Module Specification

Dissertation (masters)

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 30 Jan 2023

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Dissertation (masters)

Module code: UFMED4-60-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 60

ECTS credit rating: 30

Faculty: Faculty of Environment & Technology

Department: FET Dept of Engineering Design & Mathematics

Partner institutions: None

Field: Engineering, Design and Mathematics

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: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline syllabus: This is a generic module that is used for a variety of programmes, the programme director (or delegated person) will advise students on appropriate projects to ensure that they relate to the relevant programme.

The nature of the research will vary according to the subject which is being addressed. Dissertation topics should focus on some aspect(s) of technology as it is or may be applied in particular contexts, both academic and industrial. Students are encouraged to carry out research that extends their interests in the role of technology in the context of their MSc award route. The core module in Research Methods requires students to develop an initial research proposal and students are expected to evaluate this proposal and determine how to take it forward in their dissertation. This may involve writing a fresh proposal in agreement with their supervisor.

Students are expected to carry out an in-depth survey of relevant literature and to undertake some primary research to ensure that their investigation contributes to existing research in the field. The primary research may involve a wide range of activities such as: carrying out a quantitative survey, an evaluative case study or action research study, or developing an experimental piece of software or hardware. The written dissertation should make clear how the primary research was designed and conducted and discussion of the outcomes of primary research should be clearly related to existing literature. The body of the dissertation should be supplemented by a critical review of all aspects of the research process, including the design and production of the report itself.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: An initial dissertation proposal will be submitted and evaluated. Guidance will be provided through the research methods module and in the context of the student\'s particular award. Advice on the use of library and on-line resources will also be given. Each student will be allocated a supervisor who will provide guidance on the subject of investigation and on methods of researching it.

Students will be expected to produce written work which is assessed in terms of its:
Identification of relevant issues for investigation;
Appropriateness of research method(s) to the investigation;

Level of conceptual and/or technical difficulty;
Depth and breadth of secondary research;
Collection and use of primary evidence;
Coherence of argument, logic and quality of conclusions (specific and general);
Quality of writing and presentation;
Accuracy and completeness of citation and listing of references;
Critical appraisal of the research process.

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

MO1 Appreciated the practical difficulties of conducting a piece of research

MO2 Developed critical language awareness with respect to academic writing

MO3 Extended their knowledge of different approaches to data collection and analysis

MO4 Understood the interrelationship between secondary and primary research

MO5 Understood through practice the purpose of a research proposal

MO6 Evaluate the approach taken in performing primary and secondary research

MO7 Recognise a clear research question or hypothesis

MO8 Synthesise and critically evaluate data from multiple sources

MO9 Collect data using data collection techniques appropriate to the subject area being investigated

MO10 Propose an original and appropriate solution to the subject area being investigated

MO11 Awareness of professional literature

MO12 Communication skills

MO13 Problem formulation and decision making

MO14 Progression to independent learning

MO15 Self-management skills

Hours to be allocated: 600

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 600 hours

Total = 600

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/modules/ufmed4-60-m.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: See Assessment.

Assessment tasks:

Dissertation (First Sit)
Description: Dissertation
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO10, MO11, MO12, MO13, MO14, MO15, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8, MO9

Dissertation (Resit)
Description: Dissertation
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested:

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: