

MODULE SPECIFICATION PROFORMA

Module Title: Dissertation	Level 6	Credit Value: 40
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Module code: AUR601	Cost Centre: GABE	JACS3 code: K900
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Trimester(s) in which to be offered:	1&2	With effect from:	September 2016
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<i>Office use only:</i> To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: September 2015 Date revised: - Version no: 2 (to reflect re-validated Hsg Studies)
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Existing/New: Existing	Title of module being replaced (if any):
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Originating Academic School:	Applied Science, Computing & Engineering	Module Leader: Dave Cheesbrough
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Module duration (total hours) 400	Status: core/option (identify programme where appropriate): Core
Scheduled learning & teaching hours 24	
Independent study hours 376	
Placement hours 0	

Programme(s) in which to be offered: BSc (Hons) Construction Management BSc (Hons) Real Estate BSc (Hons) Housing Studies	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): None
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Module Aims:

Students will be provided with the practical skills and research guidance required to pursue an individual programme of study leading to the production of a dissertation. This will include the selection of a feasible research hypothesis, the application of an appropriate methodology, structuring their findings, presenting their conclusions etc.

Intended Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge and understanding

At the end of this module, students will be able to ...

1. Evaluate the viability of a subject that interests them and allows for a “personal stamp” or angle to be developed, addresses a gap in existing research, or relates to their experiences or future development.(KS1,KS2,KS3,KS5,KS6,KS9)
2. Synthesise and apply research techniques and methodological approaches to the collection and assimilation of research data, opinion and information.(KS1,KS2,KS3,KS4,KS6)
3. Critically analyse and reflect on the research gathered by drawing evidenced conclusions and, where applicable, recommendations within the framework established at the start of the dissertation process.(KS1,KS3,KS4,KS5,KS6,KS7,K10)

Key skills for employability

1. Written, oral and media communication skills
2. Leadership, team working and networking skills
3. Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
4. Information technology skills and digital literacy
5. Information management skills
6. Research skills
- 7 Intercultural and sustainability skills
8. Career management skills
9. Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
10. Numeracy

Assessment:

Students will undertake a 10,000 word dissertation, based on primary or secondary research.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1,2 & 3	Dissertation	100%		10,000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

Students will undertake a series of lectures based on a step-by-step examination of the broad chronological stages involved in producing a proposal and undertaking a dissertation

The lectures will cover good practice examples and will facilitate open discussion between students in order to increase the transfer of knowledge, the critical analysis of proposals and to allow for the development of the skills needed to verbally describe and justify their choices and approaches.

Individual supervisors will be assigned to the student to advise and direct the student through to completion of the work.

Syllabus outline:

- Students will learn how to identify and define a research project.
- Research strategy and methodology will be studied, and a suitable method selected and developed.
- The purpose of a literature review will be examined in order that students may go on and produce such a survey in their submitted work.
- The structure of a dissertation will be covered by using exemplars and showing good practice.

Bibliography:

Essential reading

Bell, J. *Doing Your Research Project: A Guide for First-time Researchers* (2014) Maidenhead :OU Press

Greetham, B. (2009) *How to write your undergraduate dissertation*, Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan.

Other indicative reading:

Rudestam, E (2007) *Surviving your dissertation: A comprehensive guide to content and process*, Los Angeles: Sage Publications.

Swetnam, D. (2009) *Writing your dissertation*, Oxford: How to Books

Other resources:

www.ihsti.com