

## MODULE DESCRIPTOR

### Module Title

Dissertation			
Reference	AC4002	Version	8
Created	July 2021	SCQF Level	SCQF 10
Approved	July 2005	SCQF Points	30
Amended	September 2021	ECTS Points	15

### Aims of Module

To provide the student with the ability to further develop professional skills through undertaking a research based investigation, which addresses a specialist area of need in the built environment. The investigation should synthesise complex issues of problem identification, evaluate research material and draw valid conclusions through independent research.

### Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

- 1 Identify and gather a thorough set of information appropriate to a chosen subject within the course discipline.
- 2 Critically evaluate that information against a theoretical stance.
- 3 Present a structured argument in writing, with appropriate graphic support, using and acknowledging that information in line with academic writing conventions.
- 4 Develop a thorough understanding of a relatively narrow subject within the discipline.

### Indicative Module Content

The module provides a framework for selecting a feasible topic and clarifying the scope of a proposal; an introduction to planning research and finding sources of information; a context for structuring and presenting written information.

### Module Delivery

This is a student centred Module supported by regular progress reviews and critique by Tutors. Support lectures and workshops in research methods will be delivered at the start of the project. Students are required to initiate, develop and manage their projects effectively within the designated programme.

**Indicative Student Workload**

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	36	N/A
Non-Contact Hours	264	N/A
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	300	N/A
<i>Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body</i>		

**ASSESSMENT PLAN**

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

**Component 1**

Type: Coursework Weighting: 100% Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3, 4

Description: The assessment of the dissertation is by two readers, assessing students' own initiation, development and management of their individual research projects.

**MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR****Explanatory Text**

The overall module grade is based on 100% weighting of Component 1 (Coursework). An overall minimum grade D is required to pass the module. Non-submission will result in an NS grade.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	A
B	B
C	C
D	D
E	E
F	F
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

**Module Requirements**

Prerequisites for Module	None.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

All proposals must be tested against the RGU ethics in research document.

**INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- 1 Blaxter, L., Hughes, C. & Tight, M., 2010, 4th edition. How to Research, Open University Press.
- 2 Hamilton, A., 1990, Writing Dissertations, RIBA Publications.
- 3 Naoum, S.G., 2013, 3rd edition, Dissertation Research & Writing for Construction Students, Butterworth Heinemann.
- 4 Kumar, R., 2011, 3rd edition. Research Methodology: A Step by Step Guide for Beginners, Sage Publications.
- 5 Bell, J. 2010, Doing Your Research Project. 5th edition, Open University Press.
- 6 Leven, P., 2005, Excellent Dissertations!, Open University Press