



Module Specification

Professional Development and Communication

Version: 2024-25, v1.0, Approved

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Professional Development and Communication

Module code: UZYYHN-15-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2024-25

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

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 Professional Development and Communication module will equip students with the skills they need to develop professional behaviours and character, in line with standards, regulation and the law, in order to thrive in healthcare environments.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: To grow students' understanding and development of communication skills for an Optometrist.

To develop students' understanding of character and how to cultivate the professional behaviours required in clinical situations.

To provide an opportunity for students to self-reflect, take responsibility for their own development, and practice independent learning.

To introduce students to the regulatory and legal obligations of an Optometrist.

Outline syllabus: The syllabus will typically cover:

The GOC and all the standards of practice required for an Optometrist, with a focus on behavioural and character qualities, including the duty of candour, complaints, incidents and errors.

The Law governing Optometry and the regulation involved.

All areas of communication for independent clinicians.

Understanding ongoing personal development and growth, including self-reflection.

Understanding oneself and how to critically analyse what forms your thinking, in order to better your approach to patients and patient care.

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 a combination of lectures, seminars and workshop sessions, which may also include elements of peer learning and feedback. The module will be delivered in an intensive three-week teaching block. This concentrated learning aims to embed these learning outcomes. Placement will also feature in a three-week block, where students will learn through experience in Optometry practice. This will include interactions with other professionals, team members, patients and the general public.

There will be a student-centred approach to teaching, where individual responsibility for learning and development is encouraged. Independent learning will include essential reading, engagement with resources, reflective case episodes, and interaction with fellow students. Students will be given guidance and direction for

their learning throughout the module.

Teaching will employ a practice-led approach through various means. Students will develop and practice Optometrist-specific professional development skills. This will include peer review, peer discussion and VRICS (Visual Recognition and Identification of Clinical Signs) and MCQ (Multiple Choice Questions) exercises. Peer-assisted learning will be utilised through this and will be designed to encourage inclusivity, cohort identity and community. Placement will encourage practice-led learning, especially in the fields of professionalism and communication.

Students will be engaged in critical enquiry learning through reflective case study tasks, both from their own and others practice.

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

MO1 Define the optometrist's role in providing professional, unbiased, patient centred care for diverse populations of patients in line with the General Optical Councils standards of practice.

MO2 Ability to communicate with diverse populations of patients.

MO3 Explain the legal and regulatory obligations of an optometrist, including practicing candidly, ethically and in their patients best interest, within their professional limits.

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Placement = 112.5 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

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

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: This module has two assessment tasks, a portfolio and a placement:

Placement: Pass/Fail

80% minimum attendance of 3 week placement required in order to pass.

Portfolio: 100%

Each student's Portfolio will contain a variety of tasks to complete, covering three sections: Reflection, Scholarship and Interaction.

The Reflection section will evidence student's independent reflection on their own practice and others through reflective episodes.

The Scholarship section will evidence student's knowledge on the law, meeting regulatory body requirements, the GOC standards of practice including complaints/incidents/errors, utilising their practice placement experience and a case record review.

The Interaction section will evidence student's developed skills in communication through peer discussion exercise and their practice placement.

Rationale: This portfolio will allow students to develop their skills throughout the module, building on previous tasks. Student led learning will give students a broader/more diverse perspective and support student confidence and collaboration. They will also gain experience in communicating with diverse populations. The tasks will be designed to imitate those of Optometry professionals to encourage the professional skills, behaviours and mindset.

Formative Assessment: The Portfolio style of assessment will allow students to build their experience and gain feedback from assessors and peers throughout. Through the 3 week intensive teaching block there will be multiple opportunities for practicing peer discussions, reflections etc.

Assessment tasks:

Field work (First Sit)

Description: Placement (3 weeks)

Weighting: 0 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Field work (Resit)

Description: Placement (3 weeks)

Weighting: 0 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Optometry [Glenside] MSci 2024-25

