

<b>MODULE TITLE</b>		Management Research Methods			
<b>MODULE LEVEL</b>		7			
<b>MODULE CREDIT POINTS</b>		30			
<b>SI MODULE CODE (if known)</b>		44-7905-00C			
<b>MODULE JACS CODE</b>		N200			
<b>SUBJECT GROUP</b>		SG-44014 Strategic Management -OM			
<b>MODULE DELIVERY PATTERN (✓ as applicable or give dates for non-standard delivery)</b> NB "Semester 3" ends on 31 July each year					
<b>LONG (2 semesters)</b>		<b>SHORT (1 semester)</b>		<b>NON-STANDARD DELIVERY</b>	
				Start Date	Flexible Distance Learning Start date whenever student opts to start
				End Date	Notified to student at Start date - 30 weeks from the Start date as it is a 30 credit module
<b>MODULE ASSESSMENT PATTERN (✓ as applicable - also complete Table A, Section 5, below)</b>					
Single Module Mark with Overall Module Pass Mark of 40%					
Single Module Mark - Distinction/Pass/Fail only					✓
Up to Three Assessment Tasks with Pass Mark of 40% for each Task and Overall Module Pass Mark of 40%					
Up to Three Assessment Tasks - Pass/Fail only					
Other					
Overall Module Pass Mark <b>if other than 40%</b> (subject to approval)					
<b>MODULE INFORMATION (✓ as applicable - also complete Table A, Section 5)</b>					
Is a timetabled examination required for the assessment of this module?					
Is a timetabled examination required for the reassessment of this module?					
Is the module delivered wholly by Distance Learning (ie. not timetabled at SHU)					✓
Are any staff who are responsible for teaching on this module non-SHU employees?					
<b>MODULE STATUS (✓ as applicable to status of module in the context of current proposal)</b>					
<b>Unchanged:</b> an existing module, presented as unchanged from previous years					
<b>Modified:</b> an existing module being modified as a result of this validation, eg. changes to delivery or assessment pattern, title, credit weighting etc					
<b>New:</b> new module to be approved through current validation process					✓
<b>If status is 'Modified', please give date when modified version is to be available from</b>				<b>Modified Version Available from</b> N/A	
<b>Breakdown of notional study hours by type</b> (Typically requires 10 hours of notional study time for 1 CATS credit)		<b>Tutor-Led (Contact Hours)</b>	<b>Tutor-Directed Study</b>	<b>Self-Directed Study</b>	<b>TOTAL STUDY HOURS for this Module</b>
			30	270	300
<b>OTHER COURSES FEATURING THIS MODULE (please list below)</b>					
None					

## **1 AIM OF THIS MODULE**

The aims of this module are:

- To further develop your research skills, by encouraging you to reflect upon and analyse a wide range of research approaches, methods and techniques of relevance to contemporary business and management;
- To encourage you to search for information from a variety of sources and databases on contemporary business and management issues, and to interpret and evaluate these;
- To encourage you to critically evaluate and appraise published research in business and management;
- To enable you to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various research methods and techniques of relevance to business and management;
- To enable you to understand the principal research issues (including ethical issues) which need to be considered when undertaking a dissertation in the field of business and management;
- To provide you with a practical basis from which to develop the research project for your dissertation.

This module aligns closely with the management mindset of the reflective leader because of the emphasis on research. The main purpose of running the module at the point where you will normally have completed all of the other taught modules for the course is to help you to prepare for the dissertation.

## **2 BY ENGAGING SUCCESSFULLY WITH THIS MODULE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO**

1. appreciate the nature and forms of research in management and leadership studies and how such research is conducted;
2. understand key research issues and problems as a means of facilitating and pursuing research into specific topics in the fields of business and management;
3. appreciate the nature and importance of ethical issues in research;
4. critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various research approaches, methods and techniques of relevance to business and management;
5. search for, acquire, appraise and utilise data from a variety of sources;
6. understand and make use of various research methods and also appreciate the appropriateness of these methods as a means of exploring and analysing contemporary business and management issues;
7. set clear research objectives and explain research paradigms and methods clearly and coherently.

### 3 THESE ARE EXAMPLES OF THE CONTENT OF THE MODULE

- Introduction to the module; overview of research methods;
- The dissertation: researching and completing a dissertation; key issues and approaches;
- Progressing from a topic area to a specific research question;
- Types of research: research philosophies, paradigms and approaches in management and leadership;
- Research ethics;
- Qualitative research in business: worked examples;
- Quantitative research in business: worked examples;
- Methods of collecting information and carrying out searches;
- Questionnaires;
- Interviews;
- Case studies;
- Recording references, citing sources and avoiding plagiarism;
- Writing up and presenting research.

### 4 THESE ARE THE MAIN WAYS YOU WILL BE SUPPORTED IN YOUR LEARNING TO ACHIEVE THESE OUTCOMES

The learning strategy adopted will involve you in reflecting on your own values and beliefs in relation to research so that you understand the assumptions underlying the choices to be made about methodology

You will draw on a range of resources provided via the module Blackboard site to explore different approaches to research

The assessment will consist of two elements, a broad analysis of the range of approaches to research and a detailed research proposal suitable for a subsequent Master's level dissertation (incorporating a critical evaluation of relevant literature, detailed discussion of methodology and a proposed outline structure).

### 5 THESE ARE THE WAYS THAT WILL BE USED TO ENABLE YOU TO DEMONSTRATE YOU HAVE MET THE LEARNING OUTCOMES

**TABLE A: ASSESSMENT TASK INFORMATION**

<b>ASSESSMENT TASK</b>	<b>% weighting of overall module mark</b>	<b>Duration of task / word count / length of exam</b>	<b>In-module retrieval available?</b>	<b>Individual task pass mark ONLY IF OVER 40%**</b>
Written answers to questions in learning materials plus a research proposal	100%	4000 words	No	

## **6 THIS IS HOW YOU WILL BE GIVEN FEEDBACK ON YOUR PERFORMANCE**

Formative assessment will be offered through activities which you will undertake while studying the module. Assessed work will then be submitted, electronically or in hard copy, to the course administrator and summative feedback will be provided within four working weeks, in accordance with faculty policy. This module will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

## **7 THESE ARE EXAMPLES OF THE KEY LEARNING RESOURCES YOU WILL USE**

The basic material to support you in the process of working on a dissertation will be provided through a Management research methods module Blackboard site. In order to develop a research proposal you will need to engage with an extensive range of sources including advanced academic sources in a chosen topic area.

Further supporting material on approaches to learning, on skills development and on personal development planning will be provided through the course Blackboard site.

### **FINAL TASK**

<b>According to the Assessment Strategy shown in the Module Descriptor, which task will be the LAST TASK to be taken or handed-in? (Give task number as shown in the Assessment Strategy)</b>	<b>Task No.</b>
	1

### **MODULE REFERRAL STRATEGY**

<b>Task for Task (as shown for initial assessment strategy)</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Single Referral Package for All Referred Students</b>	<b>N</b>

### **REVISIONS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reason</b>
July 2012	Assessment Framework review