

GENERIC OPTIONAL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Courses in this group are optional and available to all students during their period of registration.

Courses are held regularly throughout each year.

To reserve a place on these courses in please contact the Graduate School Office on 0116 250 6242 or by email at rtp@dmu.ac.uk unless otherwise indicated.

Advanced NVivo for Qualitative Data Analysis (REST7518)

Course Description:

This is an advanced NVivo course, therefore you will need to have completed the Introduction to NVivo Data Analysis course before booking to attend this course.

This course will build on the introductory course and focus on more advanced features.

Joint Skills Statement Competency
Research Skills and Techniques

Advanced Presenting Your Research To An Audience (REST7508)

Course Description:

This course will help students to further develop skills of effective spoken presentation.

Participants will be required to deliver a ten minute presentation to a small group of students and also listen to other student presentations.

Students will then watch and review all presentations and provide feedback to individuals on their style of delivery.

By the end of the course participants will have:

- reviewed the skills required for effective presentations,
- delivered a ten minute presentation which will have been video recorded,
- received feedback about their presentation.

Joint Skills Statement Competency
Research Environment

Advanced Using Endnote (REST7517)

Course Description:

Building on the Endnote introduction in the Literature Searching and Reference Management course this course will focus on using Endnote with Word and its more advanced features.

Pre-requisite

Students must have completed the Endnote element of the Literature Searching and Reference Management course before attending.

Joint Skills Statement Competency
Research Management

Building an In Depth Career Profile (REST7511)

Course Description:

This session will enable you to identify main factors that will affect your career choice, including your skills and personal motivations, to consider how to investigate your career ideas and options, and to start to take action in your career decision-making.

Joint Skills Statement Competency
Career Management

Identifying Opportunities and Building Your Evidence (REST7510)

Course Description:

This workshop will focus on job search strategies for postdoctoral careers. It will provide the opportunity to identify employer requirements and key vacancy sources, to analyse opportunity information, to start evidence building and to explore creative job search techniques.

Joint Skills Statement Competency
Career Management

Interdisciplinary Research (REST7519)

Course Description:

This one day course can be studied in attendance or by participation through Second Life and comprises the following:

Introduction

- what is interdisciplinary research and why is it important?
- inter-, multi- or trans- ?
- what is the context for this kind of research?
- examples of successful interdisciplinary research.

Interdisciplinary Research Methods

Managing Interdisciplinary Research

- dealing with supervisors who have different approaches to research,
- overcoming the constraints of a mixed method approach,
- framing appropriate research questions.

Publication and Dissemination

- peer and discipline recognition of research that falls 'in-between' areas,
- publication avenues and possibilities,
- benefiting more than one discipline.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Management
Communication Skills

Intermediate Quantitative Data Analysis Using SPSS (REST7528)

Course Description:

Based on the Introduction to Quantitative Data Analysis Using SPSS, this course will explore how to use SPSS to achieve desired analyses when

- you have more than one influencing factors in your research design;
- you have more than two samples collected;
- you explore or quantify associations and course-effective relationships of two factors.

It will also provide guidance on how to interpret and present complicated statistical results from SPSS.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Skills and Techniques
Research Management

Introduction to NVivo for Qualitative Data Analysis (REST7514)

Course Description:

NVivo is a software package designed to help with the analysis of qualitative data (text and images).

It has become established as the most widely-used computer-aided qualitative data analysis software (CAQDAS) package, much like SPSS has in relation to quantitative data analysis.

NVivo helps with the management and coding of interview data. This introductory course will provide:

- grounding in the research methodologies suitable for CAQDAS
- an introduction to the basics of coding and memoing using NVivo package.

Participants will also have an opportunity to practise using the software in the computer lab through a series of exercises.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Skills and Techniques

Introduction To Quantitative Data Analysis Using SPSS (REST7506)

Course Description:

This course will take you step-by-step, through the decision process that leads to appropriate statistical tests for different types of data, different types of research questions, and different types of hypotheses.

