Module Specification

Research Training and Professional Development

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Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Research Training and Professional Development

Module code: USSJGT-60-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 60

ECTS credit rating: 30

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Applied Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Not in use for Modules

Field: Applied Sciences

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: Students taking this module will be registered and researching for a higher degree (PhD or MPhil) with the Faculty of Applied Sciences (FAS), and thus undertaking training to equip them to become professional scientists.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The aim of this module is to recognise and formalise the development and acquistion of specific research skills related to the procedures and processes of research; to develop and practise research communication via a range of deliveries to various target audiences; and to contextualise specific research programmes within the broader scientific and other arenas, including the relevance of the research to the public, business and the community.

Outline syllabus: The module has three elements:

A, Project Development.
Individual sessions with the supervisory team for project planning. These will cover aspects relevant to the specific project such as identification of the appropriate research methodologies, research design and data collection strategies; construction of a research timetable; consideration of research reflexivity; hypothesis setting; experimental design; statistical analyses; scientific writing and research degree regulations.

In consultation with the supervisory team, preparation of a research proposal detailing title, aims, plan of study, methodology and selected references. Identification of specific training requirements that could include attendance at specific research methodology modules, attendance at specific training courses etc.

In consultation with the supervisory team, preparation of a progression report.

B, Professional Development.
Development of an appreciation of research in context and research-related skills. Attendance at a minimum of 6 (4 for MPhil) generic training workshops organised by the Centre for Research, Innovation and Industry (CRIGS) at UWE (or equivalent at the place of work for part-time students employed elsewhere in institutions deemed appropriate by the supervisory team). Attendance at a minimum of 18 (12 for MPhil) relevant specialist research seminars/workshops. For full-time students these will normally be at UWE; for part-time students some of these should normally be at UWE but others may be attended elsewhere if deemed appropriate by the supervisory team. In addition, students will normally be expected to attend the

annual Postgraduate Research Forum held within FAS and to make a research presentation (poster/oral) as requested by the FAS Research Degrees Committee (RDC). Attendance at a minimum of one external research forum.

C, Research Communication and Public Engagement.

Normally, presentation of a minimum of one research poster at UWE (or, if not possible at UWE for part-time students, at the work-institute if appropriate) and one oral research presentation, either external or internal. Participation in at least one public engagement activity (relevant to the public, business and the community). This could take several forms, for example, attendance at in-house sessions on 'Science and the Media' or 'Science in Public', participation in science festivals, schools activities, Open Days, Business Plan Competitions (UWE or external), research commercialisation.

Time-scales. Normally full-time PhD students are expected to complete their studies within three years and MPhil students within two. For part-time students these times are longer, typically four and three years for PhD and MPhil respectively. The progression report is normally submitted after 11-12/ months/20-24 months (full-time/part-time) for PhD studies and 8-9/15-18 months (full-time/part-time) for MPhil studies; the progression exam is held shortly after. Thus, by this time all of element A should be completed and assessed, as well as parts of elements B and C. Normally the entire module should be completed successfully by the time that the written PhD/MPhil thesis is submitted.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Assessment task A, Individual sessions with the Director of Studies and supervisory team to provide subject-specific and generic guidance on project development and progression. RD1 (project development) and RD2 (project progression) assessed through FAS Research Degrees Committee (RDC).

Assessment task B, Individual sessions with supervisory team to determine specific

training and development requirements. Production of a Professional Development Portfolio (PDP) to detail all training events and workshops and internal and external research fora attended by the student. PDP monitored by supervisory team and assessed through PR1 and PR2 progress reports submitted to RDC.

Assessment task C, Individual sessions with supervisory team to determine specific training and development requirements. Production of a Research Communication and Public Engagement Portfolio (RCPEP) to detail all research presentations made and all public engagement activities. RCPEP monitored by supervisory team and assessed through PR1 and PR2 progress reports submitted to RDC.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the research process

MO2 Define a research question and plan a series of investigations addressing this question

MO3 Utilise electronic, library and other information sources effectively

MO4 Show an awareness of Ethics and Research Governance aspects of research

MO5 Show an awareness of Health and Safety aspects of research

MO6 Show an an awareness of intellectual property (IP) issues relating to research activities

MO7 Demonstrate communication skills, both in specialised and non-specialised contexts, and as a minimum, via both oral and poster delivery

MO8 Demonstrate an awareness of issues relating to engagement of researchers with, and relevance of research to, the public, business and the community

Hours to be allocated: 600

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 456 hours

Face-to-face learning = 144 hours

Total = 600

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: See Assessment.

Assessment components:

Project (First Sit)

Description: Project Development (RD1 and RD2)

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Professional Development (student portfolio and PR1/PR2 progress reports)

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Research Communication and Public Engagement (student portfolio and PR1/PR2 progress reports)

Weighting: 34 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Project (Resit)

Description: Project Development (RD1 and RD2)

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Professional Development (student portfolio and PR1/PR2 progress reports)

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Research Communication and Public Engagement (student portfolio and PR1/PR2 progress reports)

Weighting: 34 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: