

Masters in Research in Human Geography

Programme Requirements

Postgraduate Certificate:

60 credits: From GG5000, GG5001, GG5002, GG5003, SS5101, SS5102, SS5103 and SS5104.

Permission may occasionally also be given to take some of these credits by 'dipping down' to 3000 or 4000 level, or by 'dipping across' to the SD5000 level programmes.

Postgraduate Diploma:

120 credits: From the same selection as Postgraduate Certificate.

MRes:

Taught Element:

120 credits: as for the Taught Element, plus a dissertation (GG5099) of not more than 15,000 words (60 credits)

Compulsory Modules - Semester 1:

GG5000 Conceptualising Geography				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
Special Topic in Human Geography is a compulsory core module for the MRes in Human Geography. It is library-based and allows students to specialise in a research area that most interests them. After an introductory lecture, students discuss and agree an appropriate topic with a member of staff who will supervise their work. They then identify a question, theme or review framework to guide their research and, where appropriate, attend lectures for an honours option course. The module is assessed by two pieces of work: (a) a lecture presentation aimed at honours undergraduates; (b) a 3,500-word essay, which can either be a topical essay or a critical review of a body of literature.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Human Geography Postgraduate Taught Programme.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 hour supervision weekly, and 1 introductory lecture and 1 seminar over the semester			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof A M Findlay			

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GG5001 Being a Human Geographer 1 - Theory and Practice				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
The module is designed to help students recognise the distinctive nature of research design in human geography, paying attention to the relations between theory and method. Particular attention is paid to how different geographical contexts - space, environment and place - can be researched. Attention is also devoted to the relation between social theory and research design in human geography.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Human Geography Postgraduate Taught Programme.			
Co-requisite(s):	SS5101			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 seminar, occasional lectures and fieldwork.			
Assessment pattern:	Practical Examination = 25%, Coursework = 75%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof A M Findlay			

SS5101 Being a Social Scientist				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	3.00 - 5.00 pm Fri			
Through a series of interactive seminars this two-part module explores the fundamental skills required by all social scientists. In part one, the module will focus on how to design and produce a research dissertation. Assessment will be in the form of a critical essay that analyses the research design of papers from your disciplinary field. In part two, issues of professional development (e.g. ethics, careers, grant writing) will be addressed. Assessment will be in the form of a class test in which you will review and comment on two research proposals.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MRes in Human Geography Compulsory for MRes and MSc in Sustainable Development and MSc in Sustainable Energy Compulsory for various other MRes Programmes			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr T Stojanovic			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	Dr S McGarrol and Dr M Kesby			

SS5104 Quantitative Research in Social Science				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	1.00 - 5.00 pm Mon			
<p>This module provides a user-friendly introduction to the fundamental concepts of quantitative analysis. It will cover underlying principles, terminology, research design, sampling strategies, uncertainty and missing data, computerised data management and analysis and univariate and multivariate approaches to data analysis. The assessment will be in the form of weekly practical tasks completed in class and/or independently.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion). Compulsory for MRes in Human Geography. Compulsory for various other MRes Programmes. Optional for the MRes in Psychology.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 3-hour combined lecture and practical session.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr T Stojanovic			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	TBC			

Compulsory Modules - Semester 2:

GG5002 Being a Human Geographer 2 - Research Design				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
This is an independent study module linked to the research interests of the student. After an introductory lecture, students discuss possible topics with a member of staff, who will agree the topic and supervise the development of a research proposal.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Human Geography Postgraduate Taught Programme. Optional for Sustainable Development Postgraduate Taught Programme.			
Pre-requisite(s):	SS5101, GG5001			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 tutorial and occasional lectures and seminars.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof A M Findlay			

GG5003 Advanced Geographical Research Methods				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
Advanced Geographical Research Methods is a compulsory core module for the MRes in Human Geography. It is largely project-based and allows students to specialise in a research area using a research method or technique that most interests them. After an introductory lecture, students discuss possible research methods/techniques with a member of staff, who in discussion with the student will identify a small project designed to operationalise a piece of research using a particular method or technique. The project supervisor will provide the necessary training and guidance for the student to undertake the project. The module is assessed by two pieces of work: (a) a presentation to staff and other post-graduate students in the human geography internal seminar series; (b) a 3,500 word report, which presents preliminary research findings but mainly focusses on providing a reflective and critical account of the methods and techniques used.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Human Geography Postgraduate Taught Programme. Optional for Sustainable Development Postgraduate Taught Programme.			
Co-requisite(s):	SS5103 and SS5104			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 hour supervision weekly and 1 lecture and 1 seminar over the semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof A M Findlay			

SS5102 Philosophy and Methodology of the Social Sciences				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	3.00 - 5.00 pm Wed			
This seminar based module will introduce you to the basic theoretical approaches in the social sciences, encourage you to make connections between the methodological and epistemological issues involved in conducting social scientific research, and inspire you to reflect critically your own experience. The module will cover modern philosophy's historical evolution, positivism, feminism, critical theory and post-structuralism among other topics. Assessment will involve a one short review and one longer essay.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for various MRes Programmes			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr T Stojanovic			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	TBC			

SS5103 Qualitative Methods in Social Research				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	10.00 am - 12.00 Tuesday			
This seminar-based module offers both a theoretical and practical introduction to the collection, analysis and writing of qualitative social science research. Among other things, the module will cover positionality/ethics, archives, participant observation, participatory approaches, semi-structured interviewing and the use of NVIVO/computer aided qualitative data analysis. Assessment will involve a short reflection on field experience and a longer critical essay on a chosen aspect of qualitative research.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MRes in Human Geography Compulsory for various other MRes Programmes			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr T Stojanovic			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	Dr K McKee and various others			

Compulsory Module - Summer:

GG5099 Dissertation in Human Geography				
SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Summer
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
Students choose a topic in the field of human geography on which to conduct independent research. Dissertations will be supervised by a member of the teaching staff who will provide advice throughout the research process. Research will be conducted over the summer after the end of the taught modules. The completed dissertation must be no more than 15,000 words.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MRes in Human Geography			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Up to 8 hours of guided study per student over semester 2 and the summer (one -one supervision, by arrangement with supervisor).			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof A M Findlay			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	TBC			