

**COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

<b>Academic School/Department:</b>	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
<b>Programme:</b>	Psychology
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	6
<b>Course Title:</b>	Senior Projects in Psychology II: Qualitative Methods
<b>Course Code:</b>	PSY 6394
<b>Course Leader:</b>	George Berguno
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	160
Lectures:	8
Seminar / Tutorials:	22
Independent / Guided Learning:	130
<b>Semester:</b>	Spring
<b>Credits:</b>	24 UK CATS credits 12 ECTS credits 6 US credits

**Course Description:**

This is a course for graduating majors, providing students with the opportunity to conduct an extended piece of qualitative research in a specialized area of psychology. Students independently research, design, conduct, analyze, and report their research with guidance from the course tutor. The focus will be on qualitative methods: Amadeo Giorgi's empirical-phenomenological method, Strauss & Corbin's grounded theory procedures, hermeneutic approaches such as reflective life-world research; as well as contemporary research methods such as memory work and discursive psychology.

**Prerequisites:** PSY 4200

**Aims and Objectives:**

The course provides students at the end of their university studies with an opportunity to conduct a systematic, qualitative research project that will integrate knowledge gained in prior psychology courses. It will familiarise students with the processes of collecting qualitative data, performing phenomenological analysis, and reflecting on its implications in regard to the psychological literature. The course also encourages self-management and personal development through collegial group work; and promotes personal and multicultural insights, which are an integral benefit of the disciplines and skills of a psychological training in the social sciences.

**Programme Outcomes:**

6A (iv), 6B (ii), 6B (iii), 6C (ii), 6D (i), 6D (ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Acquire an in-depth knowledge of a variety of qualitative research methods
- Develop the ability to design a qualitative research project, collect data and complete data analysis
- Acquire critical and analytical thinking skills relevant to generating and carrying out research to completion
- To present qualitative research results both orally and in writing

**Indicative Content:**

Researching Lived Experience  
 Empirical-Phenomenological  
 Method Researching Social  
 Processes Grounded Theory  
 Procedures Researching Life-  
 Worlds Hermeneutic Approaches  
 Guided Existential Reflection  
 How to Present Qualitative Research

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Type of assessment	Length per item	Weighting per item	Total assessment
Literature review	1500-2000	20%	No final exam, senior year project  6000-8000
Qualitative Analysis	1500-2000	20%	
Final research paper	6000	50%	
Conference-style oral presentation	1000	10%	

**Teaching Methodology:**

The course material will be covered in the following ways:

- I. Lectures on key topics
- II. Seminars and Tutorials
- III. Research Project

**Bibliography:**

