

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD, SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND RELATED RESEARCH

MASTER/ DIPLOMA/ CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

HAR6030: Introduction to Research Methods (15 Credits) 2012/2013

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Assessment

There are two parts to the assessment, which together will demonstrate your engagement with the material and understanding of the key concepts contained within this module.

1. Formative assessment: On-line journal entries

Formative assessments give tutors an indication of student progress and indicate to students the standard of work expected. A formal mark is ***not*** recorded for formative assessments, but students will be given feedback on the quality of their work throughout the module (this may take the form of group or individual feedback).

The formative assessment for this module involves completing six on-line journal entries. These journal entries will enable students to think reflectively about the sections required for completion of the summative assessment below. You will complete your on-line journal entries in Weeks 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 9. **The on-line journal entries are considered mandatory and are an essential requirement for passing the module.**

You will have opportunities throughout the module to discuss issues arising from the on-line journal entries with your group tutor.

2. Summative assessment: Outline mixed-methods research proposal (100%)

For this part of the assignment, each student is required to produce a written outline for a **mixed-methods research proposal** of 2000 words (+/-200) on a health topic, keeping in mind the perspective you need to use for your Masters Programme, eg, Public Health, Public Health Management & Leadership, International Public Health or Clinical Research (possible examples are provided in brackets but you are free to choose your own):-

- 1) Environmental Hazards and Public Health (For example, you might want to focus on the health implications of factors such as climate change; hurricanes or toxic chemicals)
- 2) Infectious Diseases and Public Health (For example, you may want to examine aspects such as prevention, care or access to treatment in relation to specific infectious diseases such as:- HIV/AIDS; Tuberculosis; Malaria; H1N1 Swine Flu)
- 3) Family Relations, Childbirth and Parenting (In this broad subject area, there are a variety of topics you may wish to look at, for example, the impact of domestic violence on children; maternal death in childbirth; teenage parenting)
- 4) Chronic Illness and Lifestyle (e.g. coronary heart disease and exercise; alcohol addiction)

Whatever your chosen topic area, you need to choose a particular **aspect** that will be researched, for example, prevention, risk reduction, patient safety, care, access to treatment, quality assurance, factors affecting programme implementation, or evaluation of effectiveness.

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