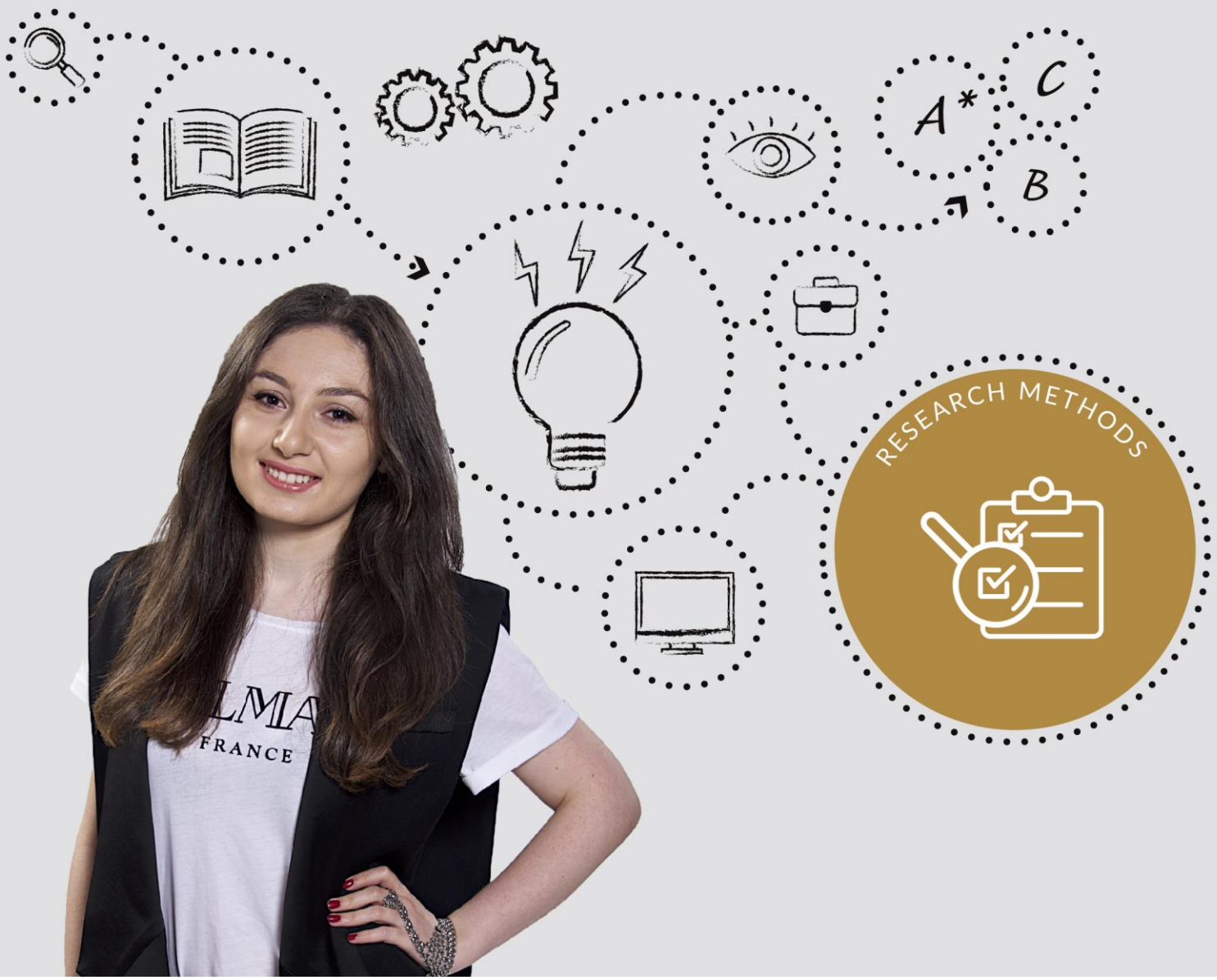


# RESEARCH METHODS

MASTER'S PREPARATION (MP)



# SYLLABUS OVERVIEW

<b>Module Code</b>	MPRM003
<b>Module Name</b>	Research Methods
<b>Programme Name</b>	Master's Preparation Programme
<b>Percentage breakdown of Coursework</b>	100%
<b>Percentage breakdown of Exam/Test</b>	0%
<b>Delivery period</b>	<p>⇒ Master's Preparation Enhanced and Master's Preparation: two, 10-week terms.</p> <p>⇒ Master's Pre-Sessional: one, 10-week term.</p>
<b>Recommended minimum teaching hours</b>	<p>⇒ Master's Preparation Enhanced and Master's Preparation: 126 hours (7 hours per week over 20 weeks).</p> <p>⇒ Master's Pre-Sessional: 45 hours (5 hours per week over 10 weeks).</p>
<b>Recommended minimum independent study hours</b>	Between 50-126 hours dependant on programme entry.


