

**Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences  
School of Health and Rehabilitation  
Academic Year 2019/20**

**Module Title:** Research Methods

Prerequisites and Pre-reading

Students attending this module should normally have undertaken a module in research methods at undergraduate level, since this is not an introductory level module.

A basic understanding of the following concepts is therefore assumed:

- The theoretical basis of research (e.g. explanatory, exploratory, descriptive)
- Basic terminology (e.g. variables, samples, groups)
- Different designs and methodologies (e.g. experimental, observational, survey)
- How to formulate a research question
- Advantages and disadvantages of different research designs
- How to deal with data (e.g. measurement levels, scales of measurement, descriptive statistics including measures of central tendency and dispersion; mean median mode and normal distributions, population parameters, graphical representations, probability and significance)
- Basic requirements of critical appraisal
- Scientific writing skills
- How to access research material from IT sources
- Ethical issues in health research

The set texts for this module will provide much of this information and you may like to look at these in advance.

Sim J, Wright C (2000) *Research in Health Care: concepts, designs and methods*. Nelson Thornes Cheltenham

or

Bowling A (2014) *Research Methods in Health: investigating health and health services*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition Open University Press, Maidenhead.