ROBERT GORDON UNIVERSITY ABERDEEN

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Dissertation (Professional Doctorate)

Reference	BSD001	Version	4
Created	February 2018	SCQF Level	SCQF 12
Approved	June 2014	SCQF Points	420
Amended	February 2018	ECTS Points	210

Aims of Module

To enable the student to undertake applied research and development at an advanced level, contributing substantially to the development of new techniques, ideas and approaches, by applying their subject knowledge and their knowledge of research methods to an independent investigation of a topic within a relevant field.

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

1. Conceptualise, design and implement an approved research project in the chosen subject field.

2. Apply a range of research skills and methods to gather, analyse and critically evaluate literature, theories, data and evidence as appropriate to the agreed research topic in a relevant field.

3. Analyse and critically evaluate findings and conclusions in a piece of independent research that contributes to and advances the body of knowledge in their chosen specialist area.

4. Develop and apply, at an advanced level, the skills of written communication and presentation required to appropriately address relevant theory and concepts, and/or current debates.

Indicative Module Content

A research proposal on a relevant topic, normally developed in GSM005 and GSM008, will form the basis for development of the Dissertation. Students will work independently to undertake the research and prepare the dissertation.

Module Delivery

Students are expected to take full responsibility for their own learning, and will receive guidance and support from their supervisory team, and others as appropriate.

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Indicative Student Workload	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	276	276
Non-Contact Hours	3924	3924
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	4200	4200
Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body		

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 will consist of a dissertation of 60,000 words and an oral defence of the thesis.

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

The Module is assessed by two components: C1 - Coursework - **% weighting. C2 - Oral Defence - **% weighting. Module Pass Mark = Grade D (40%)

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	At least 70% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
B	At least 60% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
C	At least 50% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
D	At least 40% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
E	At least 35% on weighted aggregate
F	Less than 35% on weighted aggregate
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	Students are eligible for the doctoral level dissertation if they have successfully completed the Transfer process and achieved 120 credits at SCQF level 11 or equivalent, including GSM005 and GSM008.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

In addition, students will be expected to search the literature and read widely in the area chosen for investigation as directed by their supervisory team.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

1   LEE, N.J., 2009. *Achieving your professional doctorate.* New York: Open University Press.

2   SCOTT, D. et al., 2004. *Professional doctorates: integrating academic and professional knowledge.* New York: Open University Press.

3   ANDERSON, L. et al., 2015. *Professional doctorates in business and management.* London: Sage Publications Ltd.

4   EASTERBY-SMITH,M.,et al., 2018. *Management and business research.* 6th ed. London: Sage Publications Ltd.

5   SHON, P.C., 2012. *How to read journal articles in the social sciences.* London: Sage.

6   PUNCH, K. F., 2014. *Introduction to social research: quantitative and qualitative approaches.* London: Sage Publications Ltd.

7   WALLACE, M. and WRAY, A., 2011. *Critical reading and writing for postgraduates.* 2nd ed. London: Sage.