



## **Module Specification**

### **Dissertation for Psychology (Conversion)**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Dissertation for Psychology (Conversion)

**Module code:** USPJRP-45-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2024-25

**UWE credit rating:** 45

**ECTS credit rating:** 22.5

**College:** College of Health, Science & Society

**School:** CHSS School of Social Sciences

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Psychology

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** Yes

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** A dissertation module that will involve the design, implementation and translation of an independent research project.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** To develop an independent research project, informed by existing theoretical knowledge and critical appraisal.

To invoke an appropriate research design, engaging with contemporary methodologies to answer a specific research question.

To translate research findings, in relation to existing literature, through effective, scientific written communication.

**Outline syllabus:** Indicative content:

A specialist area of study within psychology will be selected by the student in collaboration with a supervisor with expertise in applied psychological research methods.

The development of research methods, appropriate to the selected area of study.

Engagement and adherence to the relevant ethical codes of conduct.

Development of research translation, in line with academic rigour for scientific communication.

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** Students will be expected to attend around 8 hours of dissertation workshops, and spend around one day per week completing their research and dissertation portfolio.

Scheduled learning: Each student will be allocated a dissertation supervisor. Supervision will be on an individual basis. A programme of regular supervision sessions (minimum of eight) will be planned with each student who will be encouraged to prepare work for discussion at each meeting. Once the research question and protocol are established a research timetable will be agreed with each student.

A programme of dissertation workshops will be offered in particular aspects of the

research process, including applying for University Ethics approval, approaches, data analysis and research communication, as appropriate.

Independent learning: students will be expected to carry out a literature review in their chosen research area, to read widely in this area, to plan and design an appropriate research project, to obtain ethical approval for their research, to undertake their research (in keeping with relevant ethical codes of conduct) and to communicate their research in the form of a presentation and a written dissertation.

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

**MO1** Conduct a thorough literature review, including critical appraisal of relevant research in line with a chosen topic area, to allow for the identification of an informed research question.

**MO2** Design and conduct an independent research project, including methods, data collection, analysis, interpretation, and discussion, situating findings within existing literature.

**MO3** Produce a comprehensive written report, demonstrating an in-depth understanding of the chosen topic area and scientific rigour.

**MO4** Engage appropriately with supervision, demonstrating an ability to communicate ideas clearly and respond to feedback.

**Hours to be allocated:** 450

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 421 hours

Face-to-face learning = 29 hours

Total = 450

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uspjw9-45-m.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uspjw9-45-m.html>

## Part 4: Assessment

**Assessment strategy:** Assessment: Dissertation portfolio including a 6-8,000 word report of an original piece of research (word count excludes reference list and appendices).

The research report will be considered in relation to the rigours of scientific research translation (e.g. peer-reviewed journal articles), with an assessment focus on background literature critique, methods, data analysis and situated discussion.

Opportunities for formative assessment and feedback are built into the scheduled learning during workshop activities. In addition, regular supervisory meetings with the project supervisor will incorporate opportunities for ongoing, interactive formative feedback.

### Assessment tasks:

#### Dissertation (First Sit)

Description: Dissertation portfolio including a 6-8,000 word report of a piece of research (word count excludes reference list and appendices)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

#### Dissertation (Resit)

Description: Dissertation portfolio including a 6-8,000 word report of a piece of research (word count excludes reference list and appendices)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

## **Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Psychology (Conversion) [Frenchay] MSc 2024-25