Programme Specification

Applied Sciences [Frenchay]

Version: 2025-26, v2.0, Validated

Contents

Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Applied Sciences [Frenchay]

Highest award: MRes Applied Sciences

Interim award: PGCert Research Methods

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: No

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: CHSS School of Applied Sciences, College of Health, Science & Society

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies: Not applicable

Modes of delivery: Full-time, Part-time

Entry requirements: For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

For implementation from: 01 September 2025

Programme code: C99K12

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: This programme enables the student to have active engagement in research and innovation so that they may develop as an independent researcher capable of high-quality research.   Active engagement in research is afforded by the development of the extended research project, completed under the supervision of engaged academic researcher(s), and based within the active research community of the School's research groups/centres. The student will develop objective creativity inherent in any good research that will be demonstrable through the extended research project, showing competencies in research governance, project management, ethics, health and safety and sustainability in the creation and reporting of their project.

This MRes Applied Science provides a unique opportunity for innovative, collaborative, multi-disciplinary research across the entire subject range within SoAS. The programme allows students to be dynamic and flexible, and gives them the space to develop professionally and personally within the established academic research student community, and to target skills and experience for furthering their career ambitions. The programme deliberately bears similarity to the first year of a PhD. However, it is a self-contained award that students can utilise after one or two years.

Features of the programme: The MRes Applied Science programme has the following key features:

Two compulsory modules; Research Theory and Practice (RTP), and Research Training and Professional Development (RTPD) to enable engagement in skill development and research and professional development. These modules will equip you with a deeper understanding and engagement with the scientific research process and ethos.

An extended research project to develop and demonstrate competency in the design, implementation, interpretation and critical analysis. The project will run concurrently with the RTP and RTPD modules for the duration of the MRes and supervised by your academic supervisor.

Educational Aims: The educational aims of the programme are:

To equip students with the skills necessary to undertake sustained, independent and innovative research;

To produce a new generation of researchers who are equipped to work in creative and flexible ways;

To provide an inspiring environment within which to examine research practices and methodologies;

To enable students to implement a considered, systematic methodology with respect to their own practice and critical analysis;

To equip students for future careers and high-level research (e.g., PhD), which require postgraduates with a high level of analytical and communication skills, and who are able to pursue complex tasks in an independent, self-disciplined and flexible manner.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Programme Learning Outcomes

PO1.   The formulation of advanced research questions informed by robust interpretation of peer-reviewed published research that have the potential to generate new knowledge within the chosen field.

PO2.   Competent application of ethical and sustainability considerations underpinning rigorous critical and creative approaches to research within the field.

PO3.   The ability to plan, produce and present rigorous, independent and theoretically informed research.

PO4.   Critical awareness in analysing and communicating complex, contested and contradictory areas of knowledge.

PO5.   Deal with complex and dynamic issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

PO6.   Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, adoption of advanced methodologies, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional level.

PO7.   Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in project design and execution, and in communicating the project to expert and non-expert audiences.

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy has been designed to test the programme learning outcomes. The two compulsory modules are deliberately designed to mirror the requirements in the first year of a PhD to prepare and enable the MRes students to develop professionally and in their research skills and ethos. The assessments provide scaffolding towards research competence and readiness for academic or professional research.

Student support: Students will be supported through tutoring by their supervisory team and by the Applied Sciences postgraduate tutor.

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1
Full-time students must take 180 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full-time)
Full-time students must take 180 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJQP-120-M	Extended Research Project 2025-26	120

| USSJGX-30-M | Research Theory and Practice 2025-26 | 30 |
| USSKDB-30-M | Research Training and Professional Development (RTPD) 2025-26 | 30 |

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJGX-30-M	Research Theory and Practice 2025-26	30
USSKDB-30-M	Research Training and Professional Development (RTPD) 2025-26	30

Year 2

Part-time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJQP-120-M	Extended Research Project 2026-27	120

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

Masters Degree Characteristics statement (2022)

QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education (2024)

QAA The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (2024)

Part E: Regulations

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures.