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<b>Module Code:</b>	ONL724
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<b>Module Title:</b>	Dissertation
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<b>Level:</b>	7	<b>Credit Value:</b>	30
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<b>Cost Centre(s):</b>	GABP	<b>JACS3 code:</b>	N100
		<b>HECoS code:</b>	100079

<b>Faculty</b>	FSLS	<b>Module Leader:</b>	Dr. Ben Binsardi
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Scheduled learning and teaching hours	15 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	15 hrs
<b>Total contact hours</b>	30 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	270 hrs
<b>Module duration (total hours)</b>	300 hrs

<b>Programme(s) in which to be offered (not including exit awards)</b>	Core	Option
MBA	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MBA Human Resource Management	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MBA Marketing	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MBA Finance	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MBA Project Management	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MBA Health Management	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MBA Entrepreneurship	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MBA Cyber Security	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MBA Big Data	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MBA Psychology	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MPA	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>

**MODULE SPECIFICATION**

MPA Finance	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
MPA Project Management	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Pre-requisites**

N/A

**Office use only**

Initial approval: 19/06/2020

Version no: 1

With effect from: 01/09/2020

Date and details of revision: October 2022 – admin correction to module codes in prerequisite section.

Version no: 2

01/09/2023 Removal of prerequisite requirement that students must have completed ONL722 and ONL723.

**Module Aims**

This module will support students in carrying out an independent research project on a topic directly related to their working context and programme specialism. The aims of the dissertation are to enable students to apply knowledge and expertise gained during the taught element of the programme; demonstrate mastery of a specific area of the subject; and facilitate the development of applied research skills.

**Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to**

1	Develop a viable research question with a supporting aim and objectives that demonstrates rigour and is ethically sound
2	Develop, outline and work within a comprehensive research framework which integrates relevant research methodologies; research design; research quality measures and any ethical issues related to the research
3	Analyse empirical data in a critical manner appropriate to the methodology outlined (i.e. in line with the type(s) of data, sampling strategy and research philosophy) and present the results/findings in an appropriate format
4	Synthesise the research findings, present emergent conclusions and propose strategic recommendations of relevance to practitioners and academics

<b>Employability Skills The Wrexham Glyndŵr Graduate</b>	<b>I = included in module content A = included in module assessment N/A = not applicable</b>
<b>CORE ATTRIBUTES</b>	
Engaged	I, A
Creative	I, A
Enterprising	I, A
Ethical	I, A
<b>KEY ATTITUDES</b>	
Commitment	I, A
Curiosity	I, A
Resilient	I, A
Confidence	I, A
Adaptability	I, A
<b>PRACTICAL SKILLSETS</b>	
Digital fluency	I, A
Organisation	I, A
Leadership and team working	
Critical thinking	I, A
Emotional intelligence	
Communication	I, A

**Derogations**

None

**Assessment:**

## Indicative Assessment Tasks:

Assessment 1 (9,000 words) produce a dissertation with a clear structure that demonstrates academic writing competence and the use of accurate referencing. The extended writing piece will be framed by research questions. The dissertation will outline a coherent research methodology and present findings/results drawn from the analysis and interpretation of the empirical data which has been collected independently. The discussion of the research findings/results will be followed by conclusions, strategic recommendations and areas for further research.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1, 2, 3, 4	Dissertation	100%

**Learning and Teaching Strategies:**

The overall learning and teaching strategy is one of guided independent study, in the form of distance learning requiring ongoing student engagement. Online material will provide the foundation of the learning resources, to support a blended approach, requiring the students to log-in and engage on a regular basis throughout the module. There will be a mix of recorded lectures and supporting notes/slides, containing embedded digital content and self-checks for students to complete as they work through the material and undertake the assessment tasks. The use of a range of digital tools via the virtual learning environment together with additional sources of reading will also be utilised to accommodate learning styles. There is access to a helpline for additional support and chat facilities through Canvas for messaging and responding. In addition, progressive academic supervision will be provided.

**Syllabus outline:**

Structure and content of the dissertation  
The research plan  
The role of the supervisor  
Academic rigor

## Indicative Bibliography:

### Essential reading

Gray, D. (2018), *Doing Research in the Real World*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. London: Sage.

Fink, A. (2019), *Conducting Research Literature Reviews*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. London: Sage.

### Other indicative reading

Binsardi, B. and Mason, A. (2012), *Business Research Methods*. London: Northwest Academic Publications. (An out-of-print textbook: complimentary chapters will be provided).

Easterby-Smith, M., Thorpe, R., Jackson, P.R. and Jaspersen, L.J. (2018), *Management and Business Research*. 6<sup>th</sup> ed. London: Sage.

Lomas, R. (2011), *Mastering Your Business Dissertation*. Oxford: Routledge.

Saunders, M.N.K., Lewis, P., and Thornhill, A. (2019), *Research Methods for Business Students*. 8<sup>th</sup> ed. Harlow: Pearson Education.

O'Leary, Z. (2017). *The Essential Guide to Doing Your Research Project*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. London: Sage.

There is a wide range of additional texts available which cover specific bodies of knowledge, methodologies and analytical techniques in more depth which can be selected, based on the research topic selected by the student. Allocated supervisors will provide additional guidance.

Journals:

Journal of Business Research Methods