### Module Title
Research Methods

### Level of Learning
Level 8 NFQ

### Credit Rating
10 ECTs

### Pre-requisite course
Nurses & Midwives registered with An Board Altranais

### Module Co-ordinator
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### Rationale of Module
In today’s health environment nurses must possess the necessary research knowledge and skills to assess, implement and evaluate patient care and interventions.

### Module Aims
This module aims to develop the student’s ability to search the RCSI Library Databases which includes the E-Journal Portal and critically appraise the international literature on topics relevant to their area of practice to inform an evidence-based approach to patient care.

### Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of the module the student will be able to:

- Critically appraise the current and potential contributions of a research based approach to nursing and patient/client care.
- Critically evaluate the research methodologies and their appropriateness to nursing.
- Critically evaluate different research methods and their application to nursing.
- Undertake a critical review of the literature on a topic relevant to the student’s area of practice.
- Critically discuss how to use and implement research findings in practice.

### Teaching Learning Activities

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Face to Face Contact Hours</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>On Line Contact Hours</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent learning time</td>
<td>177</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course work preparation</td>
<td>45</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>250</strong></td>
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**Face to Face Contact Hours:** The following teaching methodologies are incorporated into classroom based hours: Didactic teaching, question & answers, Socratic questioning, class discussions, group work, case study review, role play, scenarios and debates.

**On line Contact Hours:** The following teaching methodologies are incorporated into on line contact hours: Voice recorded Lecture notes (Camtasia), required supplemental reading to support the voice recorded material, discussion on the online discussion forum, questions & answers and appraisal and critique of the literature via the forum. Students can access the Discussion Forum on Moodle throughout the module.

### Indicative Syllabus
- Overview of module and review of the research process
- Research paradigms
- Action research
- Searching the literature and developing search strategy skills
- Developing critical appraisal skills through reviewing the literature
- Writing a critical appraisal of the literature review
- Sampling and negotiating access to participants in research studies
- Data collection (quantitative and qualitative)
- Data analysis (quantitative and qualitative)
- Reliability and validity and trustworthiness
- Ethics issues in research
- Application and implementation of research findings in practice
- Methodological issues of literature reviewed
- Assignment preparation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination/Assignment Method</th>
<th>Type of Assessment (Continuous/Terminal)</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Assignment 2,500 word count</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
<td>100</td>
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**Indicative Reading List**

**Core Reading**


**Recommended Reading**


Articles from the following Journals
- Journal of Advanced Nursing
- Journal of Clinical Nursing
- Journal of Nursing Management
- Journal of Nursing Administration
- Nurse Researcher
- RCSI Library Databases which includes the E-Journal Portal with an A-Z list of online journals

*Individual Lecturers will provide additional reading material*