Module Specification

Research Project

Version: 2026-27, v2.0, Approved

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Research Project

Module code: USSJ6C-60-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2026-27

UWE credit rating: 60

ECTS credit rating: 30

College: College of Health, Science & Society

School: CHSS School of Applied Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Applied Sciences

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: This module enables student to undertake a research project related to their chosen discipline.

Features: This module is available as a CPD module.

Educational aims: This module enables you to undertake an extended project with a greater degree of design input and ownership compared to your UG projects. You

will develop not just scientific laboratory skills, but also data analysis, academic writing and transferable skills such as time-management.

Outline syllabus: All projects are designed by the students under academic supervision and are individualised. Projects will be assigned in a topic cogent to students intended route of specialism. Students undertake research governance, project review and management, undertake data collection and analysis and report findings in a thesis format, which is then defended by a viva voce examination.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The learning is delivered primarily on a one-to-one basis between the supervisor and their assigned student. The module is essentially an independent learning module, but with guidance and support appropriate to the needs of the student throughout. Students will receive appropriate training in the methods of their project, and relevant research governance by their supervisor, technical staff or other research staff as relevant to the activity.

Contact time will vary across the duration of the module – during the project design phase there will be meetings with their supervisors to discuss and plan the project, during the early phase of laboratory work there will be substantial contact between the student and appropriate staff to facilitate the learning of methods etc. Then contact will be likely to reduce as the student becomes familiar with their activities and acquires a degree of independence. During the writing up stage of the project students are likely to need more contact again to support the writing process.

Students are expected to undertake approximately 300 hours of practical research within this 60 credit module.

MSc Biomedical Science Programme:
Students on this programme will normally undertake practical research within the laboratory (other options including in silico, big data or qualitative research that generates own data for analysis) and are supported by two underpinning modules.

During USSJYS-15-M (Practical Skills for Biomedical Science) students will have spent time in the laboratory undertaking a range of practical exercise to demonstrate their basic laboratory competency; this module will also have given them an opportunity to practice writing a practical report of a similar structure to the project report. In USSJYT-30-M (Research and Diagnostic Methodologies) students will have looked at the theory that underpins many of the methods used in the projects offered at UWE; this module also includes teaching of a range of statistics methods that will support students in undertaking the statistics on their project data. Additional support for statistics will also be available to students during their data analysis phase. The opportunity to present a formative poster during the writing up phase is available. USSJYT-30-M also covers other skills supportive of the project module including presentation skills and academic writing.

For students on the MSc Applied Transfusion and Transplantation programme the extended research project offers flexibility to utilise the expertise in their place of work, working alongside experts on cutting-edge projects, and/or to undertake a project supervised within NHSBT. The module is underpinned by an earlier submission of a critical review and project proposal within USSJQB-15-M (Research Methodology and Statistics), enabling feedback on written work and project design, to feed in to the final project report. Similarly, feedback on performance during an oral presentation in USSJM6-15-M (Enterprise and Innovation) and USSJPJ-30-M (Applied Transplantation Science) will further develop students skills prior to the final viva voce. The project will also be heavily supported by the underpinning USSJQB-15-M (Research Methodology and Statistics) module, providing a foundation of key project management and analytical skills, including sessions on academic writing, and teaching a range of statistical methods that will support students in undertaking statistical analysis of their project data. Additional support for statistics will also be available to students during their data analysis phase.

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

MO1 Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the research process.

MO2 Plan, manage and perform an extended scientific investigation of a well-defined research problem, identifying any risks and opportunities as the project progresses.

MO3 Demonstrate the ability to draw valid conclusions based on experimental observation.

MO4 Critically discuss the significance and contribution of their project to existing published work.

Hours to be allocated: 600

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 588 hours

Face-to-face learning = 12 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussj6c-60-m.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: 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).

Assessment 1 is a Report - in the form of a progression report (1500 words)

Assessment 2 is a Report - in the form of a final thesis (5000 words) that you then discuss at a viva voce exam (20 minutes)

Students also develop several transferable skills during this assessment including negotiation (they work with their supervisor during the design of the project),

critiquing of published literature, scientific writing etiquette, and editing documents to a high editorial standard.

Assessment tasks:

Report (First Sit)
Description: Progression report (1500 words)
Weighting: 10 %
Final assessment: No
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Report (First Sit)
Description: Project report (5000 words) and associated viva voce examination (20 minutes)
Weighting: 90 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Report (Resit)
Description: Progression report (1500 words)
Weighting: 10 %
Final assessment: No
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Report (Resit)
Description: Project report (5000 words) and associated viva voce examination (20 minutes)
Weighting: 90 %
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:

Biomedical Science [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26

Biomedical Science (Medical Microbiology) [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26

Biomedical Science (Medical Genetics) [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26

Biomedical Science (Cellular Pathology) [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26

Biomedical Science (Clinical Biochemistry) [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26

Biomedical Science (Immunology) [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26

Applied Transfusion and Transplantation Science [NHSBT] MSc 2025-26

Biomedical Science (Haematology) [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26

Applied Transfusion and Transplantation Science [NHSBT] MSc 2025-26

Biomedical Science [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Cellular Pathology) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Clinical Biochemistry) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Haematology) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Immunology) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Medical Genetics) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Medical Microbiology) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Medical Microbiology) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Medical Genetics) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Immunology) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Haematology) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Clinical Biochemistry) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Cellular Pathology) [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Biomedical Science (Cellular Pathology) [Frenchay] MSc 2024-25

Biomedical Science (Clinical Biochemistry) [Frenchay] MSc 2024-25

Biomedical Science (Haematology) [Frenchay] MSc 2024-25

Biomedical Science (Immunology) [Frenchay] MSc 2024-25

Applied Transfusion and Transplantation Science [NHSBT] MSc 2026-27