Postgraduate Psychology Research

Research and research methods training are a vital component of all psychology postgraduate programmes. At UWE we have a strong traditional of both quantitative and qualitative research and give equal emphasis to both in our postgraduate research methods training. Because we have a large staff group with a wide range of interests, students are able to undertake quantitative, qualitative or mixed-methods research for their dissertations/theses.

Victoria Clarke is the module leader of *Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Psychology* (or QQM for short) – the postgraduate research training module that sits in most of the psychology postgraduate programmes. Victoria, James Byron-Daniel, Nikki Hayfield, Irmgard Tischner and Paul White are QQM module team.

We are running an *Introduction to SPSS and Qualitative Research* workshop for new PG students, from 10am to 5pm, on **Monday 15 September**. This will include a morning session on SPSS and quantitative research (10am-1pm with James), and an afternoon session on qualitative research (2-5pm with Victoria).

The other induction event organised by Victoria is the **2014 Psychology Postgraduate Conference**. This is an annual event, and students from all of the taught and research psychology postgraduate programmes will present their research. This is an opportunity to get a sense of the kinds of research that students on your programme undertake, and will hopefully give you some inspiration for your own research! The Conference has a relaxed and informal atmosphere and questions from the audience are encouraged. The Conference will be held on **Tuesday 23 September, from 10am-5pm**.

In previous years, students on our PG programmes have requested some guidance on preparatory reading about research methods to enable those students less experienced with research methods or those feeling a little rusty to do some background reading over the summer. We have listed below some recommended texts that provide accessible introductions to quantitative and qualitative methods in psychology. Because qualitative methods are less widely taught than quantitative methods, some students have particularly requested guidance with preparatory reading about qualitative methods. We have attached two papers that provide an accessible introduction to qualitative research in psychology:


The recommended texts for QQM are as follows:


   Companion website (available very soon!):
   http://www.uk.sagepub.com/braunandclarke/


Other good introductory texts for qualitative and quantitative methods include:

**Quantitative methods**


   Companion website: http://www.uk.sagepub.com/breakwell4e/main.htm


   Companion website: http://www.statisticshell.com/


**Qualitative methods**


**If you would like to read about research methods in the context of your subject area, we recommend the following subject-specific texts:**

**Counselling and psychotherapy**


*Sport & Exercise Psychology*


*Health psychology*


Happy summer reading and we look forward to meeting you in September!

With best wishes,

Victoria Clarke, James Byron-Daniel, Nikki Hayfield, Irmgard Tischner and Paul White