It will provide:

- considerations of statistics in research design;
- practical information on basic operation of SPSS;
- practising SPSS, with provided data, in achieving descriptive statistical, simple parametric and non-parametric analyses;
- guidance on how to read, interpret and present results produced by SPSS.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Skills and Techniques
Research Management

Library Refresher – Keeping Up To Date (REST7516)

Course Description:

This course will explore a range of current awareness services for academic content, fast and easy ways of setting up alerts and RSS feeds alongside essential sources to help when writing up.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Management

Managing Data Using Excel 2007 (REST7504)

Course Description:

Microsoft Excel is a widely used spreadsheet package which gives you the ability to present your results in tabular and graphical format as well as carry out complex analysis.

This is an introductory level course and looks at how to start using Excel including:

- inputting data and information,
- formatting data and text,
- producing tables of information,
- selecting the correct graph to represent your data, creating and modifying graphs,
- performing simple calculations on your data.

To reserve a place on this course you must complete the IT Training booking form and return to IT Skills, Kimberlin Library.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Management

Media Training (REST7018)

Course Description:

This is an introductory session on the media and how to attract and handle interviews leading to positive and useful coverage of your research. This session will consider:

- why you should talk to the media,
- the difference between print, broadcast and new media,
- radio interviews and a word about TV.

It will also cover:

- the journalist's agenda,

- the needs of different media,
- how to prepare for a media interview,
- how to interest the media in your story.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Communication Skills

Poster Presentations: Effective Designs (REST7515)

Course Description:

The aim of this course is to help you prepare an effective poster.

By the end of this course you will have considered:

- the aims of poster presentations and the contexts within which they are used,
- possible formats and structure for posters,
- effective use of size, font and colour,
- methods of adapting your message to meet the needs of your audience,
- practical factors linked to successful poster presentations.

Students looking to enter the De Montfort University poster competition are recommended to attend this course prior to submission of their poster.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Communication Skills

Qualitative Methods in Health and Social Sciences (REST7505)

Course Description:

This session provides a brief introduction to some of the major issues in qualitative research and explains how qualitative approaches can help doctoral research.

Students will deal with theories, methods and findings from the last two centuries and discuss the role of approaches such as grounded theory, discourse analysis, ethnomethodology and phenomenology in contemporary research programmes.

This event may be of interest to students in health care, social sciences and those in the physical and life sciences who are studying the human aspects of their field.

Further workshop sessions will be arranged for students who wish to use some aspect of qualitative methodology in their work.

These will explore in more detail some common approaches and will allow students the opportunity to discuss their own work.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Skills and Techniques

Strategic Career Planning (REST7509)

Course Description:

This workshop will introduce you to a model for career planning which is developed in more depth throughout the courses offered for career development.

In addition this workshop will provide an opportunity to evaluate your current career position, explore the range of opportunities for early career researchers and strategies for broadening your ideas.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Career Management

Success in Assessment Centres and Psychometric Assessment (REST7512)

Course Description:

This workshop will provide an introduction to a range of selection methods used in the graduate job market.

It will explore good practice in assessment centre preparation, performance and review, and provide an opportunity to look at a range of psychometric tests.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Career Management

Typesetting Documents with Latex (REST7043)

Course Description:

Latex can be used to produce all sorts of documents from letters to complete books, and is the undisputed industry standard for typesetting mathematical text.

Course contains features for:

- typesetting journal articles, technical reports, books, and slide presentations,
- control over large documents containing sectioning, cross-references, tables/figures,

- automatic generation of bibliographies and indexes,
- multi-lingual typesetting,
- inclusion of artwork, and process or spot colour,
- typesetting of complex mathematical formulae.

The course is intended to be delivered through Blackboard over five weeks. However, it will be necessary to meet students twice during the course, once at the beginning and once at the end.

The first meeting will be used to introduce the course and to give students essential material to follow it, and the second one for feedback and to evaluate the course.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Management

Winning Grant Funding (REST7507)

Course Description:

When a student completes their degree at De Montfort University, they will need to explore the possibilities of gaining new funding if they wish to pursue research interests.

Wide ranges of funding sources are available and understanding the process involved in obtaining the grants on offer will increase chances of success.

The purpose of this course is:

- to help locate, get information about and know how to approach relevant funding bodies,
- to help gain insights into the way decision-makers assess and evaluate research proposals.

Joint Skills Statement Competency

Research Environment