

University of the West of Scotland

Module Descriptor

Session: 2024/25

Title of Module: Business Research Skills			
Code: LNDN09001	SCQF Level: 9 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework)	Credit Points: 20	ECTS: 10 (European Credit Transfer Scheme)
School:	School of Business & Creative Industries		
Module Co-ordinator:	Daniel Muravsky		
Summary of Module			
<p>This module provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to undertake a research project in the field of business and management. Topics studied include research strategy and design, understanding research philosophy and investigative approaches, aim and objective formulation, applying quantitative techniques in analysing data, applying qualitative techniques in extracting information from qualitative datasets, and understanding and exploring issues in international business ethics/values. The module will equip all students to develop a research proposal, in response to a given research problem, and be involved in a group project based on a case study exercise. Seminars are highly participative including individual and group work, as students learn and discuss how to design, carry out and analyse a research project.</p>			

Module Delivery Method					
Face-To-Face	Blended	Fully Online	HybridC	Hybrid 0	Work-Based Learning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
See Guidance Note for details.					

Campus(es) for Module Delivery						
The module will normally be offered on the following campuses / or by Distance/Online Learning: (Provided viable student numbers permit) (tick as appropriate)						
Paisley:	Ayr:	Dumfries:	Lanarkshire:	London:	Distance/Online Learning:	Other:
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Add name

Term(s) for Module Delivery					
(Provided viable student numbers permit).					
Term 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Term 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Term 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Learning Outcomes: (maximum of 5 statements) These should take cognisance of the SCQF level descriptors and be at the appropriate level for the module. At the end of this module the student will be able to:	
L1	Understand the skills necessary to undertake research in a business area
L2	Formulate an individual research proposal including constructing aims, objectives and questions, and conduct an appropriate literature review individually.
L3	Become critically aware of implementation constraints arising from individual, corporate and international business ethics and values and research ethics.
L4	Click or tap here to enter text.
L5	Click or tap here to enter text.

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)	<p>SCQF Level 9</p> <p>Critically understanding social science research philosophy as it relates to business and management disciplines. Critically understanding approaches to research design as they relate to business and management disciplines. Critically understanding research methods including qualitative, quantitative and desk research. Critically understanding the importance of business and research ethics.</p>
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	<p>SCQF Level 9</p> <p>Retrieving, gathering, interpreting and manipulating primary and secondary information from a variety of sources including electronic sources. Preparing a research proposal for a topic located in their subject discipline. Assessing the ethical issues within research generally and also particularly within their own research topic, appreciating individual, corporate and international ethical constraints.</p>
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF Level 9

	Undertaking critical analysis and interpretation of qualitative and quantitative data. Collating, presenting and interpreting information from a variety of sources, including academic research publications.	
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF Level 9 Communicating effectively in speech and writing. Using, presenting, interpreting and evaluating numerical, statistical and graphical data. Using a range of IT applications to support and enhance work.	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others	SCQF Level 9 Exercising independence and initiative in preparing a research assignment, while systematically identifying and addressing their own learning needs. Being aware of individual, corporate, national and international ethical issues in business implementation and research. Working effectively, both individually and with others in groups, taking a leadership role where appropriate.	
Pre-requisites:	Before undertaking this module the student should have undertaken the following:	
	Module Code:	Module Title:
	Other:	
Co-requisites	Module Code:	Module Title:

*Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

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 (Normally totalling 200 hours): (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture/Core Content Delivery	36
Independent Study	164
Choose an item.	
Choose an item.	

Choose an item.	
Choose an item.	
Choose an item.	
Choose an item.	
Choose an item.	
	Hours Total 200
**Indicative Resources: (eg. Core text, journals, internet access)	
<p>The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:</p> <p>Saunders, M., Lewis, P., and Thornhill, A. (2016) 'Research methods for business students'. 7th ed. Pearson Education</p> <p>Details of further resources, including textbooks, journals and online resources will be identified at the beginning of delivery in the module handbook and made available via the VLE</p> <p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Please ensure the list is kept short and current. Essential resources should be included, broader resources should be kept for module handbooks / Aula VLE.</p> <p>Resources should be listed in Right Harvard referencing style or agreed professional body deviation and in alphabetical order.</p>	
<p>(*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)</p>	
Attendance and Engagement Requirements	
<p>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.</p> <p>For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:</p>	
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](#).

Please ensure any specific requirements are detailed in this section. Module Co-ordinators should consider the accessibility of their module for groups with protected characteristics..

(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	Management, Organisations & People
Assessment Results (Pass/Fail)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
School Assessment Board	Management, Organisations & People
Moderator	Kwasi Danquah
External Examiner	David Bolton
Accreditation Details	e.g. ACCA Click or tap here to enter text.
Changes/Version Number	1

Assessment: (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)

This section should make transparent what assessment categories form part of this module (stating what % contributes to the final mark).

Maximum of 3 main assessment categories can be identified (which may comprise smaller elements of assessment).

NB: The 30% aggregate regulation (Reg. 3.9) (40% for PG) for each main category must be taken into account. When using PSMD, if all assessments are recorded in the one box, only one assessment grid will show and the 30% (40% at PG) aggregate regulation will not stand. For the aggregate regulation to stand, each component of assessment must be captured in a separate box.

Please provide brief information about the overall approach to assessment that is taken within the module. In order to be flexible with assessment delivery, be brief, but do state assessment type (e.g. written assignment rather than "essay" / presentation, etc) and keep the detail for the module handbook. [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Assessment 1 70% of the overall mark will be accounted for by one individual assignment that will assess the students' understanding and abilities to undertake and complete a research proposal.

Assessment 2 30% of the overall mark will be accounted for by a group project presentation that will assess the students' understanding and abilities to undertake analysis of a research problem (via a case study).

Assessment 3 – Free Text

(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.)

Assessment Outcome Grids (See Guidance Note)

Component 1							
Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Learning Outcome (5)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours
	x	x				70	

Component 2							
Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Learning Outcome (5)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours
			x			30	

Component 3							
Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Learning Outcome (5)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours
Combined Total for All Components						100%	

Change Control:

What	When	Who
Further guidance on aggregate regulation and application when completing template	16/01/2020	H McLean
Updated contact hours	14/09/21	H McLean
Updated Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure	19/10/2023	C Winter
Updated UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code	19/10/2023	C Winter
Guidance Note 23-24 provided	12/12/23	D Taylor
General housekeeping to text across sections.	12/12/23	D Taylor

Version Number: MD Template 1 (2023-24)