Module Descriptor

Title	Science Independent Study		
Session	2025/26	**Status**	Published
Code	CHEM08005	**SCQF Level**	8
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	Ciaran Ewins		

Summary of Module

This module will involve the production of a substantial report on a science topic involving a review literature sources.

Typically a final report of approximately 5000 word equivalents will be produced. This should encompass a general review of the topic concerned, and clear analysis of technical aspects independently written to demonstrate a good depth of understanding, together with some discussion broader in context, perhaps covering social and/or economic implications.

Once a topic has been agreed with an academic supervisor, responsibility for progressing the exercise lies with the student, under guidance from the supervisor. Student and supervisor will agree an outline specification and a time frame for completion of work. The student will be required to submit a draft report at least three weeks before the due date for the submission of the final report. This module is available to student from any science subject area who need to gain general credit.

Module Delivery Method	**On-Campus[1]**	**Hybrid[2]**	**Online[3]**	**Work -Based Learning[4]**
	☐	☒	☐	☐

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries		☐ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley		☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	
Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☐	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☒
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Demonstrate the ability to prepare a substantial, technically sound and proficiently presented report
L2	Search the scientific literature and select good quality relevant publications for review
L3	Interpret and communicate scientific information
L4	Use appropriate literature referencing
L5	

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 8** Broad knowledge and understanding of the main principles and concepts associated with the chosen subject area. Detailed knowledge of some aspects of the chosen topic. Some knowledge and understanding of major current issues associated with the chosen topic.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**Please select SCQF Level** Using a variety of sources (including electronic) to retrieve, interpret, evaluate and integrate information relevant to the chosen topic.
Generic Cognitive skills	**Please select SCQF Level** Undertaking a critical analysis of relevant information to draw conclusions on issues associated with the chosen topic.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**Please select SCQF Level** Making effective use of IT skills to obtain, process and evaluate numerical (where suitable) and graphical data (where suitable) to enable the production of an appropriate written report on the chosen topic.
Autonomy, Accountability	**SCQF 8** Identifying and addressing individual learning needs in the subject

and Working with Others	area associated with the chosen topic. Planning effectively, including setting and meeting targets, the overall work involved in the production of the report on the studied topic (agreed under supervision). Taking advice on professional and ethical matters relating to the chosen topic.

Prerequisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**
	Other	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**

Learning and Teaching	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.	
Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	2
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	34
Independent Study	164
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: Writing the literature review : a practical guide, Sara Efrat Efron, Ruth Ravid. New York : The Guilford Press, 2019
(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-

campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

The School of Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences considers attendance and engagement to mean a commitment to attending, and engaging in, timetabled sessions. You will scan your attendance via the scanners each time you are on-campus and you will login to the VLE several times per week. Where you are unable to attend a timetabled learning session due to illness or other circumstance, you should notify the Programme Leader that you cannot attend. Across the School an 80% attendance threshold is set. If you fall below this, you will be referred to the Student Success Team to see how we can best support your studies.

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code. Aligned with the University's commitment to equality and diversity, this module supports equality of opportunity for students from all backgrounds and learning needs. Using the VLE, material will be presented electronically in formats that allow flexible access and manipulation of content. This module complies with University regulations and guidance on inclusive learning and teaching practice. Specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice in accordance with the University's policies and regulations.
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Engineering Physical Sciences**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	Physical Sciences
Moderator	Mohammed Yaseen
External Examiner	M Paterson
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	2.12

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1

Written Assignment 100%
Assessment 2
Assessment 3
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Report	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	100	0

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**