Module Code:	SCI720

Module Title:	Dissertation: Pilot Study

Level:	7	Credit Value:	40

Cost Centre(s):	GAFS	JACS3 **code**: HECoS **code**:	F400 101275

Faculty	FAST	Module Leader:	Amy Rattenbury

Scheduled learning and teaching hours	10 hrs
Guided independent study	390 hrs
Placement	0 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	400 hrs

Programme(s) in which to be offered (not including exit awards)	Core	Option
MRes Analytical & Forensic Chemistry	✓	☐
MRes Forensic Anthropology & Bioarchaeology	✓	☐

Pre-requisites
N/A

Module Aims
The purpose of this module is to allow students to begin their primary research, as proposed in the Advanced Research Skills module, on a small scale as a way of preparing before their full scale project. It is intended to help provide the student a chance expand their knowledge of the appropriate practical research methods and also allow them to explore challenges and limitations in the early stages so as to produce a more robust final project

Intended Learning Outcomes
Key skills for employability

KS1   Written, oral and media communication skills
KS2   Leadership, team working and networking skills
KS3   Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
KS4   Information technology skills and digital literacy
KS5   Information management skills
KS6   Research skills
KS7   Intercultural and sustainability skills
KS8   Career management skills
KS9   Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
KS10   Numeracy

At the end of this module, students will be able to		**Key Skills**	
1	Critically investigate the chosen topic in an informed manner appropriate to postgraduate study.	KS1	KS6
		KS8	
2	Produced detailed and systematic records of work undertaken in a professional or academic format.	KS1	KS4
		KS5	
3	Explore and evaluate theoretical and practical contributions or developments in a specialised area relevant to their forensic discipline.	KS3	KS6
		KS8	
4	Appraise outputs and outcomes of research and justify or challenge plans for managing and developing the continued research.	KS1	KS3
		KS9	
5	Critically review and reflect on their own performance within a specialised research area and evaluate their preparedness for advanced research.	KS6	KS8
		KS9	

Transferable skills and other attributes

- Analytic and expressive skills
- Development of IT skills
- Developing cognitive abilities and skills
- Independent learning

Derogations
N/A

Assessment:
Indicative Assessment Tasks:

The assessment for this module will be in two parts:
Assessment 1 – Pilot Study Project which develops the ideas proposed as part of the 'Advanced Research Skills' module in preparation for your main "Dissertation: Research project" and will be submitted as a laboratory workbook detailing activities undertaken and results produced.
Assessment 4 – Pre-recorded podcast which offers a critical reflection and evaluation on the pilot study undertaking suggesting appropriate developments and plans for project management as well as discussing your preparedness for continuing research.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration or Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
2	1-3	Project	70	3000
4	4,5	Presentation	30	10 mins

Learning and Teaching Strategies:
Introductory lessons will be provided online in order to help students to understand the module requirements and to support their assessments. Learning will be through directed and self-directed study and research based on their specialised area. Students will be allocated a suitable supervisor who will guide them towards resources for the topic where appropriate. Students will be expected to arrange an agreed number of personal tutorials (which could be held over the phone or online) and to share their experiences with other module participants through online seminars throughout the module.

Syllabus outline:
Students will receive support to develop the necessary knowledge, understanding and skills required to identify, plan and complete the relevant research and learning required. This will include introductory sessions on: ● Note taking ● Data presentation ● Audio Presentations

Indicative Bibliography:
Content and reading to be determined in discussion with the tutor with reference to the specialist area identified.