Module Specification

Independent Study E

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Independent Study E

Module code: UZQSDB-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

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 enable students to undertake learning not captured within a programme's formal modular structure and will only be used within set circumstances which includes:

Students undertaking a single semester study abroad exchange, including incoming students as well as UWE students.

For UWE Bristol students who require additional credit to complete their semester or programme.

The module is available at the programme leader's discretion, as an enabler in unique student circumstances' and where a programme's structure and/or accreditation permits.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The aim of this module is to capture learning that students have undertaken on partner modules, either as part of either a study abroad exchange or through additional study undertaken to achieve extra credit.

For those students taking part in a study abroad exchange, this would primarily, but not exclusively, apply to a single semester study abroad exchange where the student studies one semester of a two semester module (‘partner’ module). It will capture the learning undertaken by any exchange student which cannot be formally recognised as part of a pre-existing credit-bearing module (either here at UWE or at a partner-exchange institution).

For those students who require additional credit, the module will look to capture the further learning undertaken in order to achieve the additional credits as negotiated within the set plan of work.

Outline syllabus: The module captures the learning achieved as part of an approved study abroad exchange or approved additional credit learning. For both scenarios, the content of which has been negotiated and agreed with the programme leader in advance.

The module is not a standard part of the programme, but may be recognised as contributing where the programme leader has negotiated and agreed with the student a portfolio of assessment that aligns to the learning outcomes of the programme. The agreed assessment should not duplicate assessment that has already contributed to the award of credit.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Students will attend the relevant timetabled content and support aligned to the partner module. This teaching and learning will be managed through a range of strategies, including lectures, seminars and tutorials. Independent learning follows the partner module's essential reading and learning materials.

Students will have access to academic support during the course of the module. Support will be offered through in person sessions, as well as using online tools such as email communication, virtual learning environments (VLE) and through additional support services.

Students will prepare and submit the agreed portfolio of assessment.

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

MO1 Critically review a topic(s) demonstrating engagement with relevant concepts, theories and evidence.

MO2 Justify and critically analyse ideas and/or views related to the identified aspect of practice/study area.

MO3 Reflect upon their development as a learner and their application of knowledge.

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment Task: Portfolio (2500 words maximum)

The student will undertake a pre-agreed individual portfolio of work to capture learning and development achieved. The assessment has been designed to support students' developing knowledge and understanding of a specified area of study within a partner module.

The portfolio should be distinct from any other Independent Study module portfolio being undertaken.

The portfolio should be equivalent to 2500 words and may comprise one or more parts to demonstrate the learning outcomes, as agreed in advance with the programme leader.

Students will attend the relevant timetabled content and support aligned to the partner module, and prepare and submit the agreed portfolio of assessment.

Appropriate guidance and formative feedback will be provided in line with the student's level of study and prior experience.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)
Description: Portfolio (equivalent to 2500 word maximum)
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Portfolio (Resit)
Description: Portfolio (equivalent to 2500 word maximum)
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: