

## MSc project: Researching in context T803

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### Presentation pattern

*November to April*

### Module description

This highly intensive research-based module, spanning a period of six months, asks students to design, conduct, analyse and report on a research project. This module represents the culmination of a student's MSc journey. The assessment comprises two coursework assignments and a project report. The project report can be based on primary data collection by the student, or it can comprise a secondary analysis of pre-existing information. The student's learning journey within the module divides. Students follow one of two pathways based on their expected use of either quantitative or qualitative data. Students are encouraged to consider research topics of contextual relevance to stakeholders and to consider the potential impact of their work.

### Person specification

The person specification for this module should be read in conjunction with [the generic person specification](#) for an associate lecturer at The Open University.

As well as meeting all the requirements set out in the generic person specification, you should have:

- An M.Sc., M.Phil. or other equivalent or higher postgraduate qualification.
- Experience of teaching at postgraduate level in one or more of the fields or subject areas relevant to T847 constituent (but separate) MSc programmes. These are currently: Engineering, Technology Management, Systems Thinking in Practice, Environmental Management, Advanced Networking, Computing, Information Security and Digital Forensics and Software Engineering. Your knowledge and experience may have been gained in an industrial, public or private service sector, NGO, or academic context.
- Experience of directing and supporting research activity at postgraduate level (i.e. ability to guide students in their chosen research areas, discuss the various elements of their projects, encourage students to think and reason for themselves, and assist with the development and application of the critical skills needed at this level of academic work).
- The ability and means to work to short turn-around times and/or react promptly when offering advice, feedback and support to students (due to the short but highly intensive nature of T847 research projects)

It would be an advantage to:

- A Ph.D. (or equivalent)
- Experience tutoring on one or more of the postgraduate diploma modules relevant to the areas you wish to support.
- Teaching qualification in relevant subject or HEA accreditation.
- Experience with quantitative data analysis and statistical methods.

#### Module related details

Credits awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module:	30
Number of assignments submitted by the student:	3
Method of submission for assignments:	2
Level of ICT requirements:	3
Number of students likely to be in a standard group:	6
Estimated number of hours per teaching week:	4