



Module Specification

Professional Skills : Business Research

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Professional Skills : Business Research

Module code: UMOT8Q-30-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2026-27

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Business and Law

School: CBL Bristol Business School

Partner institutions: None

Field: Organisation Studies

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module develops the “professional practice” strand for the Business and Management programme, focussing on the development of skills in Business Research.

Students will work collaboratively and individually to carry out a short piece of enquiry based organisational research in a business context or using

samples/populations. Students undertake appropriate enquiry based data collection, present an analysis within the group, and write up the reports individually.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Building on the related “professional practice” module at Level 4, students apply and develop professional competencies. They practice the development of areas of specialism and identify potential career options.

Through reflective practice and collaborative working, students develop the ability to analyse and develop their own professional skills, and to set and monitor progress towards enhance goals that take account of future options.

The module also enables students to scope, design, and carry out a small-scale research project appropriate to an business context. It will allow them to communicate findings in the manner most appropriate to the audience and business environment.

Outline syllabus: Students will continue to develop their professional practice through exploration of self-management and reflection, working with others, wellbeing and resilience, social development and networking and related topics. Given that this module focuses on the development of self-awareness and professional competencies, it is recognised that learning is necessarily “spiral” in nature, and so the syllabus builds on Level 4.

The syllabus explores ways to undertake organisation based enquiry as appropriate to a business. This includes collecting, analysing and presenting qualitative and/ or quantitative data, as appropriate to the the business and the nature of the enquiry being undertaken.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Students will continue develop their professional practice by working within the “Mentor Group” that was established in Level 4, meeting within 1-hour seminars every week, supported by a “Group Mentor” who will,

in addition, provide Personal Tutor support to individual members of the Mentor Group.

Lectorials will introduce the range of organisational enquiry methods that are currently used in practice-based organisation research, as well as how to apply these to a real-world problem via a small-scale ethically sound project relating to the business context.

Practice tutorials and fieldwork sessions will support students with scoping the project, creating an appropriate research design, carrying out the data collection and analysis, communicating the findings, and making recommendations for practice.

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

MO1 Analyse, develop and apply own skills and attributes in relation to self-management, collaborative working, and the communication of own and others' ideas.

MO2 Effectively analyse personal practice and set enhanced learning and development plans, taking account of an informed analysis of future options.

MO3 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the current methods, principles, and ethics of practice in Business management enquiry

MO4 Apply and analyse the current methods of enquiry in a practice-based Business management context

MO5 Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in Business management enquiry

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 0

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umot8q-30-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umot8q-30-2.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy includes a Professional Practice Portfolio (40%) which builds on their Level 4 Portfolio and captures evidence of engagement in and reflection on personal and professional development during Level 5 including increasing ability to manage self and work collaboratively.

Students will also work in groups to agree a small, defined research proposal that will be signed off by staff (including ethical approval) before the group conduct the research within an organisation that they previously identified and negotiated access with or alternative as agreed. Following formative feedback on the proposals, and ongoing formative feedback on the data collection and analysis, students will complete a written consultancy-style report with recommendations for practice (60%).

Through reflective practice and collaborative working, students develop the ability to analyse and develop their own professional skills, and to set and monitor progress towards enhance goals that take account of future options

Assessment is designed to build in the student's individual experience in relation to the syllabus and supporting them in submitting an authentic assessment in line with university assessment policies. The overarching aim is to ensure it is the student's original work that is being submitted.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio requires students to use a mix of formats (text, media etc.)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Consultancy style report (2500 words)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4, MO5

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio requires students to use a mix of formats (text, media etc.)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Consultancy style report (2500 words)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Business and Management {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

Business and Management [Phenikaa] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business and Management [Villa] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business and Management [BIBM] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business and Management [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26