



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Dissertation (SWDTP)		
Module Code	UBGMR9-60-M	Level	Level 7
For implementation from	2018-19		
UWE Credit Rating	60	ECTS Credit Rating	30
Faculty	Faculty of Environment & Technology	Field	Geography and Environmental Management
Department	FET Dept of Geography & Environmental Mgmt		
Contributes towards	Social Research (Sustainable Futures) [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19 Social Research (Health and Wellbeing) [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] MRes 2018-19		
Module type:	Master dissertation		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p>Overview: The dissertation is an opportunity to carry out independent study, enabling the student to select a relevant field of inquiry, and to carry out research in depth over a sustained period. Student learning is supported by regular individual supervision sessions, though the expectation is that the dissertation is primarily an individual piece of work.</p> <p>Educational Aims: The dissertation allows students to develop and demonstrate research skills. These are skills associated with finding and selecting or generating research evidence. It also allows students to develop and demonstrate other skills with which they are already familiar skills of analysis, synthesis, critical judgment and evaluation.</p> <p>Outline Syllabus: For students taking this dissertation as part of the MRes Social Research, this module will run across the academic year with supervision meeting to connect the development</p>

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

of ideas within the other taught modules. It is important for the student to have at least 2 supervision meetings in each of semesters 1 and 2 to develop the early stages of project design and theoretical framing. Supervision of up to 12 hours as either one-to-one or in small groups will be provided to support independent learning as the dissertation progresses into semester 3.

PGR students on the SWDTP 1+3 pathways will develop their dissertation topic with their PGR DoS.

All other students will identify a topic area with the Sustainable Futures or Health and Wellbeing pathway leads at the start of the academic year. A dissertation supervisor will be allocated, and provide supervisory support across the academic year.

The dissertation development also will be supported through assessments in two other taught modules. Students will be assessed on the dissertation proposal in Advanced Interdisciplinary Research Methods, and a first stage literature review in UBGMVP-30-M.

Teaching and Learning Methods: 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 some contact hours which form a vital part of the study.

Students will have 6 hours of contact time workshop style sessions. 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.

Students will receive 3 hours of training with library staff during induction week, plus a further 3 hours guidance on getting started with a dissertation, requirements etc. Students are then expected to use these skills to build up, independently, a body of literature to inform their research, under the broad guidance of their supervisor.

Part 3: Assessment

The module will be assessed by the written dissertation.

Students will be given a PGR or dissertation supervisor at the start of the academic year, and will be expected to meet with their supervisor throughout the academic year. Associated modules will assist the student initiate and develop a relevant literature review and project proposal, and therefore help the development of the early stages of planning dissertation in semester 1 and 2.

Formative feedback is an ongoing part of this module. This may take a variety of forms:

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.

Feedback will also be directed by related assessments (literature review and project proposal) from other modules identified above.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Dissertation - Component A	✓	100 %	Dissertation (10,000 - 15,000 words)
Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Dissertation - Component A	✓	100 %	Dissertation (10,000 - 15,000 words)

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods		
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to:	
		Module Learning Outcomes
	MO1	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
	MO2	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
	MO3	Collect, analyse and synthesise evidence and/or data using appropriate techniques and instruments
	MO4	Demonstrate knowledge and advanced understanding of relevant concepts in a specific subject area
	MO5	Apply advanced research and analytical skills to an extended piece of writing, drawing on key theoretical perspectives in their discipline area
	MO6	Present and communicate ideas and conclusions and or recommendations in a clear and accessible manner using language appropriate to academic writing
	MO7	Work independently to plan and manage a complex research project over an extended period of time and complete it by a given deadline
	MO8	Explore and understand the issues of ethics, validity, trustworthiness and reliability in research
	MO9	Critically reflect on the research process and identify limitations of the work undertaken and opportunities for further study
Contact Hours	Contact Hours	
	Independent Study Hours:	
	Independent study/self-guided study	582
	Total Independent Study Hours:	582
	Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
	Face-to-face learning	18
	Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	18
	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/ubgmr9-60-m.html	