Module Descriptor

Title	Research Methods For Accounting And Finance		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	
Code	ACCT10018	**SCQF Level**	10
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Business and Creative Industries**		
Module Co-ordinator	M H Fletcher		
Summary of Module The module enables students to develop the research and analytical skills required of modern business professionals and accounting and finance specialists. Students will learn how to idenfiy a research problem to be investigated; develop a strategy to collect information; collect and critically analyse a range of resources; consider alternative research designs; demonsttate a critical awareness of data collection issues and consider the ethical implications of conducting research. Students will also develop personal and communication skills by presenting their work.			

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

[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

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Collect and critically analyse a range of information sources relevant to a research topic
L2	Demonstrate knowledge of the principal research methods and techniques used in a business environment and justify the selection of appropriate data analysis methods to achieve research objectives
L3	Demonsttate an understanding fo the ethical princi;es underpinnign the contemporary research process
L4	Demonstrate an ability to critically reflect upon and present a research strategy
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 10** Critically understanding existing research in a chosen subject area Critically understanding approaches to research design used in the areas of accounting, finance and business research Critically understanding research methods and alternative approaches. Critically understanding the importance of research ethics.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 10** Developing and articulating search strategies, retrieving, evaluating and critically analysing secondary information from a range of sources. Choosing a problem to research and preparing a research plan for their topic. Developing an awareness of ethical issues and the need to protect personal data
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 10** Applying critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis to research in accounting, finance and business. Identifying, conceptualising, and defining new abstract problems and issues in accounting, finance and business and developing investigation strategies.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 10** Developing skills in academic communication in writing and speech Developing presentation skills Using a range of IT skills to support and enhance work Interpreting statistical data in published research and official publications
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 10** Exercising substantial autonomy and initiative in systematically identifying and addressing own learning needs both in current and in

	new areas, and planning and managing a significant range of secondary source materials as appropriate. Working 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. Teaching and learning will take place in the form of workshops.	
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	24
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	12
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: 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:** Full time students are expected to meet the University 75% attendance requirement; demonstrate evidence of engagement with module resources; and under normal circumstances attempt all assessment elements.

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	AFL
Moderator	TBC
External Examiner	L Chiti
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	2 13/02/2025

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Presentation 20% Students will present on their proposed research area
Assessment 2

Individual research proposal report 80%. This would incorporate elements such as topic justification, research questions, search strategy, collection of sources, consideration of research design approaches and methods, and discussion of ethics
Assessment 3
n/a
(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**
Presentation	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	20	8

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Report	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	80	28

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
n/a	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	36 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**