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# University of Pretoria Yearbook 2020

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## 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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