Module Specification

Research Theory and Practice

Version: 2025-26, v2.0, Approved

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Research Theory and Practice

Module code: USSJGX-30-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

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: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: The purpose of this module is to support postgraduate students, specifically i) Professional Doctorate in Biomedical Sciences and ii) Masters by Research students in developing key research skills that are critical for their professional development. These include awareness of the theory and practice of research governance including health and safety, bioethics, and project management; and a deep awareness of scientific writing both in terms of producing papers and the peer review process.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: To support the development of key research skills, 1) gaining an awareness of the importance of research governance including health and safety practice, bioethics, and project management; and 2) gaining experience in how to write scientific papers and understanding how the peer review process works.

Outline syllabus: An indicative list of syllabus content includes five interconnected topics around the theory and practice of research. These are; health and safety management and the risk assessment process; the history and practice of scientific writing; the peer review process in scientific publishing; the history, theory and practice of bioethics; and finally, project management skills. There will be scope to tailor the module to the needs of the individual student based on their previous experience of research.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The primary learning forum will be five workshops, which will be student-centred with tutors acting as facilitators. During the workshops students will benefit from tailored presentations containing critical information about the theory and practice of research, illustrated by relevant case studies. The workshops will be interactive, with opportunities for students to share and discuss ideas, experience and their practice of research.

The contact hours (7.5) are distributed as follows:

1.5 hours workshops (5 in year 1).

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

MO1 Will be able to demonstrate an advanced knowledge of research governance including the implementation of effective health and safety practice in the laboratory setting, as well as effective project management.

MO2 Will have developed an understanding of the origins, development, and modern practice of scientific writing and publishing.

MO3 Will be able to critically discuss the practice of peer review in the publication of scientific literature, with an awareness of alternative models of peer review.

MO4 Will have developed and understanding of bioethics, including its history, complexity and practice in the research setting.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 292.5 hours

Face-to-face learning = 7.5 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/ussjgx-30-m.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The Assessment for this module is designed to test the breadth and depth of students' knowledge, as well as their ability to analyse, synthesize and summarise information critically, including published research and data from the relevant literature.

The module will be assessed through a 5000-word essay which will be first and sample second marked, with detailed feedback provided to the student.

Opportunities for formative assessment and feedback are built into the assignment and review of past essays.

All work is marked in line with the Department's Generic Assessment Criteria and

conforms to the university policies for the setting, collection, marking and return of student work.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)
Description: Essay (5000 words)
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Written Assignment (Resit)
Description: Essay (5000 words)
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:

Applied Sciences [Frenchay] MRes 2025-26

Applied Sciences [Frenchay] MRes 2025-26

Doctor of Biomedical Sciences [Frenchay] DBMS 2025-26

Applied Sciences [Frenchay] MRes 2025-26

Applied Sciences [Frenchay] MRes 2025-26

Doctor of Biomedical Sciences [Frenchay] DBMS 2025-26