UWE Bristol | University of the West of England

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Research Training and Professional Development (RTPD)		
Module Code	USSKDB-30-M	Level	M
For implementation from	September 2018		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Health and Applied Sciences	Field	Applied Sciences
Department	Applied Sciences		
Contributes towards	MRes/MPhil/PhD Programmes		
Module type:	Professional Practice		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	Current MRes/MPhil/PhD Student		

Part 2: Description
The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) 'Doctoral Characteristics' review (September 2015) is clear that Graduate Schools should play a key role in the delivery of professional and personal skills for research degrees. Such skills are an essential component of UK research degrees with particular emphasis on professional development and enhancing employability. The QAA's Quality Code for Research Degrees includes two key indicators (numbers 13 and 14) to ensure that institutions provide and monitor the provision of professional and personal skills for research degree students. To this end, Vitae (http://www.vitae.ac.uk/) has been financially supported over a number of years by the Research Councils UK (RCUK) and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) to enable 'personal, professional and career development of doctoral researchers'. Vitae have proposed a very widely used Researcher Development Framework (RDF) that underpins the design of the syllabus for this module, so that it meets current needs. This module has particular focus on three RDF domains (B, C and D).

Part 3: Assessment: Strategy and Details

The module will require the collecting of portfolio-based evidence of work and engagement.

To fulfil the learning outcomes (detailed in part 4) the student will have to collect evidence for each element of the learning outcomes as follows:

Show evidence of personal effectiveness (RDF domain B) in research, including project management and good practice in running a research project (Learning outcome [LO] 1).

- Students will be expected to complete and keep a record of any research degree forms (i.e. project registration and progression forms) throughout the duration of their project.

- Students will be expected to organise and keep minutes of at least 6 supervisory meetings a year (or *pro rata*) during their project.

Show an understanding of elements of research governance (RDF domain C) including Health and Safety, ethics, the use of genetic organisms and animal welfare (LO 2).

- Students will be expected to keep records of all research governance forms used for the duration of their project.
- Students will be required to write a 500 word reflection of their engagement with research governance, including considerations of Health and Safety, ethics, the use of genetically modified organisms and animal welfare.

Show an understanding of research dissemination (RDF domain D) in a variety of formats in order to engage and influence a variety of audiences.

- Students will be required to present their work at university organised events, such as research seminars, post-graduate fora, and faculty research events – with at least one event per year of study (LO 3).
- Critically review the work of others from a variety of formats, including from lectures, seminars and research papers. Students will need to write one 500-word reflection of one such research work for each of the first three years of their project (LO 4).
- Students will be expected to attend seminars/lectures/conferences and write reflections of these events. Over the duration of the project they will be required to attend at least six such events and write appropriate reflections (at least 200 words each) (LO 5)
- Demonstrate their involvement in public engagement events. Students will be required to be involved in at least two public engagement events and write a reflection on their involvement in each (at least 200 words) (LO 6).

The student will submit evidence of the above as a portfolio, to include copies of relevant materials and M-level critical reflections.

The portfolio will be evaluated against a 'record of achievement' tick box form, to show engagement with each element of the work specified here. The 'record of achievement' form will be completed by a member of the student's own supervisory team (i.e. Director of Studies/second supervisor). An independent member of academic staff (i.e. one who is not part of the supervisory team) will second mark, for example, a member of the Faculty Research Degrees Committee.

If a student is permitted an **EXCEPTIONAL RETAKE** of the module, the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.

Identify final timetabled piece of assessment (component and element)		
	A:	**B**:
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)		

First Sit	
Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Portfolio of evidence	Pass / Fail
Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)	
Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Portfolio of evidence	Pass / Fail
Part 4: Learning Outcomes & KIS Data	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

	1. Show evidence of project management and good practice in running a research project. 2. Show an understanding of elements of research governance including but not limited to Health and Safety and ethics. 3. Disseminate their research in a variety of formats. 4. Critically review the work of others from a variety of formats, including from lectures, seminars and research papers. 5. Reflect on the value of events that they have attended. 6. Demonstrate their involvement in public engagement events.
Key Information Sets Information (KIS)	Formal timetabling will not be used in this module, as it will use experiential learning and evidence-based assessment. However, attendance at lectures and seminars run by the department, the faculty or research centres will be expected - these are typically an hour in length. Furthermore, attendance at some workshops will be required, which are typically 3 hours in length, along with attendance at open days and public engagement events, which may be all day.
Reading List	Key reading will be discussed with the supervisory teams, but will also be student-led as their projects develop. Suggested reading list can be found by copying this link into the browser https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/94B0BDDA-59E5-3953-9818-80E5FD64B1A0.html

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