



Researching Society 2 | SOU33012

Year	Junior Sophister
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	22
Pre-requisite	SOU22011, SOU22012, SOU33011
Semester	2
Module Leader & Lecturer	Dr. David Ralph
Contact Email	RALPHDA@tcd.ie

Module Outline:

Part I of the module builds on the broad introduction to social research in second year, which explored the range of techniques employed in qualitative methods, overviewed basic methods of qualitative analysis and began the process of developing written arguments. In particular the module will focus on designing and formulating a research project with corresponding sampling, data collection and analysis methods. This part of the module will also particularly focus on research proposal requirements.

Module Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this module students should be able to:

- Design a social research project;
- Understand the principles and assumptions associated with Qualitative research;
- Select and justify the most appropriate research method to answer particular research questions;
- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of various research methods;
- Distinguish and apply suitable types of analysis to varying research designs;
- Apply appropriate ethical standards to research design;
- Understand issues of power, inequality and exploitation in qualitative research



Assessment:

- Data analysis 1 – 40%
- Data analysis 2 – 60%

Recommended Reading List:

There is no textbook for this course. The following three books are useful general readings:

- Gilbert, N. (ed) (2008) *Researching Social Life*, London: Sage.
- Hammersley, M. and Atkinson, P. (2007) *Ethnography: principles in practice*, Routledge.
- Seale, C. (ed) (2004) *Researching Society and Culture*, London: Sage.
- Yin, R.K. (2009) *Case Study Research*, London: Sage

Other useful texts:

- Richards, L. (2006) *Handling Qualitative Data*. London: Sage
(<http://www.sagepub.co.uk/richards>)
- Denzin, N. and Y. Lincoln (2005) *Handling Qualitative Data*. London: Sage