



**CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC SERVICES**

**MODULE SPECIFICATION**

Part 1: Basic Data					
Module Title	Research Project				
Module Code	USSJ6C-60-M	Level	M	Version	7
Owning Faculty	HLS	Field	Applied Sciences		
Contributes towards	MSc Biomedical Science and all associated named routes MSc Molecular Biotechnology				
UWE Credit Rating	60	ECTS Credit Rating	30	Module Type	Project
Pre-requisites			Co- requisites		
Excluded Combinations			Module Entry requirements		
Valid From	Sept 2012		Valid to	September 2018	
<b>CAP Approval Date</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> May 2012				

Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the research process. (all coursework elements)</li> <li>demonstrate the ability to define a hypothesis. (all coursework elements)</li> <li>plan and perform an investigation of a well-defined research problem. (all coursework elements)</li> <li>demonstrate the ability to draw valid conclusions based on experimental observation. (A2)</li> <li>discuss critically the significance and contribution of their project to existing published work. (A2)</li> <li>utilise electronic information sources effectively as learning aids.(all coursework elements)</li> </ul>
Syllabus Outline	No specific syllabus for project module – however projects will be assigned in a topic cogent to students intended route of specialism.
Contact Hours/Scheduled Hours	<p>Students are expected to undertake approximately 200 hours of laboratory based work within this 60 credit module. Supervision of laboratory time will depend upon the competence demonstrated by the student. Laboratory supervision may be by a member of academic staff, a member of technical staff, or an appropriately experienced Postgraduate Research student (with academic supervisory oversight).</p> <p>Students will also be supported through the preparatory stages of their project – design and proposal writing and through the writing up phase of their project by suitable academic and academic-related staff.</p> <p>Thus contact time is likely to be highly variable depending on the abilities and needs of each student.</p>

	<p>The project module is supported by the Research Methods and Practical Skills module undertaken in the first semester, prior to full embarkation on the project module.</p> <p>The project module also houses the Programme's inbuilt tutorials on project related topics such as scientific writing, writing your report and preparing your viva. There are also sessions of personal/professional development topics such as CV writing, reflective practice, M level coursework as part of this tutorial programme as a scheme similar to the undergraduate GDP.</p>
Teaching and Learning Methods	The learning is delivered primarily on a one-to-one basis between the supervisor and their assigned student. This is supplemented by the group tutorials described above.
Reading Strategy	<p>The individual nature of the projects undertaken by the students means that they are expected to undertake significant amounts of literature searching and reviewing. The guidance on doing this is provided in the programme's research preparation module (e.g. Research methods and Practical Skills module on the MSc Biomedical Science or its equivalent on other awards that utilise this project module) and supplemented by their supervisor when they embark on their project work.</p> <p>Unlike taught modules there is no set reading or essential reading.</p> <p>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.</p>
Indicative Reading List	<p>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 biological/biomedical data.</p> <p>Example texts include current editions of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "How to write and publish a scientific paper." Day R. (Cambridge University Press).</li> <li>• "Communicating Science - a Handbook." Shortland M. &amp; Gregory, J. (Longman Scientific and Technical).</li> <li>• "A Guide to Scientific Writing." Lindsay D. (Longman Scientific and Technical).</li> <li>• "Scientific papers and presentations." Davis M. (Academic Press).</li> <li>• "Writing and presenting scientific papers." Malmfors B., Garnsworthy P. &amp; Grossman M. (Nottingham University Press).</li> <li>• "Making sense - a student's guide to research and writing." Margot Northey &amp; Brian Timney. (Oxford University Press).</li> </ul>

### Part 3: Assessment

Assessment Strategy	<p>The assessment of this module has been designed to mimic the PhD process, enabling students to gain an experience of researching and reporting their research in the style that those who progress to a PhD will be required to do (albeit with shorter word counts and shorter viva durations).</p> <p>The assessments also align to the assessment strategy of the MSc BMS programme.</p>
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	The mark allocation across the elements reflects the importance of the thesis, making it virtually impossible to pass the module if the thesis fails.	
Identify final assessment component and element	<b>A2</b>	
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	<b>A:</b>	<b>B:</b>
	<b>100</b>	
<b>First Sit</b>		
<b>Component A</b> (controlled conditions) <b>Description of each element</b>	<b>Element weighting</b> <b>(as % of component)</b>	
1. Project Proposal (1500 words)	15	
2. Project Report (5000 words) and associated viva – final assessment	85	
<b>Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)</b>		
<b>Component A</b> (controlled conditions) <b>Description of each element</b>	<b>Element weighting</b> <b>(as % of component)</b>	
1. Project Report (5000 words) and associated viva	100	
If a student is permitted an <b>EXCEPTIONAL RETAKE</b> of the module the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.		