Using Creative Methods in Research with Children and Young People

Assessment for 2016

10 credits, Level 11 in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (postgraduate level)
Equivalent to 5 credits in ECTS (European system)

Two forms of assessment will be required:

A. Two contributions to the course’s on-line discussion:

Each should be an initiating contribution, with a critical evaluation of a creative arts based methods resource relevant to the course’s aim. The resources should not already be identified in the course resources.

500 words (or less) would be expected for each contribution. (This assessment will form 10% of final mark).

Due Date: 25th May 2016

B. A 2500 word assignment. A critical discussion of using a creative arts-based approach, within a research or consultative project.

You can choose one of our two options provided – or negotiate with Susan or Kay your own example, perhaps based on your own work. (This assessment will form 90% of your final mark.)

Due date: 30th June 2016

Please note: if you are taking other CRFR CPD courses you must differentiate between your assessments: i.e. they should not be on the same resources (blog contributions) nor topics (assignment).

To submit assessment 2:

• E-mail it to Laura Marshal (l.marshall@ed.ac.uk) by the above deadlines.

• Ensure your assessment is within in a word file, and has an initial cover sheet with the following details: your name, title of paper and word count (excluding the bibliography). Do not put your name on the assessment itself as it will be marked anonymously.

Further information is provided below in terms of grading criteria and advice.
Assessments will be marked and moderated by Susan Elsley and Kay Tisdall. A copy will be returned to you with a provisional mark and comments.

Marks are provisional until confirmed by the board of examiners (which, for this assessment, will be October 2016). The board of examiners is composed of the MSc in Childhood Studies teaching staff together with the external examiner (Professor Jo Moran-Ellis). All work is available to the external examiner as an independent marker. External examiners may be invited to conduct oral examinations and to comment on selected cases.

Plagiarism is considered a serious offence which will be penalised. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of the work of another, so as to pass it off as one’s own. This includes the copying of work from both published and unpublished sources. Further information and advice for students on plagiarism can be found at http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/academic-services/students/postgraduate-taught/discipline/plagiarism

Procedures for academic appeals are described in section 10.3 of the Code of Practice for Taught Postgraduate Programmes http://www.docs.sasg.ed.ac.uk/academicservices/codes/coptaughtpgprogrammes.pdf
**Assessment 1: On-line contributions**

Identify a creative arts based web resource that you want to critically assess. It should be a resource which is not on the course resources. The resource can be a research report, toolkit, ethical guidelines or some other resource of relevance to the course.

You should state the title of the resource and how to locate the resource (e.g. website link).

The on-line contribution should be a critical comment/assessment of the resource. The contribution should include two separate findings that you have arrived at and should refer to at least one course reading.

500 words (or less) for each contribution. (see below for penalties if you are over the word length).

You must provide 2 on-line contributions.

Due Date: 25th May 2016

**Assessment 2: General advice**

You are expected to make some reference to external sources (journal articles, books and reliable websources). We recognise that you may not have extensive access to library resources; the text book and course resources on the course’s website may useful to you.

Please follow referencing conventions in your written assessment (see Appendix 1) and include a bibliography in your submission. You are not required to use the ‘Harvard’ system, as outlined in Appendix 1, but please ensure you use a consistent referencing system and provide full information to the reader. The marking scheme, an elaboration on this, and the standard feedback sheet are included in Appendix 2.

The overall length of the assessment should be 2500 words. This excludes the bibliography and any appendices. You will be penalised if your work is over the word length. Five marks will be deducted for every 10% over the word limit or fraction thereof up to a maximum of 10 marks.

We have a set deadline of 30th June 2016. If you keep in touch with us, we can extend this up until 1st Sept 2016.

**Assessment 2: Critical discussion of using a creative arts-based approach**

A critical discussion of using a creative arts-based approach, within a research or consultative project.
Within this critical discussion, please address the following:

1. How well the creative arts-based approach will meet the aim of the research or the consultative project
2. The practicalities of using the approach within a particular context and with particular children
3. The ethical issues associated with using the approach
4. How you would propose to analyse what you find out, by using the approach, and the difficulties you might experience in such analysis

We recommend that you divide up your words fairly evenly, across the above four sections.

In addition, please have an introduction to your assignment, which includes an overview of the approach and the project. Have a conclusion to the assignment, which summarises what you have discussed earlier and ends the assignment.

You can choose one of our two options below – or negotiate with Susan or Kay your own example, perhaps based on your own work. Within the information provided below, you can discuss certain choices that remain open to you (e.g. option 1- how many children will you consult? How will you use the puppets?)