## AIMS

The overarching aim of the NCUK Research Methods module is to allow students to develop their academic study skills to the level required to successfully embark on a postgraduate course at a NCUK university. Through the exploration of research methods and a research project, the module aims to:


- ⇒ build awareness of issues in research design, especially different approaches to qualitative and quantitative processes in management research, and to recognise questions of ethics and intellectual property.
- ⇒ develop skills in qualitative research selection, design and analysis.
- ⇒ enable a quantitative research approach using exploratory, descriptive and causal methodologies.
- ⇒ introduce a range of analytical methods, including tools such as SPSS.
- ⇒ critically evaluate research approaches and their outcomes and apply these approaches appropriately.
- ⇒ develop and enhance practical research skills including the use and evaluation of journals and other sources.
- ⇒ enable students to establish a clear philosophical and methodological basis for the production of an academically sound dissertation and to reflect on their own research journey.
- ⇒ provide each student with the opportunity for independent study under the guidance of a supervisor.
- ⇒ provide an opportunity for the student to apply knowledge gained in previous studies and in the Core Term to a problem, and to present this solution in written and oral forms.
- ⇒ enable the student to develop the appropriate management skills and skills for organising themselves in relation to the specific aims of the individual project.
- ⇒ allow the student to interpret the results in a way which is appropriate to the individual project aims.
- ⇒ allow the student to present the results and conclusions of an investigation in a clear, concise and well- presented format in good quality English and to reflect on their own research.


# ASSESSMENT


## MASTER'S PREPARATION ENHANCED & MASTER'S PREPARATION

	<b>Duration/Word Count</b>	N/A
	<b>Total Marks</b>	100
	<b>Rubric</b>	To produce a research proposal for a Pre-Master's dissertation on a topic which, where possible, will be relevant to the postgraduate course the student hopes to progress to.
	<b>Contribution to Overall Grade</b>	20%
	<b>Duration/Word Count</b>	5,000 words (+/- 10%)
	<b>Total Marks</b>	100
	<b>Rubric</b>	Working independently, students will carry out the research outlined in the Individual Project Proposal and write up the work in a report (dissertation). The dissertation will be the equivalent to a 3rd year undergraduate project at a UK university.
	<b>Contribution to Overall Grade</b>	80% Research Methods (50% of the EAP Writing Grade / 12.5% of the overall EAP Grade)
	<b>Duration/Word Count</b>	12-15 minutes
	<b>Total Marks</b>	100
	<b>Rubric</b>	<p>Students are expected to prepare and give a timed presentation on the research project. The presentation must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Cover all key points within the time limit.</li> <li>⇒ Be well structured and audience appropriate.</li> <li>⇒ Be accompanied by supporting slides.</li> </ul> <p>Students will also be expected to answer 3-5 follow up questions.</p>
	<b>Contribution to Overall Grade</b>	0% Research Methods (50% of the EAP Speaking Grade / 12.5% of the overall EAP Grade)

## MASTER'S PRE-SESSIONAL

	<b>Duration/Word Count</b>	500-800 words per article evaluation.
	<b>Total Marks</b>	100
	<b>Rubric</b>	<p>Working individually, students are required to analyse and evaluate 3 articles. They must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Convey the information contained in the articles.</li> <li>⇒ Convey their own analysis and conclusions.</li> <li>⇒ Maintain the integrity of the information being summarised.</li> </ul> <p>Students will be required to undertake the assessment at twice during the Master's Pre-Sessional Term.</p>
	<b>Contribution to Overall Grade</b>	10% (2 assessments worth 5% each)

	<b>Duration/Word Count</b>	N/A
	<b>Total Marks</b>	100
	<b>Rubric</b>	<p>This assessment will be carried out in small groups and will help prepare students for the individual Proposal Specification and Plan task. Each group will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ select a topic from a list of current research topics/trends.</li> <li>⇒ investigate their chosen topic and identify the current research themes.</li> </ul>
	<b>Contribution to Overall Grade</b>	20%

	<b>Duration/Word Count</b>	N/A
	<b>Total Marks</b>	100
	<b>Rubric</b>	To produce a research proposal for a Pre-Master's dissertation on a topic which, where possible, will be relevant to the postgraduate course the student hopes to progress to.
	<b>Contribution to Overall Grade</b>	70% Research Methods (50% of the EAP Writing Grade / 12.5% of the overall EAP Grade)

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

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On successful completion of this module, a student will be able to:

<b>LO1</b>	Develop a research aim and achievable research objectives.
<b>LO2</b>	Plan research at postgraduate level with a clear understanding of the qualitative and quantitative issues and primary and secondary data requirements.
<b>LO3</b>	Understand the ethical issues related to undertaking research.
<b>LO4</b>	Use a range of data collection methods, selecting the most appropriate for a given situation.
<b>LO5</b>	Critically analyse literature from a variety of sources.
<b>LO6</b>	Analyse results and data using appropriate qualitative and quantitative methods.
<b>LO7</b>	Critically discuss the results of research and make appropriate conclusions.
<b>LO8</b>	Understand the methods used to reference the work of others.
<b>LO9</b>	Present work in an appropriate format.