



Module Specification

Essentials of Academic Practice

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Essentials of Academic Practice

Module code: UZQRUX-30-0

Level: Level 3

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Health, Science & Society

School: CHSS School of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Politics

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: This module is designed to help students understand the expectations of study in higher education and to introduce them to the academic and study skills required for success on their chosen social science pathway.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The module focuses on the core underpinning skills necessary for the thematic modules and aims to develop capacity and confidence for effective

independent learning and academic progression. It also has the aim of building up confidence in each student via weekly group and collaborative activities.

Outline syllabus: Content will be shaped indicatively on the following areas:

Writing for different purposes: researching, collating information, organising material, structuring and presenting ideas/arguments e.g. for essays, reports, case studies.

Using appropriate academic conventions and style, referencing and avoiding plagiarism.

Reading strategies for different purposes e.g. for identifying themes, for comprehension and for in-depth understanding.

Summarising, interpreting, analysing and evaluating information from a range of sources.

Target setting, planning and time management for independent learning.

Reflecting on learning and progress in response to group discussion, formal and informal feedback.

Oral presentation skills.

Note-making skills for reading and lectures.

Exam Skills.

Using IT for academic purposes.

Teamwork skills and group collaboration.

Identifying, locating and retrieving information from a range of sources including books and online journal articles.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: A variety of learning strategies will be used:

Face-to-face taught sessions will utilise both traditional approaches to teaching reading, writing and research skills, and inductive approaches through facilitated activities; workshops (for example, on reading and writing for academic purposes, and planning and time management), group discussions in response to reading and audio-visual material, Enquiry Based Learning (EBL) group activities, group presentations and student led-seminars.

TEL will be used where appropriate to support learning. For instance, pre-recorded lectures as part of a 'flipped classroom' approach may be used to support a note taking workshop.

Student independent learning will be supported by workbooks and other appropriate materials and by study skills material designed for foundation year students. This will be made available on the University's Virtual Learning Environment (Blackboard).

Reflective elements will be built into the module as formative assessments. For example, students will be asked to submit short pieces written work reflecting on their assignments and summative feedback. Verbal feedback on these will be delivered through tutorials. This will form a key component of the assessment strategy and will encourage students to develop a reflective and independent approach to learning and academic development.

A major component of the weekly workshops will be focused on building teamwork skills through a range of flipped classroom activities and group exercises. These will be tailored to support the interests that the students have and will be related to their chosen pathway degree scheme.

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

MO1 Produce written work for different purposes that utilises both appropriate technologies, softwares, terminology, style and conventions in the Social Sciences and incorporates appropriate scholarly texts in relevant disciplines

MO2 Demonstrate effective organisational and time management skills, including setting targets, reflecting on progress and improving academic work in response to feedback

MO3 Demonstrate an understanding of research strategies for academic work and identify, locate and retrieve information in a variety of formats

MO4 Present information clearly in oral format

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqru-30-0.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqru-30-0.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy is designed to support and enhance the development of core subject specific skills and transferrable study skills in students entering at the foundation level.

The module contains one summative assessment which is a portfolio. This will typically consist of tasks which encourage skills required to complete expected assignments in undergraduate programmes, such as essays, critiques and presentations.

Essay exercise consisting of a (1000 word maximum) essay with a plan and with referencing

A (1200 maximum) annotated critique of two pages of generated text with referencing

A (10 minute maximum) pre-recorded online individual presentation with referencing and reflection

Formative assessment delivered through tutorials and quizzes and will encourage students to reflect on feedback and their own development.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio compromised of three tasks.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio compromised of three tasks.

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:

Sociology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

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Sociology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Sociology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Philosophy {Foundation}[Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Criminology and Sociology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Criminology and Sociology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Sociology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Sociology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26