University of the West of England
BRISTOL

ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data						
Module Title	**Bodies, Technology & Society**					
Module Code	UZSSSQ-30-3		Level	3	Version	1
Owning Faculty	HAS		Field	Sociology		
Contributes towards	BA (Hons) Sociology and related Joint and Major-Minor Awards					
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15	Module Type	Standard	
Pre-requisites	None		Co- requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements	N/A		
Valid From	September 2014		Valid to	September 2020		

CAP Approval Date	28/03/2014

Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to: 1. Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and understanding of sociological approaches to the body (Components A and B). 2. Provide a critical sociological account of relations between science, technology, the body and society. (Components A and B). 3. Identify a range of detailed and complex legal, ethical and social issues relating to technologies of the body; (Component B). 4. Synthesise concepts of the body, citizenship and nationhood. (Component B). 5. Describe and critically analyse how capitalist economies and values shape markets for bodies, body parts and health technologies (Components B) 6. Critically reflect on social inequalities, bodily differences and identities (Component B).

Syllabus Outline	The syllabus will introduce theoretical approaches to analysing the relations between science, technology innovation, the body and society. It will draw on a sociology of the body, social studies of science and technology and technofeminism in exploring historical and contemporary accounts of the human body. Students will investigate social, legal and ethical issues relating to technologies of the bodies, contemporary biosciences and emerging health technologies. Topics will include: • Concepts of the body • Property in the Body • Patents and technologies of the body • Capitalist markets and bodily transactions • Tissue economies • Trading body parts • Gendering the bioeconomy • Reproductive tissues and the ova trade • Blood services and the plasma industry • Social inequalities and organ transplantation • Social difference and body modification • Promissory capital and clinical therapies • Enhancement Technologies and transhumanism • Science and regulatory policy • Nationhood • Biological Citizenship • The regulatory state and international borders
Contact Hours	The module will be delivered through a combination of lectures, seminar discussions, group work and independent learning. Two hours per week will be classroom based comprising a lecture and seminar. One hour a week will be scheduled tutorials, online discussion and independent learning individually or in groups.
Teaching and Learning Methods	• Each week lectures (1hr) will introduce an area of the syllabus and set out the key theoretical issues with examples drawn from sociological research. • Students will be expected to undertake directed reading and preparation (3hrs) for the weekly seminars (1hr). • Weekly tutorials and online discussions (1hr) will provide regular opportunities for engagement with hot topics, policy debates, news items, public controversies, emergent issues and problems identified by students which relate to the themes of the module. These will be student led. • Students will be expected to spend at least 1hr per week on independent learning for assignment preparation.

	• At least one site visit per term (3hrs) will be planned to enable students to learn about how bodies are understood in different social settings – for example, NHS Blood and Transplant services, a museum, biobank, industry or exhibition. • Teaching and learning are supported by Blackboard which provides on-line and remote access to teaching and learning resources and a platform for student assessment and feedback.
Key Information Sets Information	Key Information Sets (KIS) are produced at programme level for all programmes that this module contributes to, which is a requirement set by HESA/HEFCE. KIS are comparable sets of standardised information about undergraduate courses allowing prospective students to compare and contrast between programmes they are interested in applying for. **Key Information Set - Module data** *Number of credits for this module*: 30 Hours to be allocated: 300 Scheduled learning and teaching study hours: 72 Independent study hours: 228 Placement study hours: 0 Allocated Hours: 300 The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a - **Coursework**: Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project **Practical Exam**: Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam Please note that this is the total of various types of assessment and will not necessarily reflect the component and module weightings in the Assessment section of this module description: Total assessment of the module: Assessed presentation: 20% Coursework assessment percentage: 80% 100%
Reading Strategy	**Core readings** Any essential reading will be indicated clearly, along with the method for accessing it, e.g. students may be required to purchase a set text, be given a print study pack or be referred to texts that are available electronically or in the Library. Module guides will also reflect the range of reading to be carried out. **Further readings** Students are expected to identify all other reading relevant to their chosen research

	topic for themselves. They will be encouraged to read widely using the library search, a variety of bibliographic and full text databases, and Internet resources. Many resources can be accessed remotely. **Access and skills** The development of literature searching skills is supported by a Library seminar provided within the first semester. These level three skills will build upon skills gained by the student whilst studying at levels one and two. Additional support is available through the Library Services web pages, including interactive tutorials on finding books and journals, evaluating information and referencing. Sign-up workshops are also offered by the Library.
Indicative Reading List	The following list is offered to provide validation panels/accrediting bodies with an indication of the type and level of information students may be expected to consult. As such, its currency may wane during the life span of the module specification. However, as indicated above, current advice on readings will be available via the module guide. Andrews, L. and Nelkin, D. (2001) *Body Bazaar: The Market for Human Tissue in The Biotechnology Age*. New York: Crown Publishers Cheney, A. (2006) *Body Brokers: Inside America's Underground Trade in Human Remains*. New York: Broadway Books Cooper, M. (2008) *Life as surplus - Biotechnology & Capitalism in the Neoliberal Era.* Washington: University of Washington. Dickenson, D. (2007) *Property in the Body: Feminist Perspectives*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press Franklin, S. and Lock, M. eds. (2003) *Remaking Life and Death, Towards an anthropology of the Biosciences*. Suffolk: James Currey Press. Kent, J. (2013*) Regenerating Bodies: Tissue and Cell Therapies in the 21st Century.* London: Routledge. Lock, M. & Farquhar, J. eds. (2007) *Beyond the Body Proper Reading the Anthropology of Material Life.* Durham, NC: Duke University Press. Nahman, M. (2008) Nodes of Desire: Romanian Egg Sellers, 'Dignity', and Feminist Alliances in Transnational Ova Exchanges, *European Journal of Women's Studies,* 15 (2) pp. 65-82. Naam, R. (2005) *More Than Human Embracing the Promise of Biological Enhancement.* New York: Broadway Books. Rose, N. (2007) *The Politics of Life Itself, Biomedicine, Power and Subjectivity in the Twenty-first Century*. Princetown, NJ: Princetown University Press. Sharp, L. (2007) *Bodies, Commodities and Biotechnologies*. New York: Columbia University Press. Waldby, C. & Mitchell, R. (2006) *Tissue Economies*, Duke University Press

Part 3: Assessment	
Assessment Strategy	**Component A** is a 15 minute oral presentation in class on a topic related to the themes of the module. The student will research and prepare a presentation demonstrating their engagement with the chosen topic and ability to apply key sociological concepts. Use of appropriate media tools to present their work will be expected, presentation and communication skills will be assessed and knowledge of the topic. **Component B** comprises a Coursework Essay (3000 words) and will enable the student to demonstrate understanding of sociological approaches to the body, technology and society. Written skills, knowledge and understanding of theory and engagement with empirical examples will be assessed. Evidence of reading, research and analytical skills will be assessed.

Identify final assessment component and element		
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	**A:** **30**	**B**: **70**

First Sit	
Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Oral presentation	100
2.(etc)	
Component B **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Coursework essay	100
2.(etc)	

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)	
Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Viva	100
2.(etc)	
Component B **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Coursework essay	100

2.(etc)	
If a student is permitted an **EXCEPTIONAL RETAKE** of the module the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.	