

Title of Module: Social Sciences Dissertation			
Code: SOCY10027	SCQF Level: 10 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework)	Credit Points: 20	ECTS: 10 (European Credit Transfer Scheme)
School:	School of Education & Social Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator:	A Van der Zwet		
Summary of Module			
<p>The dissertation is a significant part – 40 credits - of the Honours year. This module requires students to research and write a dissertation. Students will undertake an independent piece of research, building on the skills they have developed through the Research & Inquiry spine, in particular Designing Your Dissertation Project and the guidance and feedback received on its final assessment. This module will develop important analytical and project management skills that students can transfer beyond university to the workplace.</p>			

Module Delivery Method					
Face-To-Face	Blended	Fully Online	HybridC	HybridO	Work-based Learning
	✓				
<p>Face-To-Face Term used to describe the traditional classroom environment where the students and the lecturer meet synchronously in the same room for the whole provision.</p> <p>Blended A mode of delivery of a module or a programme that involves online and face-to-face delivery of learning, teaching and assessment activities, student support and feedback. A programme may be considered “blended” if it includes a combination of face-to-face, online and blended modules. If an online programme has any compulsory face-to-face and campus elements it must be described as blended with clearly articulated delivery information to manage student expectations</p> <p>Fully Online Instruction that is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies. This term is used to describe the previously used terms distance learning and e learning.</p> <p>HybridC Online with mandatory face-to-face learning on Campus</p> <p>HybridO Online with optional face-to-face learning on Campus</p> <p>Work-based Learning Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace.</p>					

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)						
Paisley:	Ayr:	Dumfries:	Lanarkshire:	London:	Distance/Online Learning:	Other:
✓			✓			
Term(s) for Module Delivery						
(Provided viable student numbers permit).						

Term 1	✓	Term 2	✓	Term 3	
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Learning Outcomes: (maximum of 5 statements)

On successful completion of this module the student will be able to:

- L1. Critically identify, define, and conceptualise an appropriate topic for research within the social sciences.
- L2. Undertake a systematic review and analysis of relevant and appropriate primary and secondary sources.
- L3. Execute a defined research project using appropriate research methodologies and techniques of enquiry.
- L4. Critically evaluate, analyse, and present research findings.
- L5. Communicate complex theories, ideas, concepts, and findings in appropriate audio/visual or written form

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 10. The demonstration of a broad and integrated knowledge of principal areas, features and boundaries that define the social sciences.</p> <p>The demonstration of a critical understanding of central theories, principles, ideas, arguments, and debates within the social sciences.</p> <p>The demonstration of a critical knowledge and understanding of the relationship between the theory and the practice of research within the social sciences.</p>
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	<p>SCQF Level 10. The execution of a defined research project in an area related to the social science disciplines.</p> <p>The application of appropriate social science methodologies and methods to the practice of research.</p> <p>The ability to gather, retrieve, synthesize and apply information from appropriate primary and/or secondary sources.</p>
Generic Cognitive skills	<p>SCQF Level 10. The critical evaluation and analysis of complex and contested ideas and concepts within the social sciences.</p> <p>The critical review of knowledge, understanding skills and practice within social science research.</p> <p>Judging, evaluating, and synthesizing contested concepts and data in the production of cogent argument.</p>
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	<p>SCQF Level 10. The communication and interpretation of quantitative and/or qualitative data in the production of a written thesis.</p> <p>The development in key skills relating to the use and application of research software.</p>

	The development of digital literacy in the use of online research engines and tools.	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others	<p>SCQF Level 10. The ability to undertake independent, self-directed study to achieve negotiated goals.</p> <p>To work effectively and reflectively with a supervisor.</p> <p>To consider complex ethical issues with a framework of defined codes of practice, seeking supervisory guidance where appropriate.</p>	
Pre-requisites:	Before undertaking this module the student should have undertaken the following:	
	Module Code:	Module Title:
	Other:	Designing your Dissertation Project (SCQF Level 9)
Co-requisites	Module Code:	Module Title:

* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Learning and Teaching	
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	26
Tutorial/Synchronous Support Activity	10
Asynchronous Class Activity	10
Independent Study	156
	200 Hours Total
**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>Bryman, A. (2012) Social Research Methods. 4th edn. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Cottrell, S (2014) Dissertations and Project Reports London: Palgrave</p> <p>Rudestam, K.J. and Newton, R.R (2015) Surviving your dissertation: A comprehensive guide to content and process. 4th edn. London: Sage.</p>	

Literature Review Chapter	✓	✓				15		
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	
Dissertation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	85		
Combined Total For All Components						100%		

Footnotes

A. Referred to within Assessment Section above

B. Identified in the Learning Outcome Section above

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Note(s):

1. More than one assessment method can be used to assess individual learning outcomes.
2. Schools are responsible for determining student contact hours. Please refer to University Policy on contact hours (extract contained within section 10 of the Module Descriptor guidance note).
This will normally be variable across Schools, dependent on Programmes &/or Professional requirements.

Equality and Diversity

Aligned with the overall commitment to equality and diversity stated in the Programme Specifications, the module supports equality of opportunity for students from all backgrounds and with different learning needs. Using Moodle, learning materials will be presented electronically in formats that allow flexible access and manipulation of content. The module complies with University regulations and guidance on inclusive learning and teaching practice. Specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Policy can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.uws.ac.uk/equality/>

Our partners are fully committed to the principles and practice of inclusiveness and our modules are designed to be accessible to all. Where this module is delivered overseas, local equivalent support for students and appropriate legislation applies.

[UWS Equality and Diversity Policy](#)

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)