

Programme Specification

Doctor of Biomedical Sciences [Frenchay]

Version: 2023-24, v1.0, 16 Aug 2023

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Doctor of Biomedical Sciences [Frenchay] Highest award: DBMS Doctor of Biomedical Sciences Interim award: PGCert Research Methods in Biomedical Science Interim award: PGDip Biomedical Science Practice Awarding institution: UWE Bristol Affiliated institutions: Not applicable Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol Study abroad: No Year abroad: No Sandwich year: No Credit recognition: No School responsible for the programme: CHSS School of Applied Sciences, College of Health, Science & Society Contributing schools: Not applicable Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies: Not applicable Apprenticeship: Not applicable Mode of delivery: Part-time Entry requirements: For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website. For implementation from: 01 January 2019 Programme code: B90011

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The Doctor of Biomedical Sciences (DBMS) is a strategic initiative of the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences intended to provide highly experienced practitioners employed within Biomedical Science with an opportunity to deepen their knowledge and skills to meet the higher professional practice demands of the NHS through its Agenda for Change and Healthcare Scientists Plan.

The DBMS is designed to provide a high-level set of learning opportunities combining structure, a community of practice and independent research in a practitioner context.

Educational Aims: Its educational aims are to provide:

Opportunities for senior practitioners and managers from a range of biomedical science-related backgrounds to develop and realise their potential in a supportive and responsive environment.

An understanding of a substantial body of knowledge which is at the forefront of professional practice

An understanding of the strategic issues and external drivers which inform biomedical science practice

Heighten self-awareness with regard to professional practice and personal behaviour in leading and managing teams of biomedical-related personnel, as a basis for improving personal effectiveness in role

Knowledge and skills needed to conduct, at an advanced level, a research project into significant biomedical science issues and present the findings in a coherent cogent form to satisfy peer review and the needs of publication

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Knowledge and skills needed to be able to critically reflect on the findings of a research project and evaluate its strengths and weaknesses including validation procedures

Support to challenge and critically review findings in biomedical science

Skills in applying tools, techniques and in-depth analytical skills for exploring biomedical science issues, and contributing to the extension of new knowledge and understanding

Added value for learners in specific knowledge and transferable skills

The ability to translate complex biomedical science research outcomes to inform practice development

A coherent and flexible programme of part-time study at postgraduate level

A programme responsive to feedback from students, external examiners and other stakeholder as part of quality management and enhancement

Appropriate facilities and resources to deliver a quality teaching and learning experience within a research-led environment.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Knowledge and Understanding

- A1. Demonstrate an advanced knowledge base of research methodology with a range of transferable skills.
- A2. Demonstrate a deep understanding of the contribution of research and scholarship to biomedical professional practice.

- A3. Demonstrate a competence to critically review current research in relation to research project and to inform practice.
- A4. Undertake research which will be disseminated to the wider scientific community.
- A5. Demonstrate an understanding of the external drivers which impact on, and inform, biomedical science practice.
- A6. Demonstrate an understanding of the value of continual professional development.

Intellectual Skills

- B1. Develop their conceptual, cognitive and analytical skills appropriate to Doctorate level.
- B2. Use appropriate information technology to seek and analyse information.
- B3. Demonstrate independent and self-directed learning.

Subject/Professional Practice Skills

- C1. Develop as doctorate level independent researchers and practitioners.
- C2. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the research process through execution of a research project.
- C3. Develop their specific interests by specialising within the programme in relation to their subject or career aspirations.
- C4. Critically evaluate information from a range of sources.
- C5. Apply practical approaches to the study of selected aspects of biomedical science and demonstrate an awareness of ethics, research governance, safety and good laboratory practice.
- C6. Demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the strategic issues which affect the profession.

Transferable Skills and other attributes

- D1. Able to communicate and present complex arguments in a logical, articulate and intellectual manner using a variety of methods.
- D2. Able to critically analyse data arising from various means of inquiry.

- D3. Able to awareness of the impact of strategic issues eg. Research Governance, Intellectual Property and Quality Assurance on biomedical science in research and practice.
- D4. Able to manage time and plan work to deadlines.
- D5. Able to demonstrate capacity to think critically and creatively.

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1

The student must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Part A1 (Compulsory Modules)

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Part A1 (Compulsory Modules).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJFR-30-M	Project Development Towards a Doctorate 2023-24	30
USSJGX-30-M	Research Theory and Practice 2023-24	30

Year 1 Part A2 (Compulsory Modules)

The student must take 30 credits from the modules in Part A2 (Compulsory Modules).

Please note that module USSJGY-30-M Professional Development for Biomedical Sciences is started in Year 1 and completed in Year 3.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJGY-30-M	Professional Development for Biomedical	30
	Sciences 2023-24	

Year 2

The student must take 30 credits from the modules in Year 2.

The module USSJFS-30-M Interim Research Report is started in Year 2 and completed during Year 3.

The student carries on completing the module USSJGY-30-M Professional Development for Biomedical Sciences.

Year 2 Part A2 (Compulsory Modules)

The student must take 30 credits from the modules in Part A2 (Compulsory Modules). The module USSJFS-30-M Interim Research Report is started in Year 2 and completed during Year 3.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJFS-30-M	Interim Research Report 2024-25	30

Year 2 Part B1 Research Project

The Research Project (Part B1) is started in year 2 and completed in Year 5.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
THESIS	Doctoral Thesis 2024-25	0

Year 3

The student works on the Research Project during Year 3.

The module USSJFS-30-M Interim Research Report which was started in Year 2 is completed during Year 3.

Year 3 Part B2 Research Project

The student works on the Research Project during Year 3

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
THESIS	Doctoral Thesis 2025-26	0

Year 4

The student works on the Research Project during Year 4

Year 4 Part B2 Research Project

The students work on the Research Project during Year 4

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
THESIS	Doctoral Thesis 2026-27	0

Year 5

The student works on the Research Project during Year 5

Year 5 Part B1

The student continues to work on the Research Project during Year 5, culminating in the Viva voce exam (Part B1)

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
THESIS	Doctoral Thesis 2027-28	0

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

In designing the DBMS, account has been taken of the following;

QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (Jan 2001)

QAA Code of Practice for the Assurance of Academic Quality and Standards in Higher Education: Postgraduate Research Programmes (Jan 1999)

UWE Professional Doctorate Framework

Feedback from stakeholders via BMS Advisory Group and RPSG.

Feedback from Faculty Research Degrees Committee (RDC).

Part E: Regulations