Module Specification

Evidence Based Optometry

Version: 2026-27, v1.0, Approved

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Evidence Based Optometry

Module code: UZYYHW-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2026-27

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 Evidence Based Optometry module aims to develop key skills and knowledge to enable students to become evidence-based practitioners. The module typically equips students to establish an in-depth understanding of evidence, care quality and standards, published research in the field of optometry and different research methodologies. The overarching aim is to support the writing of a proposal for a research or service evaluation project investigating a topic relevant to

optometry, which reflects critical reasoning skills, and critical understanding of research processes and issues, such as ethics, trustworthiness, and rigour.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: To acquaint students with a range of research methods and methodologies relevant to optometric research, practice and service provision.
To develop their skills as a researcher and to support their development of a realistic research proposal, that they will take through to the Life Long Learning module in year 4.

Outline syllabus: The syllabus will typically cover:

Quality assurance, evidence-based practice, searching and evaluating the literature as well as research approaches, and methodological and ethical issues in research.

An overview of different types of data and how it is gathered and the interpretation and dissemination of findings.

Formulating a research question and how to write a scientific research proposal.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module will typically use a variety of approaches to deliver content which will include lectures, seminars and experiential group work, which may 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 includes hours engaged with essential reading, reflection on and review of session topics and discussions, structured reflection on experiential group work, structured reflection on the personal experience of skill acquisition, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion. Students will be given support and direction for self-directed learning throughout the module, including support from an appointed research tutor.

Teaching will employ a practice-led approach through various means. The research topics suggested will typically link to the Optometry field/profession and the research skills developed will support the ongoing learning of an Optometry professional in practice.

Students will be engaged in critical enquiry learning through establishing an in-depth understanding of evidence, care quality and standards, published research in the field of optometry and different research methodologies. Their project will reflect critical reasoning skills, and critical understanding of research processes and issues, such as ethics, trustworthiness and rigour.

Formative assessment including feedback and contact with the research tutor will form a key part of student's learning.

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

MO1 Apply and critically analyse contextual factors such as clinical expertise and patient experience which influence the application of evidence to practice.

MO2 Demonstrate critical understanding and application of a variety research methods and methodologies and how they relate to their proposed research question

MO3 Demonstrate how to locate, critically appraise and utilise published research-based evidence and make informed decisions about its application to day-to-day practice

MO4 Formulate a proposal for a research or service evaluation project investigating a topic relevant to optometry, which reflects a critical reasoning skills, and critical understanding of research processes and issues, such as ethics, trustworthiness and rigour.

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: This module will be assessed by:

Written Assignment (maximum 1500 words): 100%
Written research proposal, developed throughout the module under the supervision of the research tutor.

Rationale: The written proposal will enhance their writing and research skills and will form the basis for their dissertation in the Life Long Learning Module.

Formative assessment: Throughout the module, a number of formative assessment opportunities will be included, providing an indication and feedback on performance ahead of the main summative module assessments. These may take the style of practice quizzes and feedback by their research tutor on a draft of their written research proposal.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)
Description: Research proposal (maximum 1500 words)
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Written Assignment (Resit)
Description: Research proposal (maximum 1500 words)
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:

Optometry [Glenside] MSci 2024-25