STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Research in Context		
Module Code	UBGMVP-30-M	Level	Level 7
For implementation from	2018-19		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Faculty of Environment & Technology	Field	Geography and Environmental Management
Department	FET Dept of Geography & Envrnmental Mgmt		
Contributes towards	Geography [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Social Research (Sustainable Futures) [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Architecture [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Statistics [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Data Science [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19 Data Science [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Statistics [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19 Geography [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19 Social Research (Health and Wellbeing) [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Social Research (Health and Wellbeing) [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19 Social Research (Sustainable Futures) [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19 Air Quality Management [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Bio-energy [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Carbon Management [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Flooding [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Mobilities [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Transport Studies [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Water Management [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Air Quality Management [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19 Bio-energy [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19 Carbon Management [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19 Flooding [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19 Mobilities [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19

	Transport Studies [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19
	Water Management [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19
	Computer Science [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19
	Computer Science [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19
	Architecture [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19
	Construction [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19
	Real Estate [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19
	Product Design [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MRes 2018-19
	Construction [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19
	Real Estate [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19
	Product Design [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19
Module type:	Standard
Pre-requisites	None
Excluded Combinations	None
Co- requisites	None
Module Entry requirements	None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module closely connects the student to the development of their dissertation topic (MRes) or pathway theme (MSc Social Research).

Educational Aims: See Learning Outcomes

Outline Syllabus: The first half of the module will focus on how knowledge is produced (i.e. epistemology and ontology). It will utilize student lead workshops to explore how different philosophical perspectives (e.g. scientific paradigms, sociology of scientific knowledge, critical realism, feminism etc) shape research to be evaluated through individual presentations.

The second half of the module provides the students with support in developing their critical thinking and writing skills focused on selected research publications in the students' selected subject area.

Teaching and Learning Methods: The students' supervisors will meet with their student and provide an advisory role in the selection of key research publications, firstly to connect with the workshops, and secondly to develop a critical report or essay evaluating the theory, evidence and research gaps.

Scheduled learning will include Introductory session, advanced library skills session, 6 seminar/workshop sessions including assessed presentations, two progress workshops to support student writing, and supervision of individual research. It is expected that the student will become increasingly independent over the course of the module, supported by the module's online Discussion Board forum through Blackboard or similar VLE.

Independent learning will include 282 hours engaged with essential reading, assignment

preparation and completion etc.

The module will offer 18 hours of group contact time. The module will have 6 philosophy seminars/workshops, and 1 advanced library skills session. A further two progress workshops supporting critical writing skills will be provided. Students will have a minimum of two one-to-one meetings with their dissertation supervisors over the period of the module.

Part 3: Assessment

Formative assessment for the literature review (Component B) will be provided through discussion of work in progress at the writing workshops and within individual meetings with dissertation supervisors. Formative assessment will offer an opportunity to observe and assist the students' skills development, and check that students are using appropriate referencing protocols and not plagiarising.

The summative assessments are as follows:

Component A: Individual presentation (40%)
The student will give an individual presentation (20 mins including Q and A) evaluating philosophical perspectives, and defending a selected epistemological and ontological position relevant to their field of research. (Learning outcomes 1, 2 and 3.)

Presentations will be recorded for moderation purposes and a paper copy of any slides/ visuals and references used will be submitted.

Component B: Literature Review (60%)
The student will compile a Literature Review of 4000 words that critically evaluates theory, method and/or practice approaches, and evidence in their field of research.
(Learning outcomes 1,2, and 4.)

These assessments will provide i) intermediate and end of module feedback, and ii) to assess the student's comprehension of their reading in a) written form with appropriate references and b) through a presentation which includes oral communication skills.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B	✓	60 %	Literature review (4,000 words)
Presentation - Component A		40 %	Individual presentation (20 minutes)
Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B	✓	60 %	Resubmission of a revised literature review
Presentation - Component A		40 %	Revised individual presentation (20 minutes)

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Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods		
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to:	
		Module Learning Outcomes
	MO1	Demonstrate a critical awareness of and engagement with current issues and/or methodological or practice developments in their discipline.
	MO2	Critically evaluate the utility of a range of advanced theories, philosophical thinking and methodological approaches in their discipline.
	MO3	Defend an epistemological and ontological position related to their field of research.
	MO4	Compose a comprehensive literature review in an area relevant to their extended project/dissertation.
Contact Hours	**Contact Hours**	
	Independent Study Hours:	
	Independent study/self-guided study	282
	Total Independent Study Hours:	282
	Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
	Face-to-face learning	18
	Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	18
	Hours to be allocated	300
	Allocated Hours	300
Reading List	*The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:* https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmvp-30-m.html	