**Option 1: Consultation on a Scottish Play Strategy**

**Aim:** To consult on a Scottish Play Strategy. The Play Strategy is for children under the age of 5. The Strategy addresses play outside the home. The Scottish Government is particularly interested in finding out children’s opinions on the use of outside space.

**Arts-based method:** Puppets

**Timescale:** 12 months

Which children are involved: Children under the age of 5, accessed through early years settings (playgroups, nurseries, pre-school). The Government wants you to include as broad a range of children as possible, across Scotland.

**Resources:** 1 full time researcher, travel and administration expenses. The Government has given you a contract to undertake this consultation.

**Option 2: Research on Children’s Friendships**

**Aim:** To explore the meanings of friendship, for children/young people aged 12 to 14.

**Arts-based method:** Storytelling.

**Timescale:** 18 months
Which children are involved: 30 children/young people between the ages of 12 and 14, accessed through 6 schools (approx 5 children/young people per school). You have been able to recruit children/young people from a mix of cultural and socio-economic backgrounds, living in rural and urban settings.

Resources: 1 part-time researcher, consultancy money for an experienced storyteller, travel and administration expenses. The Research Council has given you a contract to undertake this research.
Appendix 1: Creating a list of references

The reference list is given at the end of your written work in a prescribed order using a standard format and punctuation.

a) References are arranged alphabetically by the author’s name; different works by the same author are arranged in order of year of publication,

b) If works are published by the same author in the same year, they should be listed in alphabetical order of title, using a, b, etc. after the year,


In the body of your writing, they are correspondingly referred to as Burnard (1998a), Burnard (1998b) etc.

Format
a) Book
Author, Initials. (Year) Title. edition (if not the first). Place of publication: Name of publisher (Series – if relevant).


b) Article
Author, Initials. (Year) Article title. Name of journal Volume number (Issue number NB: This is not included for journals published weekly) Date of issue First and last pages.


ADDITIONAL REFERENCE DETAILS

a) Two authors
Both are named in the body of your writing, e.g. Aggleton and Chalmers (2000). Publication details in your list of references are given under the author named first,


b) More than two authors
In the body of your writing use the first name followed by “et al” (a Latin abbreviation meaning “and others”),
e.g. In a recent study, Broadbent et al (1991) examine management of the health services after Griffiths.

In your list of references it is preferable to name all the authors.

c) A collection of works by different authors
If the whole work has been drawn on, give details under the editor’s name,


If, however, a quote has been made from one chapter of the collection, or only one chapter is relevant to your study, cite under the author of that chapter,


d) Organisations as authors
Where the work is not the responsibility of individuals it should be listed under the organisation. The full name of any organisation must be spelt out in full. Abbreviations can only be used if the full name has already been used in the same reference. The only exception is HMSO when the abbreviation is always used.

e.g. Royal College of Nursing (1992) A philosophy for midwifery. London: RCM.


Referencing other sources of information
The same principle applies to other sources of information as to printed texts. As before, it should enable the reader to locate and obtain a copy of the works you have referred to. When listing references ensure that information is consistent.

For electronic sources of information, it is acceptable to include additional information such as type of medium and the date when the site was accessed (ISO 690-2, 2000).

Audio visual
Author, Initials. (Year) Title [type of medium]. Edition statement if given. Place of publication: Publisher. If no Author is available, use the title as the first part of the citation.

**CD-ROM**
Author, Initials. (Year) Title [type of medium]. Edition statement if given. Place of publication: Publisher. If no Author is available, use the title as the first part of the citation.


**Internet sources**

**Individual works**
Author, initials. (Year) *Title* [type of medium]. Edition statement if given. Place of publication: Publisher. Available from: <URL>. [Accessed date].


**No specified author**


**Full text articles**
Authors, Initial. (Year) *Article title*. *Name of journal* [type of medium]. Volume number (Issue number) Date of issue. First and last pages. [Date of citation required for online documents if available] Available from: <URL>. [Accessed date]


**Mailbase/Listserv email lists**
Authors, Initials. <Email address if given>. (Day Month Year). Subject of message. Discussion list [online]. Available from: Mailbase/Listserv email address [Accessed date].

**Usenet Newsgroups/Bulletin boards**
These follow the layout given for mailbase and listserv. Replace the name of the discussion list with the name of the newsgroup or bulletin board.

**Personal email**
It is advisable to get permission from the sender of any personal emails before quoting their opinions and email address (University of Sheffield Library, 2000).

