Module Descriptor

Title	Work-Based Learning 1 (Specialist Portfolio)		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	
Code	BIOL11015	**SCQF Level**	11
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Health and Life Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	Andrew MacKenzie		

Summary of Module

This module has been designed for students who have completed the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) Specialist Portfolio. Students who are completing the Portfolio may undertake the module if portfolio completion (i.e. formal IBMS verification) is expected before the term submission deadline. This module may be taken on its own, or simultaneously with the Work-Based Learning 2 (Specialist Portfolio) BIOL11016 module.

The module enables students to generate academic credit towards the MSc Advanced Biomedical Science by providing evidence of the development of specialist knowledge and competencies in their chosen field.

The pass/fail assessment of the module is determined though submission of sample work from the Evidence of Achievement section of the Specialist Portfolio (e.g. case studies, presentations, laboratory reports etc), while the knowledge and skills developed in the chosen area of specialism will be summarised through generation of a brief reflective essay or report.

The module is available to take in Term 1 or Term 2.

This is an SCQF level 11 module and students will be expected to show the following graduate tributes:

Research-minded, potential leader, autonomous, analytical, critical thinker.

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

[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

				☒
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	Demonstrate an advanced knowledge of at least one core pathology specialism of biomedical science.
L2	Demonstrate the required knowledge and competence of the range of analyses which exemplify the ability of the student to operate at the specialist level as defined by the IBMS.
L3	Show the ability to work in a professional manner and be able to make informed judgements relating to professional issues such as understanding and application of health and safety requirements, quality control and quality assurance.
L4	
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 11** This module will provide opportunities to allow the student to reflect critically on their subject specific knowledge in a particular specilism.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 11** Draws on understanding of the scientific basis for laboratory tests and the disease processes under investigation. Demonstrates the application of specific skills / techniques to an advanced level or practice within a range of professional contexts.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 11** Work in accordance with good professional practice in partnership with other professionals, support staff, patients and service users.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 11** Demonstrate the use of ICT to enable the preparation of professional standard reports and presentations.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 11** Demonstrate willingness to show initiative and team-working when appropriate in the conduct of the portfolio. Be able to work successfully in cooperation with staff colleagues to achieve agreed goals.

Prerequisites	Module Code	Module Title
	Other Only available to students who have a verified IBMS Specialist Portfolio (or who will have their portfolio verified before deadline submission of the module).	
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 is a work-based learning module with the subject matter matched to the knowledge content of the IBMS Specialist Portfolio. Most of the teaching and learning will have taken place in the students' workplace and through generation of the specialist portfolio content. Consequently, there is no formal academic delivery nor teaching hours ascribed to the module. The student will work with assigned academic staff or the module co-ordinator to ensure that the reflective essay meets appropriate academic standards. VLE will be used to deliver additional content and assessment in the module. Selected evidence collected towards completion of the Specialist Portfolio, and a reflective essay or report, will be used to complete the assessment of this module. The reflective essay will be a new piece of work (i.e. a reflective study submitted for Portfolio evidence cannot be used). Note that completion of this module (alone or in combination with Work-Based Learning 2 (Specialist Portfolio) BIOL11016 of the MSc Advanced Biomedical Science programme) does NOT equate to completion of the Specialist Portfolio, which is regulated and assessed independently by the IBMS. The module is run in accordance with the University's Regulatory Framework 1.68 (Work-Based and Placement Learning).

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)
Work-based Learning	164
Independent Study	36
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

There is a VLE module site to support students with the module. VLE will be used to help monitor, assess, and communicate with students
(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 attending and participating in all timetabled programme activities including on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, placement, work-based elements, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time. **For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:** Completion of asynchronous activities, and submission of assessments to meet the learning outcomes of the module. Attendance at a designated workplace sufficient to complete to the IBMS specialist portfolio is a requirement for this module

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	**Biological Sciences Health**
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	Biology
Moderator	Fraser Craig
External Examiner	A Khan
Accreditation Details	IBMS
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

Changes / Version Number	4.05

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Submission of the verified IBMS Specilist Training Portfolio certificate, along with three items from the Evidence of Achievement section from Portfolio (e.g. training records, case study, presentation including annotations that demonstrates the student's understanding and signature/feedback from the training officer or laboratory manager where available), and reflective essay or report focusing on how the submitted Portfolio items helped develop the professionalism, competency, or specialist knowledge of the student.
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**
Workbook/ Laboratory notebook/ Diary/ Training log/ Learning log	☒	☒	☒	☐	☐	100	0

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		0

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	0 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**

Changes to module co-ordinator and moderator. Inclusion of reflective essay or report as part of updated submission criteria. Updated info from University's Regulatory Framework Minor changes to, and deletion of, wording throughout.	Jan 2025	A MacKenzie