

## MODULE DESCRIPTOR

### Module Title

Practical Research Methods

Reference	AS3902	Version	2
Created	August 2017	SCQF Level	SCQF 9
Approved	May 2011	SCQF Points	15
Amended	August 2017	ECTS Points	7.5

### Aims of Module

To enhance the students ability to carry out a laboratory investigation as a team member.

### Learning Outcomes for Module

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

- 1 Work effectively as a team member.
- 2 Competently use a range of analytical and experimental procedures.
- 3 Evaluate and analyse experimental data.
- 4 Maintain a laboratory diary, in which results and conclusions are recorded.
- 5 Present and orally defend the results and conclusions of the investigative study.

### Indicative Module Content

The module will consist of an extended laboratory investigation and tutorials. The extended experiments fulfil two functions: to build on core techniques by introducing a variety of applications and to give students the opportunity to develop time and task management skills.

### Module Delivery

The course is laboratory based but will also involve some classroom based tutorials.

### Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	50	N/A
Non-Contact Hours	100	N/A
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	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, 5
Description:	The module will be assessed on the data that has been collected, analysed and presented in a written format and defended orally.				

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

The module is assessed using the component of assessment as detailed in the Assessment Plan. To pass this module, candidates must achieve a Module Grade D, or better.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
<b>A</b>	Final mark of 70% or greater.
<b>B</b>	Final mark of between 60-69%
<b>C</b>	Final mark of between 50-59%
<b>D</b>	Final mark of between 40-49%
<b>E</b>	MARGINAL FAIL. A mark of between 35-39%.
<b>F</b>	Fail. A mark of 34% or lower.
<b>NS</b>	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

**Module Requirements**

Prerequisites for Module	In addition to SCQF 9 entry requirements students must be familiar with basic laboratory techniques, the keeping of laboratory records and the analysis of experimental data.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

Students will be required to conform to appropriate safety regulations throughout the mini-project.

**INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- 1 Laboratory Manual, School of Pharmacy and Life Sciences, Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen.
- 2 REED,R.H.,HOLMES,D.,WEYERS,J.,JONES,A.,2007.Practical Skills in Biomolecular Sciences. 3rd.ed. Pearson Education Ltd.
- 3 O'CONNOR, M., 1999. *Writing Successfully on Science*. Spoon.
- 4 YOUNG, M., 2003. *The Technical Writer's Handbook: Writing with Style and Clarity*. University Science Books.
- 5 MATTHEWS, J.R. and MATTTHEWS, R.W., 2008. *Successful Scientific Writing: A Step-by-Step Guide for the Biological and Medical Sciences*. 3rd ed. Cambridge University Press.