**Citing from databases that include citation instructions**
If databases include instructions for citing references, these must be followed. In brackets at the end of the citation state that the item has been cited as instructed (University of Sheffield Library, 2000).

e.g. Woods, S, Ticher, A. and Davis, J. Dietary marine fatty acids (fish oil) for asthma Cochrane Review). In: The Cochrane Library, Issue 3, 2000. Oxford: Update Software. (Citation as instructed)
## Appendix 2: Marking Criteria

### UNIVERSITY POSTGRADUATE COMMON MARKING SCHEME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A1</td>
<td>An excellent performance, satisfactory for a distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>A very good performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A good performance, satisfactory for a masters degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>A satisfactory performance for the diploma, but inadequate for a masters degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Marginal fail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Clear fail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-19</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>Bad fail</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-9</td>
<td>H</td>
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### GRADUATE SCHOOL of SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCE Postgraduate marking scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100% (A1)</td>
<td>Fulfils all criteria for A2. In addition is a work of exceptional insight and independent thought, deemed to be of publishable quality, producing an analysis of such originality as potentially to change conventional understanding of the subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89% (A2)</td>
<td>Outstanding work providing insight and depth of analysis beyond the usual parameters of the topic. The work is illuminating and challenging for the markers. Comprises a sustained, fluent, authoritative argument, which demonstrates comprehensive knowledge, and convincing command, of the topic. Accurate and concise use of sources informs the work, but does not dominate it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79% (A3)</td>
<td>A sharply-focused, consistently clear, well-structured paper, demonstrating a high degree of insight. Effectively and convincingly argued, and showing a critical understanding of conflicting theories and evidence. Excellent scholarly standard in use of sources, and in presentation and referencing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69% (B)</td>
<td>Good to very good work, displaying substantial knowledge and understanding of concepts, theories and evidence relating to the topic. Answers the question fully, drawing effectively on a wide range of relevant sources. No significant errors of fact or interpretation. Writing, referencing and presentation of a high standard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59% (C)</td>
<td>Work which is satisfactory for the MSc degree, showing some accurate knowledge of topic, and understanding, interpretation and use of sources and evidence. There may be gaps in knowledge, or limited use of evidence, or over-reliance on a restricted range of sources. Content may be mainly descriptive. The argument may be confused or unclear in parts, possibly with a few factual errors or misunderstandings of concepts. Writing, referencing and presentation satisfactory.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>40-49% (D)</td>
<td>Work which is satisfactory for Diploma. Shows some knowledge of the topic, is intelligible, and refers to relevant sources, but likely to have significant deficiencies in argument, evidence or use of literature. May contain factual mistakes and inaccuracies. Not adequate to the topic, perhaps very short, or weak in conception or execution, or fails to answer the question. Writing, referencing and presentation may be weak.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39% (E)</td>
<td>Flawed understanding of topic, showing poor awareness of theory. Unconvincing in its approach and grasp of the issues. Perhaps too short to give an adequate answer to the question. Writing, referencing and presentation likely to be very weak. A mark of 38/39 may indicate that the work could have achieved a pass if a more substantial answer had been produced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29% (F)</td>
<td>An answer showing seriously inadequate knowledge of the subject, with little awareness of the relevant issues or theory, major omissions or inaccuracies, and pedestrian use of inadequate sources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-19% (G)</td>
<td>An answer that falls far short of a passable level by some combination of short length, irrelevance, lack of intelligibility, factual inaccuracy and lack of acquaintance with reading or academic concepts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-9% (H)</td>
<td>An answer without academic merit; conveys little sense that the course has been followed; lacks basic skills of presentation and writing.</td>
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School of Social and Political Science – PG Feedback Form

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<tr>
<th>Course Instance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Name</td>
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<td>Component Name</td>
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Please note that both the comments and the grade remain provisional until ratified by the external Exam Board in October and will be subject to change, moderation and review by our external examiners. This includes whether or not any penalties imposed are upheld.

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<th>Student Identifier</th>
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Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marking criterion</th>
<th>Comment</th>
<th>Grade A-H (if appropriate)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical/conceptual analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strength/cohesion of argument</td>
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<td>Use of sources/evidence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Structure &amp; organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breadth and relevance of reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clarity of expression, presentation and referencing</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Suggestions for future work</td>
<td></td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Susan Elsley and Kay Tisdall, the course convenors, would like to keep a copy of the essay, for future students to consult. Please let Kay know if you would like this not to happen. Neither your name nor examination number would feature on the kept copy.