1. **Title of the module**

SOCI5510 (SO551) Social Science Dissertation (Medway)

1. **Division or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Law, Society and Social Justice: School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 6

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

30 credits (15 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn term (term 1) and Spring term (term 2) (Students will normally have preparatory meetings in the summer term of the preceding academic year)

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

SOCI6470 (SO647) Research Methods in Sociology

It is normally expected that students have achieved a minimum of a strong 2:2 grade in SO647: Research Methods in Sociology

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

BSc Social Sciences – optional module

BA Criminal Justice Studies – optional module

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 Identify and investigate a chosen problem or topic in depth using primary and secondary source materials.

8.2 Make use of an appropriate range of research techniques previously studied in the research methods modules.

8.3 Demonstrate the relationship of the study to existing theories and debates.

8.4 Demonstrate a firm grasp and critical awareness of methodological principles.

8.5 Produce a 10,000 word dissertation, presenting findings in a structured form, properly referenced and with a full bibliography, making use of ICT.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

9.1Undertake an extended piece of writing that demonstrates a highly developed skill in written communication.

9.2 Gather library, internet and other sources, make judgements about their merits and use them to construct a critical argument.

9.3 Make good use of appropriate IT packages to analyse and communicate results.

9.4 Study independently, setting personal targets for completion of work and reviewing progress.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

The aim of the Dissertation is to enable students to undertake independent research. In the course of their projects, students will deepen their critical understanding of research design and the application of specific techniques, and will further develop theoretical and practical understandings of the approaches of the relevant discipline.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Abbott, M. (ed.) (2008) *History Skills: A Student's Handbook*. London: Routledge.

Bryman, A. (2008*) Social research methods*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Denzin, N.K. and Y.S. Lincoln (eds.) (2000) *Handbook of Qualitative Research*. London, Sage.

Girden, E. (2001) *Evaluating research articles from start to finish*. London: Sage.

May, T. (2001) *Social Research: issues, methods and process* (3rd edition). Buckingham: Open University Press

Mills, C. Wright (1999) *The Sociological Imagination*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Perks, R. and A. Thompson (eds.) (2006) *The Oral History Reader*. London: Routledge.

Punch, K. (2005) *Introduction to social research: Quantitative and qualitative approaches*. London: Sage.

Silverman, D. (2005) *Doing qualitative research: a practical handbook*. London: Sage.

Stevenson, A. (2007) *Studying Psychology*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 44

Private study hours: 256

Total study hours: 300

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Dissertation (10,000 words) (100%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

100% coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Guidance seminars and supervision | X | X | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dissertation | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The Division recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Medway

1. **Internationalisation**

The degree to which internationalisation activities will occur in this module will depend on the dissertation topic. By undertaking the dissertation a range of research and presentation skills will be developed that are applicable to international contexts.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| EAP | Minor | September 2021 | 5, 6 | No |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Revised FSO Jan 2018