



## **Module Specification**

### **Executive Dissertation**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Executive Dissertation

**Module code:** UMSDFN-45-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 45

**ECTS credit rating:** 22.5

**Faculty:** Faculty of Business & Law

**Department:** FBL Dept of Business & Management

**Partner institutions:** None

**Delivery locations:** Not in use for Modules

**Field:** Strategy and International Business

**Module type:** Master dissertation

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** Conducting Evidence Based Research 2021-22

**Continuing professional development:** No

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** Not applicable

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** 1. Conduct conceptual and empirical research into complex business and management issues

2. Synthesise critical thinking and problem solving to an area of organisational relevance
3. Analyse information effectively to abstract meaning and make recommendations
4. Communicate complex ideas in a clear, organised and professional presented dissertation.

**Outline syllabus:** This module will enable students to practice and demonstrate skills and knowledge that they have acquired during their studies. The module provides the opportunity for students to further develop their evaluative and critical enquiry skills through analysis and synthesis of complex material. It also enables students to develop skills in planning and managing a substantial independent analytical investigation in a topic area of their choice. In designing and undertaking their own study students are encouraged to conduct conceptual and empirical research that advances the understanding about the role, dynamics, and impact of organisations in the creation of sustainable social, environmental and economic value

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** The emphasis in this module is on independent learning supported through access to online materials and one-to-one tutor support. In negotiation with allocated tutors, students will design their own study on a topic of relevance in contemporary business/organisational contexts. Students are encouraged to link their studies to 'real world' problems and in particular their own entrepreneurial initiatives or, where feasible, to work with external organisations to develop their research.

Support is given to the student via their dissertation tutor. This support takes the form of guidance and mentoring with the onus on the student to explore options and bring issues and potential solutions to the tutor for discussion.

The module is a combination of sound academic underpinning and practical application. It enables students to further develop knowledge developed within the MBA programme applied within the context of their professional experience. Through independent study, in consultation with tutors, they will be able to reflect on and learn from that experience and thus be able to integrate new knowledge with past experience and apply it to new situations.

One scheduled workshop will be offered which will provide an introduction to the module.

Based on the topic forms submitted for the Conducting Evidence Based Research module, students will be allocated dissertation supervisors. Students should consult their tutors on a regular basis throughout the design and execution of their study. These consultations may take place face to face or via email or other electronic media. Students will normally have at least four formal meetings with their tutor over the period of the dissertation, although individual arrangements may be made.

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

**MO1** Conduct conceptual and empirical research that advances understanding of the role, dynamics, and/or impact of organisations in the creation of sustainable social, environmental and economic value

**MO2** Apply knowledge, critical thinking and problem solving skills and techniques to an area of personal interest and/or organisational relevance

**MO3** Demonstrate the ability to conduct research into complex business and management issues through research design, data collection, analysis, synthesis and reporting

**MO4** Demonstrate critical appreciation of research philosophies, strategies and methodologies in relation to investigation of their chosen topic

**MO5** Use information and knowledge effectively: scanning and organising data, synthesising and analysing in order to abstract meaning from information and to create and share knowledge

**MO6** Evidence critical thinking and creativity: organise thoughts, analyse, synthesise and critically appraise. This includes the capability to identify assumptions, evaluate statements in terms of evidence, detect false logic or reasoning, identify implicit values, define terms adequately and generalise appropriately

**MO7** Demonstrate the ability to recognise and address ethical dilemmas and apply ethical and organisational values to situations and choices

**MO8** Make use of academic perspectives, as well as primary research findings, to make recommendations that should have practical application in a workplace where relevant

**MO9** Communicate complex ideas, information and arguments in a clear, organised, and professionally presented dissertation

**Hours to be allocated:** 450

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 450 hours

Total = 450

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umsdfn-45-m.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umsdfn-45-m.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** Assessment will be by means of a single, work-related dissertation (12,000 words). This dissertation will involve researching an issue of relevance to business within the student's workplace. It will enable students to draw on and apply skills and knowledge developed through studying on the MBA (including real world applied business research to concrete business cases and in particular from the professional Development part of Conducting Evidence Based Research module) and will further develop their skills in applying appropriate methodologies and enquiry methods.

**Assessment components:**

**Dissertation (First Sit)**

Description: Dissertation (12,000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8, MO9

**Dissertation (Resit)**

Description: Dissertation (12,000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8, MO9

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Business Administration [Frenchay] MBA 2023-24

Business Administration [BIBM] MBA 2023-24

Business Administration [Villa] MBA 2023-24

Business Administration {Executive MBA} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MBA 2022-23

Business Administration {Executive MBA} [Jan][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MBA 2022-23