University of the West of England
BRISTOL

ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data						
Module Title	Research in Practice					
Module Code	USSKM6-60-M		Level	M	Version	1
Owning Faculty	Health and Applied Sciences		Field	Applied Sciences		
Department	Department of Applied Sciences					
Contributes towards	MSci Biological Sciences; MSci Environmental Science; MSci Wildlife, Ecology and Conservation Science; MSci Forensic Science; MSci Biomedical Science					
UWE Credit Rating	60	ECTS Credit Rating	30	Module Type	Project	
Pre-requisites	USSK5K-30-3 Research Experimental Project; USSKBC-30-3 Research Dissertation Project		Co- requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements	None		
Valid From	September 2016		Valid to	September 2022		

CAP Approval Date	May 2016

Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to: • Demonstrate a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the research process including research ethics (A1, A2, A3). • Demonstrate self-direction and originality in the planning (A1), execution and presentation (A2, A3) of an independent research project. • Demonstrate an ability to communicate science to peers and to non-scientists (A2). • Demonstrate an ability to apply relevant advanced analytical skills to data and other sources of information (A2, A3) • Demonstrate an ability to interpret and critically evaluate the quality of evidence, to deal with complex issues systematically and creatively, and to make sound judgements in the absence of complete data (A2, A3). • Critically discuss the significance and contribution of their research to the published literature (A3).
Syllabus Outline	• This is a project module and has no specific syllabus. Projects will be assigned in a topic cogent to students' intended route of specialism. Students may carry out their research with a research supervisor, working as part of an established research team, or in practice in a relevant profession
Contact Hours	• It is expected that students will undertake approximately 240 hours of laboratory/fieldwork/desk-based enquiry research. • Students will receive support from the academic supervisor during the

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>preparatory phase of the project (project design, proposal writing) through to the final write up of the project by suitable academic and research staff. Students are expected to engage regularly with their supervisor/supervisory team, and are encouraged to keep a reflective log of these meetings.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Teaching and Learning Methods</td><td>

The primary focus of this module is research-led independent learning. A scheduled induction (approximately 2 hours) will be provided for all students and subsequent specialist training will be provided by academic, technical and research staff on a one-to-one basis as appropriate.
As a specialist Research Project, it is expected that students will become experts in their area of specialism. This will require extensive independent reading
Indicative time per activity is outlined below:

Laboratory/fieldwork/enquiry: 240 hours.
Completion of Assessment Element 1: 30 hours.
Preparation for Assessment Element 2: 30 hours
Completion of Assessment Element 2: 8 hours.
Completion of Assessment Element 3: 100 hours.
Project Induction: 2 hours.
Independent Reading/Study: 190 hours.

</td></tr>
<tr><td>Key Information Sets Information</td><td>
Key Information Sets (KIS) are produced at programme level for all programmes that this module contributes to, which is a requirement set by HESA/HEFCE. KIS are comparable sets of standardised information about undergraduate courses allowing prospective students to compare and contrast between programmes they are interested in applying for.

<u>Key Information Set - Module data</u>

Number of credits for this module 60

<table>
<tr><th>Hours to be allocated</th><th>Scheduled learning and teaching study hours</th><th>Independent study hours</th><th>Placement study hours</th><th>Allocated Hours</th></tr>
<tr><td>600</td><td>2</td><td>598</td><td>0</td><td>600</td></tr>
</table>

The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a -

Written Exam: Unseen written exam, open book written exam, In-class test
Coursework: Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project
Practical Exam: Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam

Please note that this is the total of various types of assessment and will not necessarily reflect the component and module weightings in the Assessment section of this module description:

<table>
<tr><td>Coursework assessment percentage</td><td>100%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Practical exam assessment percentage</td><td>0%</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>100%</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
</table>

Reading Strategy	The individual nature of the projects undertaken means that students are expected to undertake a significant amount of self-directed literature searching and reviewing of the published literature. Unlike taught modules there is no required or essential reading with the exception of materials involved in the laboratory induction which will be provided. All students will be encouraged to make full use of the print and electronic resources available to them through membership of the University. These include a range of electronic journals and a wide variety of resources available through web sites and information gateways. The University Library's web pages provide access to subject relevant resources and services, and to the library catalogue. Many resources can be accessed remotely. Students will be presented with opportunities within the curriculum to develop their information retrieval and evaluation skills in order to identify such resources effectively.
Indicative Reading List	The individual nature of the projects means that the only common material is background books on aspects such as the research process, scientific writing, and statistical analysis of data Example texts include current editions of: Day, R.A. (2006) *How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper*. : Cambridge University Press. Shortland, M. and Gregory, J. (1991) *Communicating Science - a Handbook*. : Longman. Day, R.A. and Gastel, B. (2011) *How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper*. 7th ed. Westport Ct: Greenwood Press. Davis, M. (2012) *Scientific Papers and Presentations*. 7th ed. : Academic Press.

Part 3: Assessment	
Assessment Strategy	• The assessment strategy is based around the research process and has been designed to develop and assess key skills fundamental to contemporary scientific research. • The Project Proposal (element 1) will focus on hypothesis and/or key question driven project design, incorporating a review of the literature and proposed methodologies, time and resource management, ethical scrutiny, research governance and health and safety. • The Oral Presentation of Research (element 2) will form part of an organised "conference day" in which students present their findings to their peers and to assembled academic staff. Both staff and peer-assessment will inform the outcome. • The Project Report will be presented in an appropriate format eg. a contemporary research article in a peer-reviewed journal or as a Consultancy Report appropriate to the registered Programme.

Identify final assessment component and element	**A3**	
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	**A:** **100**	**B**:
First Sit		
Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** (as % of component)	

1. Project Proposal (2000 words)	20
2. 30 minute Oral Presentation of Research	30
3. Project Report (Maximum 10,000 words; Programme appropriate)	50
Component B **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1.	

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)	
Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Project Report (Maximum 10,000 words; Programme appropriate)	50
2. Viva voce exam.	50
Component B **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1.	
If a student is permitted an **EXCEPTIONAL RETAKE** of the module the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.	