

MODULE SPECIFICATION PROFORMA

<b>Module Title:</b>	Dissertation	<b>Level:</b>	7	<b>Credit Value:</b>	60
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<b>Module code:</b>	NHS793	<b>Is this a new module?</b>	YES	<b>Code of module being replaced:</b>	
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<b>Cost Centre:</b>	GANG	<b>JACS3 code:</b>	L510
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<b>Trimester(s) in which to be offered:</b>	2 and 3	<b>With effect from:</b>	January 2019
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<b>School:</b>	Social & Life Sciences	<b>Module Leader:</b>	Vivienne Dacre
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Scheduled learning and teaching hours	20 hrs
Guided independent study	580 hrs
Placement	
<b>Module duration (total hours)</b>	600 hrs

<b>Programme(s) in which to be offered</b>	Core	Option
MSc Advanced Practice in the Human Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Pre-requisites</b>
Successful completion of the Research Methods module

Office use only

Initial approval July 16

APSC approval of modification *Enter date of approval*

Have any derogations received SQC approval?

Version 1

Yes  No

**Module Aims**

This module aims to provide students with the opportunity to (i) demonstrate independent thought in the evaluation, application and synthesis of knowledge through the critical exploration of a topic relevant to the human services; and (ii) enhance the academic skills necessary in the selection, planning, preparation and writing of a dissertation which integrates both empirical and theoretical knowledge gained within the programme.

**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 analyse complex materials.

KS1

KS3

KS5

KS6

2 Draw on insights from a wide range of intellectual disciplines and manage the tensions across these disciplines.

KS1

KS5

KS6

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3	Theorise practice – that is, draw on theoretical ideas to make sense of practice – at a level consistent with advanced practice and Master’s level study.	KS1	KS3
		KS5	KS6
4	Demonstrate an ability to produce a substantive piece of original work consistent with the requirements of (i) advanced practice; and (ii) Master’s level study.	KS1	KS4
		KS5	KS6
Transferable/key skills and other attributes			
Confidence in managing large projects.			

<b>Derogations</b>
N/A

<b>Assessment:</b>					
Produce a dissertation as follows:					
(i) A 15,000 to 20,000 word theoretical analysis: The analysis must be both critical and reflective, evaluating a substantive area of the relevant literature. The student’s theoretical position must be both well articulated and subject to reflective critique. Or					
(ii) A 15,000 to 20,000 word report of a small scale research project or audit. The selected method may deploy a quantitative or qualitative design.					
Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1 to 3	Dissertation	100%		15,000 to 20,000

**Learning and Teaching Strategies:**

Supported independent study

**Syllabus outline:**

This module will cover a topic of the student's choice, pre-approved by a tutor, and, where appropriate by the student's employing organisation.

**Bibliography:**

**Essential reading**

- Bell, J. (2014) *Doing Your Research Project: A Guide for First-time Researchers*, 6<sup>th</sup> edn, Maidenhead, Open University Press.  
 Biggam, J. (2015) *Succeeding with Your Masters Dissertation: A Step by Step Handbook*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edn, Maidenhead, Open University Press.  
 Bui, Y. N. (2014) *How to Write a Master's Thesis*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn, London, Sage.  
 Furseth, I. and Everett, E.L. (2013) *Doing Your Masters Dissertation: From Start to Finish*, London, Sage.

**Other indicative reading**

- Aveyard, H. (2014) *Doing a Literature Review in Health and Social Care: A Practical Guide*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edn, Maidenhead, McGraw-Hill/OU Press.  
 Casey, D., Clark, L. and Hayes, S. (2013) *Study Skills for Master's Level Students: A Reflective Approach for Health and Social Care*, Banbury, Lantern Publishing.  
 Ridley, D. (2012) *The Literature Review: A Step by Step Guide for Students*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn, London, Sage.  
 Rudestam, K. E. and Newton, R. R. (2015) *Surviving Your Dissertation: A Comprehensive Guide to Content and Process*, 4<sup>th</sup> edn, London, Sage.  
 Wallace, M. and Wray, A. (2011) *Critical Reading and Writing for Postgraduates*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn, London, Sage.  
 Wickham, S. (2015) *101 Tips for Planning, Writing and Surviving your Dissertation*, Creative Space Independent Publishing Platform.