

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Fundamentals in Researcher Development

Reference	GSM010	Version	3
Created	October 2023	SCQF Level	SCQF 11
Approved	November 2019	SCQF Points	30
Amended	October 2023	ECTS Points	15

Aims of Module

Acquisition of fundamental critical skills for the development of an independent researcher

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

- 1 Systematically evaluate a significant range of pertinent academic literature and research output to develop a critical understanding of the topic of study
- 2 Critically evaluate routine and forefront methodological approaches for research investigation, with a focus on those relevant to the topic of study
- 3 Identify strategies for adherence to research integrity, including ethical considerations, relevant to the topic of study
- 4 Critically reflect on the range of skills that evidence effective researcher development
- 5 Effectively communicate the proposed research topic and concepts

Indicative Module Content

Facilitate researcher development via acquisition of critical skills in: formulation of research question/hypothesis; literature search strategies and critical appraisal; research philosophy; rigour, governance and integrity for research; insight into methodological approaches; data management planning; self-management; written and oral presentation skills.

Module Delivery

This module is made up of a combination of teaching and learning methods. This includes lectures, seminars and workshops during the teaching week, and supplementation of this learning by participating in appropriate School programmes, and active learning sessions with the Principal Supervisor and members of the Supervisory Team. Additionally, course participants will be supported through use of the Vitae Researcher Development Framework (RDF) planner and Professional Development Planning for Researchers Online Course (PDP ROC).

Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	40	40
Non-Contact Hours	260	260
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	300	300
<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:	Practical Exam	Weighting:	0%	Outcomes Assessed:	5
Description:	Individual oral presentation on research topic.				

Component 2

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	100%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3, 4
Description:	Written assignment on research topic.				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR**Explanatory Text**

This module will be assessed by an individual oral presentation (C1) and a written assignment on the proposed research topic (C2). The oral presentation is competence based on a Pass or Fail basis. The written assignment contributes 100% toward the final module grade.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	A pass in Component 1 and an A in Component 2.
B	A pass in Component 1 and a B in Component 2.
C	A pass in Component 1 and a C in Component 2.
D	A pass in Component 1 and a D in Component 2.
E	A pass in Component 1 and an E in Component 2.
F	A pass in Component 1 and an F in Component 2.
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	None, in addition to course entry requirements.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

The aims and learning outcomes of this module for assessment purposes are contextualised to the particular field of research. Students must successfully complete this module before undertaking GSM011.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1 PHILLIPS, E.M. and PUGH, D.S., 2015. *How to get a PhD: a handbook for students and their supervisors*. 6th ed. Maidenhead : McGraw-Hill Open University Press. *ebook*
- 2 BLAXTER, L., HUGHES, C. and TIGHT, M., 2010. *How to research*. 4th ed. Maidenhead : McGraw-Hill/Open University Press. *ebook*
- 3 DENICOLO, P. and REEVES, J. 2014. *Developing Transferable Skills: Enhancing Your Research and Employment Potential (Success in Research)*. Sage Publications Ltd.
- 4 KEARNS, H. and GARDINER, M. 2012. *The Seven Secrets of Highly Successful Research Students*. 3rd ed. Thinkwell. *ebook*
- 5 OLIVER P., 2012. *Succeeding with your literature review: a handbook for students*. *ebook*
- 6 CRESWELL, J.W. and CRESWELL, J.D. 2018. *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches* Sage Publications Ltd.
- 7 WALLWORK, A., 2011. *English for writing research papers*. New York : Springer. *ebook*
- 8 VITAE, 2019. *Professional development planning for researchers online course (PDP ROC)*. Cambridge: Vitae: Available online.