University of the West of England
BRISTOL

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data						
Module Title	Dissertation (Social Work)					
Module Code	UZVRTS-30-3		Level	3	Version	1
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15	WBL module?	No	
Owning Faculty	Health and Applied Sciences		Field	HCPS		
Department	Health and Social Studies		Module Type	Project		
Contributes towards	BSc (Hons) Social Work					
Pre-requisites	None		Co- requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to: • Demonstrate effective use of information management skills in order to carry out a literature review on a chosen subject relevant to social work practice. (Component A) • Demonstrate knowledge of the research process. (Component A) • Demonstrate critical awareness of ethical issues in social research. (Component A) • Retrieve, review and critically evaluate secondary sources of data and information. (Component A) • Critically appraise research papers. (Component A) • Synthesize findings from research to identify emergent themes. (Component A) • Develop discussion on themes by making links to relevant theory within the social sciences. (Component A)
Syllabus Outline	Workshops will cover: • Doing a literature review- choosing a topic; developing your question or title; writing a proposal. • Understanding the research process- design and methods. • Managing your library search strategy. • Critical analysis and evaluation of qualitative and quantitative research. • Ethical issues in social research. • Critical appraisal of research papers using tools and frameworks. • Synthesising the findings to identify emergent themes. • Linking theory and themes to develop discussion. • Presenting relevance to social work practice. • Structuring your dissertation. • Making effective use of supervision.
Contact Hours	72 hours of scheduled learning and teaching study hours. Online engagement with learning materials through Blackboard.
Teaching and Learning Methods	**Scheduled learning** includes workshops, lectures, discussion, group and individual supervision sessions. **Independent learning** includes hours for study with essential reading, use of online resources, assignment preparation and completion. Students are encouraged to sign

	up for relevant study skills sessions with the Library.
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: 46 Independent study hours: 254 Placement study hours: 0 Allocated Hours: 300 The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes- **Coursework**: Written dissertation 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: Written exam assessment percentage: 0% Coursework assessment percentage: 100% Practical exam assessment percentage: 0% 100%
Reading Strategy	All students are encouraged to make use of the extensive resources provided through the Library. The development of advanced literature searching skills for dissertation preparation is supported by Library input at workshops within the module. Additional support is available through the study skills section of the Library web pages. This includes interactive tutorials on search skills and on the use of specific electronic library resources. Sign up workshops are also offered by the Library. Essential reading is provided electronically. A text book is recommended below. Further reading will be required to supplement the textbooks and other online readings. Students are expected to identify all other reading relevant to their chosen topic for themselves. They are encouraged to read widely using the library catalogue, databases and internet resources. The assignment reference list should reflect the range of reading carried out. A recommended text book to consider buying is: Aveyard, H. (2014) *Doing a Literature Review in Health and Social Care.* 3rd ed. Maidenhead: Open University Press. This is available online as an ebook.
Indicative Reading List	You are expected to identify relevant material using the Library Catalogue for books such as: Carey, M. (2013) *The Social Work Dissertation* [online]. 2nd ed. Maidenhead: Open University Press [Accessed 05 August 2015]. Clough, P. and Nutbrown, C. (2012) *A Student's Guide to Methodology.* 3rd ed. London: Sage. Denscombe, M. (2014) *The Good Research Guide.* 5th ed. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

	Giddens, A. and Sutton, P. (2013) *Sociology.* 7th ed. Cambridge: Polity Press. Gilbert, N. and Stoneman, P. eds. (2016) *Researching Social Life.* 4th ed. London: Sage. Hart, C. (2001) *Doing a Literature Search.* London: Sage. Kiteley, R. and Stogdon, C. (2014) *Literature Reviews in Social Work.* London: Sage. **Databases** such as ASSIA (Applied Social Science Index and Abstracts); Community Care Inform; PsycINFO; Social Care Online; Social Policy and Practice; Social Services Abstracts **Websites** such as: www.jrf.org.uk www.scie.org.uk www.scie-socialcareonline.org.uk www.statistics.gov.uk This dissertation assignment is supported by Blackboard where students will be able to find useful materials and information. Direct links to information sources are provided from within Blackboard.

Part 3: Assessment		
Assessment Strategy	The assessment will be a 6000 word dissertation in the form of a literature review. Students will select a topic relevant to contemporary social work practice. Students will be given formative support through submission of a dissertation proposal and allocation of a dissertation supervisor to work on an individual and small group basis with them. This will provide opportunities for feedback and support from the academic team and the peer group. There will additional support sessions provided by the library to enable students to continue to develop their skills in data base search strategies.	
Identify final assessment component and element	**A**	
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	**A:** **100%**	**B**: **0%**

First Sit	
Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. 6000 word dissertation	100%

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)	
Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. 6000 word dissertation	100%
If a student is permitted a retake of the module under the University Regulations and Procedures, the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.	

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First CAP Approval Date	2/2/2016			
Revision Approval Date *Update this row each time a change goes to CAP*		Version	1	