Module Descriptor

Title	Aspire: Shaping Your Future		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	
Code	APPD08001	**SCQF Level**	8
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Education and Social Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	School Module Coordinator		

Summary of Module

"Aspire: Shaping Your Future" builds on your academic, personal, and professional development by helping you reflect on who you are becoming, where you are going, and how your learning connects to the world beyond university. This module supports you in taking the next step towards your goals.

Shaping Your Future is part of the wider Aspire framework which supports your development throughout your studies at UWS. In this module you will deepen your understanding of your own strengths, values, and aspirations while developing the skills and mindset needed for success in your chosen field. Through real-world projects, collaborative learning, and reflective practice, you will build confidence in navigating professional contexts and working effectively with others.

You will explore how global, technological, and societal changes affect your discipline and consider how to respond thoughtfully and ethically and with adaptability to the challenges of a changing world. This will help you articulate your professional identity and prepare for your future after completing your programme of study—whether that means employment, further study, or something else.

Throughout the module, you will:

- Analyse your strengths and growth areas, and plan for future development.
- Build professional confidence and communication skills by working with others on a real-world challenge.
- Engage with future-focused themes such as sustainability, innovation, and change.
- Reflect on your learning journey and connect it to your academic and career goals.
- Develop a digital portfolio to showcase your skills, experiences, and progress.

This is a highly interactive, student-centred module that supports your transition from early university study into more applied, professional learning. You will be supported by your lecturer and a range of UWS staff, who will help you access the full range of opportunities and support available to you.

The module is assessed through a pass/fail e-portfolio, where you will document your learning and development across three key areas: planning, collaboration, and reflection.

Delivery of Shaping your Future will align with the standard delivery mode and campus of your programme - you will study it in the same way and location as your other modules.

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	☒

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Analyse and evaluate personal strengths, external factors, and professional opportunities, identifying areas for growth and development, identifying areas for further development and planning for career progression.
L2	Work effectively with others to address challenges, applying collaboration, communication, and problem-solving skills in academic and professional contexts
L3	Reflect on experiential and applied learning, linking these experiences to academic development, career goals, and the evolving professional landscape.
L4	Assess the impact of technological and societal changes on academic, professional, and societal contexts, demonstrating the ability to adapt and respond effectively.
L5	Apply Aspire learning within disciplinary studies, demonstrating an ability to engage with key professional and academic expectations.

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** Develop a solid knowledge of UWS processes and services Develop a discerning understanding of UWS expectations around appropriate conduct and working with others

[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

Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 8** Apply skills of reflection effectively to your UWS experience Take part actively in coaching and group mentoring activities Work constructively with feedback Apply effective goal-setting strategies
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 8** Reflect effectively on your ambitions and experiences Critically review your progress at UWS Critically evaluate feedback and set goals around future practice
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 8** Explain your ambitions and targets clearly Explain the outcomes of reflection in a range of appropriate formats and outputs Communicate clearly and constructively with peers and tutors
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 8** Work respectfully with others, including student peers, UWS professionals and academic staff, and external stakeholders Reflect effectively on your goals, progress, and personal development Apply effective goal-setting strategies and reflect critically on progress

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. Shaping Your Future consists of live, interactive workshops, complemented by independent and asynchronous activities that allow you to learn at your own pace and in ways that are relevant to your goals. Throughout the module, you will participate in collaborative group work, real-world projects, and reflective exercises that support your academic, personal, and professional development. You will work with peers from your programme and beyond, engaging respectfully and constructively with diverse perspectives. You will also be supported by your Shaping Your Future lecturer, who will guide your engagement with key learning activities and help you tailor your development to your aspirations. Together, you will agree on a range of experiences that are meaningful to you—whether that is focusing on academic skills, industry awareness, or professional identity building. To get the most out of this module, you are expected to attend all taught sessions, participate actively, and engage fully with both staff- and peer-led learning opportunities.

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	36
Independent Study	164
Please select	
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:

Brick, J., Wilson, N., Wong, D. and Herke, M. (2018) Academic Success: a student's guide to studying at university. Macmillan Study Skills. London: Red Globe Press.

Cottrell, S. (2017) Critical Thinking Skills: Effective Analysis, Argument and Reflection. MacMillan Study Skills. 3rd edn. London: Red Globe Press.

Cottrell, S. (2021) Skills for Success: personal development and employability. Bloomsbury Study Skills. 4th edn. London: Red Globe Press.

Hughes, G. (2020) Be Well, Learn Well: improve your wellbeing and academic performance. Macmillan Study Skills. London: Red Globe Press

Rook, S (2025) The Graduate Career Guidebook: how to work out what you want to do – and achieve your goals. Bloomsbury Study Skills.3rd edn. London: Red Globe Press.

Details of further resources, including online resources, will be identified in the module handbook and signposted throughout the module activities and learning events.

(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 university is committed to providing a supportive learning environment that actively facilitates student success. In this module, there is a high degree of student-led flexibility. You are academically engaged if you are regularly engaged with scheduled live sessions on-campus and online, including engaging with online learning activities in your own time, course-related learning resources, and with timely completion and submission of assessments.

Whilst we understand that there may be times when conflicting priorities make participation challenging, for you to gain the most from this module it is recommended that you participate in all scheduled live classes and complete your self-directed learning activities in a timely manner.

It may be difficult to pass the assessment associated with this module if you are not regularly engaging with the module work and live classes. We may reach out to check how things are going and offer support if we observe that you have not been attending sessions or completing online activities.

The way the module is delivered—whether on campus, online, or in a blended format—will match how your programme is normally taught. You will study Foundations for Success in the same way you are used to studying your other modules.

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.
(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	**Psychology Social Work**
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	ASPIRE & Foundation Academy
Moderator	School-based Module Coordinator
External Examiner	J Lean
Accreditation Details	N/A
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	2

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
ePortfolio (100%) The assessment for this module consists of a digital portfolio that captures your academic, personal, and professional development throughout Shaping Your Future. This portfolio will showcase your ability to reflect on your learning, collaborate with others, and prepare for your next steps beyond university. Your ePortfolio will include three activities: • Action Plan (1000 words)

A structured reflection on your current strengths, areas for growth, and the external factors influencing your goals.

• Group Project Reflection (750 words)

An individual reflection on your participation in a group project focused on a real-world, discipline-relevant challenge. You will reflect on how you collaborated with others, navigated challenges, and applied problem-solving and communication skills. You will also consider how this experience contributes to your academic and professional development.

• Personal and Professional Reflection (1250 words)

A final reflection where you bring together insights from the entire module. You will reflect on your growth, readiness for future opportunities, and the evolving expectations of your chosen field. This submission consolidates your learning into a forward-looking development strategy.

Your ePortfolio is assessed on a pass/fail basis and must demonstrate thoughtful engagement, meaningful reflection, and alignment with the learning outcomes of the module.

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
ePortfolio	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	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

Updated Module Title, Summary of Module, Learning Outcomes, Assessment	March 2025	Dr Katy Savage, Head of Learning Transformation