Module Specification

Investigative Skills

Version: 2024-25, v1.0, Approved

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Investigative Skills

Module code: UZYYHL-30-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2024-25

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Health, Science & Society

School: CHSS School of Health and Social Wellbeing

Partner institutions: None

Field: Allied Health Professions

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 Investigative Skills module will cover the theory and practice of anterior and posterior eye examination and procedures for determining visual function, such as visual acuity, colour vision and contrast sensitivity. It will also cover the theory of evidence based clinical practice. Students will also learn how to communicate effectively with patients in alignment with the professional standards associated with being an optometrist.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: To introduce fundamental techniques of structural and functional assessment of the anterior and posterior eye.
To develop student's communication with patients, including relevant history and symptoms gathering and valid consent in alignment with the professional standards associated with being an optometrist.

Outline syllabus: The syllabus will typically cover:
Introducing students to the mechanisms of a slit lamp biomicroscope and enabling students to use a variety of advanced technologies (e.g. OCT) and techniques to assess the ocular health.
The physiology of the visual pathway will be included, and students will be exposed to some basic visual pathway anomalies.
Non-contact tonometry will also be introduced, and students will be shown how to use a selection of non-contact instruments to measure the intraocular pressure.
Practicing a holistic approach to patient care, starting with communication, effective and appropriate history taking and interpretation, through to seeking patient consent and accurately recording all parts of the consultation.
Biomedical research will form the latter part of the module – critically appraising research, its implication for clinical decision making, and the ethical dilemmas that present with biomedical research.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: A variety of approaches will typically be used to deliver the module content which will include weekly lectures and practical sessions, which may also include elements of peer learning and feedback.

There will be a student-centred approach to teaching, where individual responsibility for learning and development is encouraged. Independent learning will include essential reading, regular log-book reflection/completion and assessment preparation. Students will be given support and direction for self-directed learning throughout the module.

Teaching will employ a practice-led approach through various means. Students will have practical sessions with the opportunity to put the lecture theory into practice. The tasks will be relevant to real-world situations and focus on case study activities. They will have exposure to a range of Optometry-specific equipment and technologies utilised in practice.

Students will be engaged in critical enquiry learning through case study tasks and their assessments. They will also be introduced to how biomedical research is analysed and its implications on Optometry practice. They will appraise research that may impact their own practice.

Formative assessment including feedback will form a key part of students learning. Students will be encouraged to engage in peer-support/feedback and will receive on-going feedback from professionals, throughout the module. Students will use logbooks to aid their learning, reflection and allow for future reference.

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

MO1 Obtain relevant patient history, showcasing a patient centred approach.

MO2 Record all relevant aspects of the consultation and seek consent from the patient appropriately.

MO3 Undertake safe and appropriate ocular examination and visual function assessments.

MO4 Interpret the results of ocular examinations in the context of a patient's history and symptoms.

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 via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: This module will be assessed by:

Practical Skills Assessment (SOPE): 60%
The structured oral practical examination (SOPE) will consist of stations to assess the students' practical skills and application to theory (45minutes).

Rationale: It will allow students to demonstrate the skills they have developed and then showcase the application of their knowledge behind this. This will mimic real-life scenarios to show their competence.

Online Examination (invigilated on campus): 40%
Understanding evidence-based practise and technology will be assessed in an online exam (up to 1hour).

Rationale: This will allow students to show they have understood the theory behind the technology they have learnt about and have understood the principles of evidence-based practise.

Formative assessment: Students will get verbal feedback throughout the practical sessions and will have a logbook to record their learning progress. This will also encourage self-reflection and improvement.

Assessment tasks:

Examination (Online) (First Sit)
Description: Examination (Online) (1 hour) (invigilated)
Weighting: 40 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO4

Practical Skills Assessment (First Sit)

Description: Practical Skills Assessment (45 minutes)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Examination (Online) (Resit)

Description: Examination (Online) (1 hour) (invigilated)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4

Practical Skills Assessment (Resit)

Description: Practical Skills Assessment (45 minutes)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Optometry [Glenside] MSci 2024-25