Module Descriptor

Title	Honours Dissertation (BAcc)		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Approved
Code	ACCT10007	**SCQF Level**	10
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Business and Creative Industries**		
Module Co-ordinator	M Fletcher		

Summary of Module

This module provides you with the research knowledge and skills to prepare you for completing your dissertation. You will initially learn how to prepare and complete a literature review that will form the background to your dissertation as well as a research plan for the remainder of the dissertation.

The module involves the independent production of a substantial, written piece of academic work, a dissertation of around 12,000-15,000 words, which is intended to demonstrate that you are capable of advanced research, analysis, synthesis and presentation of data or information pertinent to a question or investigation appropriate to your degree studies. The dissertation is widely regarded as the principal piece of work which, if successfully completed, distinguishes an Honours graduate's attainments from those of an ordinary graduate.

You will be allocated a supervisor, with whom you will discuss research plans, which are then submitted. You will attend meetings with supervisors to further the progress of the dissertation, receiving advice on the dissertation and on draft chapters. You are required to submit progress reports at agreed time intervals.

This module is suitable for delivery overseas

Module Delivery Method	**On-Campus**[1] ☐	**Hybrid**[2] ☒	**Online**[3] ☐	**Work -Based Learning**[4] ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr	☒ Lanarkshire	☐ Online / Distance Learning	

[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

	☐ Dumfries		☐ London ☒ Paisley		☐ 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	Identify and apply the key approaches that underpin research in the field of accounting and finance.
L2	Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the main research methods used in accounting and finance research.
L3	Prepare a literature review in a suitable format and outline briefly a research plan in a related accounting and finance area.
L4	Analyse and synthesise facts, information and ideas.
L5	Produce a detailed, coherent dissertation.

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 10** Research methods and methodologies appropriate to accountancy and finance contexts and practice.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 10** Production of substantial reports, guidelines, practice manuals in a variety of standard and non-standard situations.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 10** Critical identification, conceptualization and analysis of complex, professional level problems.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 10** Interpretation, evaluation and usage of a range of written and numerical data in a professional context.g statistical data in published research and official publications
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 10** Autonomous working in a range of professional activities. Working effectively with some guidance from qualified practitionersWorking with others in a group

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. The module will have a VLE site which provides additional resources. The module will involve independent work preparing a draft of the first parts of the dissertation. Students will be allocated an academic supervisor who will act as a guide and mentor during the process, however students will work primarily on their own for the large part of this period. The choice of dissertation topic should build on previous learning from earlier modules. Student skills will be developed in written communication, research, data collection and analysis, and should result in students improving their critical thinking skills. Support will also be provided by a specific virtual learning environment

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)
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	8
Independent Study	392
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	400

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: Jegede et al. (2013) Writing successful undergraduate dissertations in social sciences : a student's handbook. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge Second edition. Available online through the library Also relevant: Paterson, A. et al. (2016) Research methods in accounting and finance. Oxford: Goodfellow Publishers Ltd. Available online through the library Saunders et al. (latest edition). Research methods for business students. Essex: Pearson. Available online through the library Thomas, G. (latest edition). How to do your research project. A guide for students. London: Sage.
(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:** Students are considered to be academically engaged if they regularly attend supervision sessions, complete assessments and submit these on time.

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. In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. Where modules require practical and/or laboratory based learning or assessment required to meet accrediting body requirements the University will make reasonable adjustment such as adjustable height benches or assistance of a 'buddy' or helper.
(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	**Accounting Finance Law**
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	Accounting, Finance & Law
Moderator	J Johnstone
External Examiner	M Marouk
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	2 26/02/2025

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Dissertation /Project report **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**
Dissertation/Project Report	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	100	N/A

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%	36 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**