



Module Specification

Academic Skills and Critical Thinking [TSI]

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Contents

Module Specification	1
Part 1: Information	2
Part 2: Description	2
Part 3: Teaching and learning methods	3
Part 4: Assessment.....	4
Part 5: Contributes towards	6

Part 1: Information

Module title: Academic Skills and Critical Thinking [TSI]

Module code: UFCFNW-12-0

Level: Level 3

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 12

ECTS credit rating: 6

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Computing and Creative Technologies

Partner institutions: None

Field: Computer Science and Creative Technologies

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: This module aims to give students confidence and practice in written and oral forms of assessment in Higher Education. It is designed to develop research skills as well as critical thinking and the ability to evaluate information in order to develop a reasoned argument. Students will work individually and in groups

to present findings. This will enable them to develop team working and report writing skills that will support their academic studies and prepare them for professional practice in future careers.

Outline syllabus: Information Literacy: use of information research skills to access and validate information from both library and electronic sources, including professional standards of referencing.

Evaluation of information and critical thinking: building a reasoned argument

Report writing: use of a conventional report structure; use of professional language and style; writing for an audience. Use of planning and time management skills.

Group work: Understand advantages and disadvantages of working in a group; develop skills to manage a group project, using collaborative learning as well as weekly project management meetings.

Communication Skills: Use of a variety of methods to communicate professionally and effectively with an audience, including presentations, posters and leaflets.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module is designed to give the students confidence and practice in assessment and also to allow them to recognise where their weaknesses lie and thus to develop as reflective learners.

The module is delivered by means of lectures and workshops. In general, students are presented with underpinning ideas during lectures. These ideas are developed and consolidated through workshop tasks that allow the students to practice information finding and reporting skills individually and in groups.

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

MO1 Collect, sort and use information from a variety of sources (eg lectures, libraries, journals, internet within a well-bounded context

MO2 Appraise the value of information gathered using pre-defined frameworks or criteria

MO3 Communicate both process and results effectively, in a variety of media (e.g. written and oral) in a narrowly defined context

MO4 Work effectively in groups, adapting their behavior to meet their obligations to others

MO5 Reflect upon their activities against given criteria

Hours to be allocated: 120

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 96 hours

Face-to-face learning = 64 hours

Total = 160

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

<https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/31B07CCE-2151-B347-DA57-41EDCB842433.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: At both first sit and resit, summative assessments for this module are designed to allow the students to demonstrate their written and oral communication skills individually and in groups.

Formative assessments carried out through workshop tasks will enable the students to identify particular areas for improvement and to develop their abilities using methods presented in lectures

Assessment tasks:

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: Group presentation (15 mins) explaining research methods and findings of a topical subject related to the programme field of study.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Report (First Sit)

Description: Individual written report (2200 words) discussing a topical subject area related to the programme field of study. The report will be used to evaluate the student's research and academic writing skills, including their ability to reference source materials to a professional standard and to reflect on their findings.

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO5

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Video presentation (10 mins)

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Report (Resit)

Description: Individual written report (2200 words) discussing a topical subject area related to the programme field of study. The report will be used to evaluate the student's research and academic writing skills, including their ability to reference source materials to a professional standard and to reflect on their findings.

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Computer Science and Software Development {Double Degree} {Foundation} [TSI]

BSc (Hons) 2023-24