

SOU22012 — Introduction to Social Research 2

Module Information	
Module Code	SOU22012
Module Title	Introduction to Social Research 2
Department	Sociology
Year Group	Senior Fresh
Module Personnel	David Landy
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	5 credits
Semester	Semester 2
Contact Hours	22 hours, one lecture and one tutorial per week

Module Content	
Module Description	The second-year methodology modules, Introduction to Social Research 1 and 2 are designed to introduce students to the world of social research. They are mandatory for all students who intend to carry out their capstone project in Sociology.
Module Learning Aims	This module provides an overview of qualitative research methodologies in the social sciences. We take both a theoretical and practical look at researching - on one hand we discuss the background to the various methodological approaches, the centrality of strong research design, issues of ethics and of representation within a research project and more. On the other hand, the module is eminently practical – taking a hands-on review of the main qualitative research techniques and where they fit into a research design, and discussing the specific issues that students are likely to face while researching this particular field. We also bring in qualitative researchers who discuss the methodological issues around their own projects, providing a practical introduction to the world of social research.
Learning Outcomes	Familiarise you with the methodological and epistemological debates around qualitative research;

Module Content

	• Compare and contrast different qualitative research methods including focus groups, semi-structured interviews, documentary sources and observations; • Design and conduct a semi-structured interview and reflect on the research experience; • Read and critically discuss work by qualitative researchers, focusing on the lessons they learned and the challenges they faced.
Indicative Reading / Resources	

Assessment

Assessment Components	Assignment – 30% Assignment – 70%
Assessment Details	Mid-term assignment and End of term assignment.

Additional Information

Prerequisites	None
Co-requisites	None
Any other information	