STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Dissertation		
Module Code	UBLLY7-60-M	Level	Level 7
For implementation from	2019-20		
UWE Credit Rating	60	ECTS Credit Rating	30
Faculty	Faculty of Environment & Technology	Field	Architecture and the Built Environment
Department	FET Dept of Architecture & Built Environ		
Module type:	Project		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description

Educational Aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline Syllabus: Research methods

Introduction to research: A review of the main philosophical perspectives associated with the production of knowledge and the validation of knowledge claims. Overview of theoretical tools and practical skills necessary for the design and execution of a research project

Research planning: Understand and conceptualise the problem, define a research question or hypothesis, formulate research objectives identify and evaluate methodologies; research design and project management.

Methods of data collection in qualitative and quantitative research: An overview of a range of research methods for example, interviews, focus groups survey design, statistical analysis, presentation of data etc.

Constructing a research methodology: Evaluation and selection of relevant methods for data collection and analysis. Interviews and questionnaires. Research design. Techniques for planning and managing the research process.

Reviewing the literature: Purpose and process of a literature review; use of library data-bases and the internet; characteristics of a convincing, critical literature review, relationship with the conceptual/analytical framework informing the research, attribution of sources, use of relevant software packages where appropriate.

Ethics and the validity of research: consideration of issues of ethics, validity, trustworthiness and reliability in research. The completion of an ethical review form to accompany the proposal.

Research proposal

Defining research problem; setting context of research; justification of purpose of research.

Define research questions/ hypotheses.

Establishing objectives; the literature review; selecting data collection methods; identifying source requirements; specifying time/milestones preparing research proposal.

Final dissertation

Students undertake a piece of independent research which explores in depth a topic that is relevant to their studies.

Under the supervision of a tutor, students are expected to select relevant research methods introduced in the earlier part of the module and develop these to enable them to produce a piece of work that contributes to existing research in their field of study.

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.

Teaching and Learning Methods: Scheduled Learning

Students will be taught research methods on an intensive basis with the equivalent of a week of research methods training, which may be divided up across the academic year. The sessions will be divided between lectures, seminars and workshops, and the emphasis will be on student centred active learning.

Upon completion of the research element of the module, students will work closely with academic staff to formulate their research question, and /or hypothesis and identify key project objectives.

Students will be allocated a project supervisor and it is the responsibility of the student to make sure that they work closely with their supervisor and keep them informed of their progress.

Students can expect to have at least 12 hours of contact time. This time may be divided up in a range of ways and may be with members of staff other than their supervisor. If appropriate there may be group sessions, where students researching in similar subject areas would benefit from contact with fellow students. There may also be some one-to-one sessions, and these could take place face to face or through some other medium such as telephone, email or the internet.

Independent learning

The dissertation is essentially a piece of independent work, so the majority of the study hours will be spent by students working independently, under the broad guidance of their supervisor.

This is a project module, and students are expected to work unsupervised for most of the study hours allocated for this module. There are however somecontact hours which form a vital part of the study.

Students will have 30 hours of contact time, the equivalent of a teaching week, divided as appropriate between lectures, seminars and workshop style sessions.

On completion of the research methods element of the module, students will have 12 hours of contact with their project supervisor. These may be on a one to one or small group basis. Supervision may take place face to face, or it may be via phone, web based interaction or email depending on student circumstances and requirements.

Part 3: Assessment

There are two elements to the assessment, to encourage students to engage with the dissertation process at an early stage. This also allows for an early formal point of engagement to enable supervisors to monitor individual student's progress.

Students complete an initial topic choice form before they embark on the research methods section of the module. This gives them the opportunity to talk to a supervisor before they start the three day research methods course. There are no marks attached to this initial project idea.

Students work with their supervisor following the research methods course, to polish aims objectives and research methodology, and embark on a review of the literature. They then submit a 3,000 word preparatory document. The exact content of this document can be negotiated between the supervisor and the student but MUST include the research question/hypothesis and aims and objectives. The rest of the content will vary depending on the work being undertaken. It might be mainly a literature reivew, or exploration of technical solutions to a problem, or work on methodology. It is anticipated that supervisor and student will identify areas of study that will bring most benefit to that piece of work. This is a vital part of the dissertation process, and will, although a formative piece of work have a clear deadline, and a clear deadline for feedback. Students can then use the work done at this stage in their final piece of work if appropriate.
Students will complete the final piece of work which will be a dissertation/project of 14,000 words.

Formative feedback is a key part of this module. In addition to the early feedback on work in progress as noted above, other feedback might include:

Feedback and guidance in small group sessions with students investigating similar topics.

Feedback and discussion in one to one sessions, either face to face or through some other medium such as email, telephone or the internet.

Comment on draft work as set out in the module handbook.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Dissertation - Component A	✓	100 %	Dissertation / project 14000 words (Final Submission)
Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Dissertation - Component A	✓	100 %	Re- submission of dissertation/ project 14,000 words

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods		
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:	
	Module Learning Outcomes	**Reference**
	Define or select a research question and/or hypothesis and provide a rationale for this which demonstrates a thorough grasp of existing literature on the subject	MO1
	Design an appropriate research strategy to examine the chosen question(s)and/ or hypothesis, demonstrating a critical awareness of the methodological problems posed by the investigation	MO2
	Collect, analyse and synthesise evidence and/or data using appropriate techniques and instruments	MO3
	Apply advanced research and analytical skills to an extended piece of writing, drawing on key theoretical perspectives in their discipline area	MO4
	Present and communicate ideas and conclusions and or recommendations in a clear and accessible manner using language appropriate to academic writing	MO5
	Explore and understand the issues of ethics, validity, trustworthiness and reliability in research	MO6
Contact Hours	**Independent Study Hours:**	
	Independent study/self-guided study	558
	Total Independent Study Hours:	558
	Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
	Face-to-face learning	42
	Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	42
	Hours to be allocated	600
	Allocated Hours	600
Reading List	*The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:* https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ublly7-60-m.html	

Part 5: Contributes Towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: 5

Construction Project Management [Jan][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Construction Project Management [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Quantity Surveying [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Real Estate Management [Jan][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Real Estate Management [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Real Estate Finance and Investment [Jan][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Real Estate Finance and Investment [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Building Surveying [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Information Management [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Information Technology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Real Estate Finance and Investment [Jan][DN][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Real Estate Finance and Investment [Sep][DN][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Real Estate Finance and Investment [Jan][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Real Estate Finance and Investment [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Real Estate Management [Sep][DL][Distance][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Façade Engineering [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Real Estate Management [Jan][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Real Estate Management [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Construction Project Management [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Construction Project Management [Jan][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Quantity Surveying [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Information Management [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Cyber Security [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Building Surveying [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Building Surveying {With Preparatory Studies} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Real Estate Management [Jan][DL][Distance][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Information Technology [Jan][FT][Villa][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Information Technology [May][FT][Villa][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Information Technology [Sep][FT][Villa][1yr] MSc 2019-20

Information Technology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Transport Engineering and Planning [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19

Transport Planning [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] MSc 2018-19