Module Descriptor

Title	Research for Dental Practice		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Published
Code	NURS09245	**SCQF Level**	9
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Health and Life Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	Beverley Young		

Summary of Module

The dental regulatory professional body, the General Dental Council (GDC) is responsible for maintaining standards for dental professionals. As a GDC registrant, individuals must be fit to practice and will be accountable for their actions. The Council aims to protect patients and promote confidence within the dental team; it also has a strong focus on promoting evidence-based practice and raising professional standards for safe patient care.

This module aims to develop students' understanding of the research process and help them acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for appraising research in their own field. Through investigative research and application of analytical skills, learners will source and critically evaluate published evidence. This module aims to encourage students to make use of the best evidence and research available to guide their practice and improve care.

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) NCL Coatbridge Campus	

[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

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	Employ literature search strategies and application of contemporary evidence to practice.
L2	Critically appraise evidence relevant to safe practice and health improvement.
L3	Demonstrate knowledge of research methods and designs which underpin an area of practice improvement in dental practice.
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 9** Demonstrate a critical understanding of the research process. Understand the processes involved in undertaking a literature search.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 9** Use critical appraisal skills to evaluate research and its potential contribution to practice.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 9** Employ critical analysis skills to appraise studies and the issues involved in applying the findings to clinical practice.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 9** Interpret and evaluate numerical and graphical data when appraising research literature. Make effective use of information technology and other sources to retrieve information.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 9** Plan, carryout and review an audit activity. Identify and address research learning needs for future professional practice. Recognise ethical and professional issues arising from the conduct of research.

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.

A variety of learning and teaching strategies will be utilised including lectures, workshops, tutorials, enquiry-based learning, and group activities. Support and guidance will be available from the module team. Additional support including reasonable adjustments for teaching and learning can be individualised for those students with enabling support needs. The learning and teaching strategies on this module contribute to the development of UWS graduate attributes as outlined in "I am UWS" see link:

https://www.uws.ac.uk/current-students/your-graduate-attributes/

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	18
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	18
Independent Study	164
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:

Dawson, D. (2019) Introduction to Research Methods 5th ed. London: Robinson.

Parahoo, K (2014) Nursing Research: Principles, Process, and Issues. 3rd ed. London: Palgrave MacMillan.

(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:

Where a module has Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body requirements these will be listed here:

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.

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. This module is appropriate for all students. To promote inclusive practice, procedures and processes have been subject to Equality Impact Assessment where appropriate. In line with the Equality Act 2010 and UWS Refreshed Equality Outcomes 2021-2025 Public Sector Equality Duty Mainstreaming and Equality Outcomes Report 2021 (uws.ac.uk) (pp. 37-39) the School of Health and Life Sciences encourages the disclosure of support requirements, including disability, at the recruitment stage and throughout the duration of the module. Emphasis is placed on confidentiality of information, the benefits of disclosure and that no detriment to progress will be experienced. The School will endeavour to make reasonable adjustments to teaching and learning approaches and arrangements for assessment, and (when applicable) periods of placement, where a student has disclosed specific requirements.
(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	**Adult Nursing Community 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	Community and Health
Moderator	Kelly McCourtney
External Examiner	V Hewson
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	2

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)

Assessment 1
Essay Pass mark 40%
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**
Essay	☒	☒	☒	☐	☐	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%	0 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**
Moderator, External Examiner, Added Module code	13/2/25	J Orr
Moderator change, Term updated to T1 only	March 2026	Anne Marie Craig