University of Pretoria Yearbook 2019

Research methodology 751 (SOC 751)

Qualification	Postgraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Module credits	20.00
Programmes	BSocSciHons Gender Studies
	BSocSciHons Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies
	BSocSciHons Sociology
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Sociology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

The module focuses on debates about, as well as the practice of, research. The idea of science, the role of theoretical conceptualisations, and the epistemological assumptions underpinning research are introduced with reference to competing paradigms, including positivism, interpretivism and realism. With regard to research practice, general principles of planning such as identifying a topic, delineating a problem area, selecting sites, sampling participants and addressing ethical questions are considered. Thereafter the use of methods through which data can be collected and/or constructed are introduced and ways in which evidence can be interpreted and analysed are discussed.

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