

Course Name	Social Enquiry Methods				
Course ID	06876				
Area & Cat No.	HUMS 1004				
Units	4.5	Career	UG	BUGE	Yes
School	SWP	Campus(es)	Magill, Whyalla	FOE	ASU
Components	Lecture, Tutorial	Mode	Internal/External	Final Exam	No
Syllabus Plus	Yes				

Prerequisite(s)

Aim

The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to the concepts, theoretical approaches, processes and methods of applied social research in relation to social work and welfare practice, social development and social policy

On completion of this course students should be able to:

- understand general theory about how knowledge has been constructed and developed over time and how these theories relate to current research theory and practice
- understand and articulate the concept of research in relation to practice
- assess research reports critically and accurately
- design, conduct and report simple research studies
- choose from a number of theoretical and methodological alternatives those which are most likely to address a given research question
- apply research results to practice situations
- conduct a literature search and write a literature review
- understand the processes associated with developing a research proposal.

By undertaking this course, students will progress in the development of the following qualities:

Graduate quality	1 Body of knowledge	2 Lifelong learning	3 Effective problem solving	4 Work alone and in teams	5 Ethical action	6 Communicate effectively	7 International perspective
Indicative unit weighting	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	-

Syllabus

Research and its application; formulating the research question and aims; the use of literature in research; research design (theory and practical implications); sampling methods; ethics, audits, and other practical concerns; introduction to qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection and analysis, a practical demonstration, and reporting and communicating outcomes.

Teaching and learning arrangements

This course will be delivered using the following means:

This course is delivered in 13 x 1 hour lectures and 2 hour tutorials (Magill); 13 x 3 hour workshops (Whyalla). External delivery also available.

Assessment

Problem Formulation Statement	10%
Research Critique	40%
Research Proposal	40%
Tutorial Attendance and Contribution - Formative	10%

Textbook(s)

Neuman, W, L, (2003) *Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*, (5th ed), Allyn and Bacon, Sydney. (Library reserve)

References

- Alston, M, and Bowles, W. (1998) *Research for Social Workers*, Allen and Unwin, St. Leonards.
- Blaikie, N (2000) *Designing Social Research: The Logic of Anticipation*. Polity Press, Cambridge.
- Kumar, R, (1996) *Research Methodology: A Step-by-Step Guide for Beginners*, Longman, Melbourne.
- Leedy, P D (1997) *Practical Research: Planning and Design*, 6th Edition. Merrill/Prentice Hall, New Jersey.
- May, T, (1997) *Social Research: Issues, Methods and Process*, (2nd ed), Open University Press, Buckingham.
- Neuman, W. & Wiegand, B. (1999) *Criminal Justice Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Allyn and Bacon, Boston.

Course coordinator

Sharon Lawn—at Magill Campus / Cate Hudson at Whyalla Campus.