

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:
A	Final mark of 70% or greater.
B	Final mark of between 60-69%
C	Final mark of between 50-59%
D	Final mark of between 40-49%
E	MARGINAL FAIL. A mark of between 35-39%.
F	Fail. A mark of 34% or lower.
NS	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.