



Module Specification

Respiratory and Sleep Physiology

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Respiratory and Sleep Physiology

Module code: USSYQJ-60-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2025-26

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: Introduction to Physiological Diagnostics 2025-26

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: Yes

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module explores the classification, pathophysiology, diagnosis, and management of respiratory diseases and sleep disorders.

Apprentices will gain theoretical and practical knowledge of diagnostic and therapeutic tools, including oximetry, respiratory polygraphy, lung function tests, and other diagnostics investigations.

Pre-requisites: Students must have passed USSJRQ-45-1 Introduction to Physiological Diagnostics before starting this module.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The module aims to:

Provide students with a robust foundation in the classification, pathophysiology, and clinical presentation of respiratory and sleep-related disorders.

Equip students with the knowledge and skills to use, interpret, and evaluate key diagnostic tools, including overnight oximetry, respiratory polygraphy, lung function tests, assessment of airway inflammation (exhaled nitric oxide (FeNO) and induced sputum testing), and diagnostic imaging.

Develop an understanding of treatment strategies for patients with sleep related breathing disorders, with a focus on CPAP therapy troubleshooting and follow-up.

Combine theoretical knowledge with practical application through hands-on experience with diagnostic tools and clinical scenarios, such as field exercise tests.

Encourage the use of evidence-based approaches to diagnose and manage respiratory and sleep disorders, ensuring students can critically assess current research and guidelines.

Promote a patient-centred approach that considers the physiological, psychological, and lifestyle aspects of managing chronic respiratory and sleep conditions.

Outline syllabus: The indicative syllabus of the module is as follows:

Respiratory Disease and Sleep Disorder Classification.

Pathophysiology of Respiratory and Sleep-Related Disorders.

Respiratory and Sleep Physiology Diagnostic Techniques.

CPAP Follow-Up and Troubleshooting.

Introduction to exercise testing.

Fractional Exhaled Nitric Oxide (FeNO) Testing.

Diagnostic Imaging in Respiratory and Sleep Disorders.

Case Studies

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Delivery of the underpinning knowledge and practical skills will be:

Blended learning with on-campus teaching and practical skills (block weeks), coupled with online lectures/tutorials and webinars provided throughout the academic year on a timetabled basis.

Practice based learning where the students will learn and develop their skills through clinical practice by interaction with patients and teaching from senior practitioners within their department.

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

MO1 Identify and describe key respiratory and sleep-related disorders and conditions, including their epidemiology, clinical presentation and diagnostic assessment.

MO2 Explain the underlying pathophysiological mechanisms of respiratory and sleep disorders and relate these to clinical symptoms and outcomes.

MO3 Review and interpret respiratory and sleep diagnostic investigations, including respiratory polygraphy and lung function tests.

MO4 Evaluate and apply additional diagnostic investigations to support clinical decision-making in respiratory and sleep physiology.

MO5 Understand treatment and management strategies for respiratory and sleep disorders, considering current guidelines and emerging techniques.

MO6 Integrate principles of patient-centred care to address the diverse needs of individuals with respiratory and sleep conditions, considering age, cultural background, and individual preferences.

Hours to be allocated: 600

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 200 hours

Face-to-face learning = 80 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussyqj-60-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussyqj-60-2.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment 1: Examination (2 hours):

The examination will be designed to enable the apprentices to demonstrate their knowledge of how the pathophysiology of disease relates to results observed on respiratory and sleep investigations.

Assessment 2: Portfolio (1500 words; 15 minute presentation):

Portfolio of evidence collated from the workplace during the academic year. This will include assessment of professional competencies, Direct Observation of Practical Skills (DOPS), Observed Clinical Events (OCE) and Case Based Discussions (CBD). Some aspects of the portfolio will be signed off as they are completed by the work based supervisor. The case based presentation and written case report will be assessed and marked by academic staff at UWE.

This assessment is included as a professional requirement and it will provide evidence of all aspects of the course. DOPS and OCEs allow the student to demonstrate practical skills in their clinical environment. CBDs provide structured teaching and feedback in a particular area of clinical or technical practice by evaluating decision making and the interpretation and application of evidence. They also enable the student to develop presentation skills and discuss the context, professional, ethical and governance framework of their practice, and allow student to discuss why they acted as they did.

All patient related data presented in the portfolio must be anonymised.

This portfolio may be used as part of the ARTP practitioner qualification.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Clinical practice portfolio consisting of clinical competencies, work based assessments, reflective practice, training experiences and 2 marked case presentations.

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO5, MO6

Examination (First Sit)

Description: Examination with a mix of multiple choice and short answer questions (2 hours)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Clinical practice portfolio consisting of clinical competencies, work based assessments, reflective practice, training experiences and 2 marked case presentations.

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO5, MO6

Examination (Resit)

Description: Examination with a mix of multiple choice and short answer questions (2 hours)

Weighting: 60 %

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:

Healthcare Science (Respiratory & Sleep Physiology) {Apprenticeship-UWE}
[Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25