination.
JACS Code	C800
Aims	• enable students to undertake simple empirical studies and to evaluate and communicate outcomes in a scientifically meaningful and critical way • promote an understanding of the research methods used for the testing of predictive hypotheses in psychology • enable students to begin to develop skills in the application and calculation of statistical procedures and to provide an understanding of their rationales
Learning outcomes	On successful completion of this module, students will: **Knowledge and Understanding**: • become aware of the principles of certain statistical tests • design experiments • understand how to conduct naturalistic observations • develop an awareness of qualitative research methods and the ways in which they differ from quantitative research **Intellectual Skills**: • generate and explore research questions in practical work • present/evaluate research findings in practical work • carry out empirical studies using different methods **Practical Skills**: • use a variety of psychological tools, e.g. psychometric instruments

	• carry out empirical studies (using different methods) • analyse data using quantitative and qualitative methods • retrieve and/or organise information effectively, e.g. from electronic sources • use computers in various ways (apart from word processing) **Transferable Skills**: • interpret inferential statistical analyses and apply findings to real life situations • retrieve and/or organise information effectively, e.g. from electronic sources • use computers in various ways (apart from word processing) • problem solve and reason scientifically • make critical judgements and evaluations • be able to think about alternative explanations for events and behavior and develop practical ways of testing these ideas • be able to analyse written communications and present this type of analysis in a structured report • communicate effectively verbally • communicate effectively using written language • operate as independent and pragmatic learners
Employability	On completion of the RM2 module, students will have built upon the skills in numeracy, analytical thinking, communication and practical skills introduced during RM1. For example, students will now have much more advanced skills in data handling and analysis, and will be familiar with a broader range of inferential statistical tests. Students should be aware that this type of understanding of data analysis is highly valued in the workplace, across a range of sectors. Students will also have developed more advanced skills in qualitative data analysis using speech and text data. Again, employers will find these skills highly attractive in potential employees.
Teaching & Learning Pattern	11 x 4 hour learning and teaching sessions comprising a mixture of lecture and practical-based seminar activities, using a variety of modes of delivery.
Indicative content	Session 1: The Chi-square test and its alternatives Session 2: Observational methods Session 3: Studying changes over time Session 4: Hypothesis testing and statistical significance Session 5: t-tests Session 6: Simple linear regression Session 7: Qualitative data analysis Session 8: Quantitative vs. qualitative research methods Session 9: Non-parametric tests Session 10: Correlation and non-parametric tests of association Session 11: Exam preparation lecture and seminar

Assessment method (Please give details – elements, weightings, sequence of elements, final component)	1. 1500-word practical report, 30% of module mark 2. 1500-word practical report, 30% of module mark 3. Two hour short answer exam, 40% of module mark (final component)
Indicative Reading	**CORE READING:** Brace, N., Kemp, R., & Snelgar, R. (2009). *SPSS for psychologists* (4th ed.). Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan. Coolican, H. (2009). *Research methods and statistics in psychology* (5th ed.). London: Hodder Education. Howell, D. C. (2007). *Statistical methods for psychology* (6th ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth. Howitt, D., & Cramer, D. (2008). *Introduction to research methods in psychology* (2nd ed.). Harlow, Essex: Pearson Education. Lyons, E., & Coyle, A. (Eds., 2007). *Analysing qualitative data in psychology.* London: Sage. **OPTIONAL READING:** Breakwell, G., Hammond, S., Fife-Schaw, C., & Smith, J. A. (Eds., 2006). *Research methods in Psychology* (3rd ed.). London: Sage. Clark-Carter, D. (2009). *Quantitative psychological research: A student's handbook (3rd ed.)*. Hove, East Sussex: Psychology Press. Field, A. (2009). *Discovering statistics using SPSS* (3rd ed.). London: Sage. Smith, J. A. (Ed., 2008). *Qualitative psychology: A practical guide to research methods* (2nd ed.). London: Sage.
Other Learning Resource:	