

| Module Outline | Part 1- as validated |  |  |
|----------------|----------------------|--|--|
|                |                      |  |  |

| 1. | Title   | Research Skills |
|----|---|-----------------|
| 2. | Level *   | 6               |
| 3. | Credits   | 20              |
| 4. | Indicative Student Study Hours                                      | 36              |
| 5. | Core (must take and pass),<br>Compulsory (must take)<br>or Optional | Compulsory      |

<sup>\*</sup> Foundation Level=3 Degree Year 1 = 4 Degree Year 2 = 5 Degree Year 3 = 6
PG (Masters) = 7

# 5. Brief Description of Module (purpose, principal aims and objectives)

The module is designed to encourage students to develop a critical awareness with respect to the strengths and weaknesses of a range of strategies, designs and methods used for construction research. The module aims to provide the learner with requisite knowledge and skills to successfully plan and implement an independent research project.

| 6. I   | 6. Learning Outcomes - On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| (Ac  | (Add more lines if required)  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Subject Specific Learning Outcomes  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.   | Identify researchable construction, site and commercial management related issues   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Review published research and literature in relation to the chosen area of study. |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.   | Analyse the wide range of research methods available to the construction researcher and develop skills in the application of the methods. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.   | Develop the skills necessary for managing the development, formulation and implementation of a research proposal.                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Generic Learning Outcomes   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.   | Research a subject related to the focus of their knowledge and produces a well-argued proposal.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.   | Effectively use a range of communication skills including written, oral and graphical when  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

communicating ideas, theories, information, findings and conclusions.

#### 7. Assessment

### Pass on aggregate or Pass all components

(modules can only be pass all components if this is a PSRB requirement)

### Pass on aggregate

## **Summary of Assessment Plan**

|    | Туре         | % Weighting | Annonymous<br>Yes / No | Word Count/<br>Exam Length | Learning<br>Outcomes<br>Coverage | Comments |
|----|--------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|
| 1. | Presentation | 15%         | Yes                    | 10<br>minutes              | LO 1, 4                          |          |
| 2. | Report       | 85%         | Yes                    | 2500                       | LO 2, 3                          |          |

## **Further Details of Assessment Proposals**

Give brief explanation of each assessment activity listed

#### Presentation

The presentation element is designed to encourage early progress and critical thinking. A successful presentation will assist students develop momentum in their journey towards a robust research proposal. Peer feedback from the student cohort should provide a useful source with which to fine tune the final proposal.

#### Report

The report will provide an insight into the following aspects of the students' proposal for their dissertation;

- 1. Working title
- 2. Background and Rationale
- 3. Aim
- 4. Objectives
- 5. Research Questions or hypothesis
- 6. Outline methodology
- 7. Scope and Limitations
- 8. Programme of Work
- 9. References

### 10. Ethics Statement

More importantly, completion of the assignment will make a significant contribution to their dissertation.

## 8. Summary of Pre and / or Co Requisite Requirements

Work Based Project and Practice

## 9. For use on following programmes

BSc (Honours) Construction Management (Architectural Technology)

BSc (Honours) Construction Management (Quantity Surveying)

BSc (Honours) Construction Management (Site Management)

### **Module Specification**

Part 2- to be reviewed annually

| 1 | . Module Leader | Brenda Rich |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
|   |                 |             |

#### 2. Indicative Content

Selecting relevant and practicable research topics.

Inductive and deductive research

Primary and secondary research

Critically reviewing literature

Quantitative and qualitative methods

Surveys and sampling

Case studies

Questionnaires and Interviewing

Observation

Ethics in research

Using secondary data

Analysing data

Presenting information

Writing a research proposal

| 3. Delivery Method (please tick appropriate box) |                            |                      |            |                        |                 |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Classroom<br>Based                               | Supported<br>Open Learning | Distance<br>Learning | E-Learning | Work Based<br>Learning | Other (specify) |
| Yes  |                            |                      |            |                        |                 |

If the Delivery Method is **Classroom Based** please complete the following table:

|   | Activity (lecture, seminar, tutorial, workshop) | Activity<br>Duration -<br>Hrs | Comments | Learning<br>Outcomes |
|---|---|-------------------------------|----------|----------------------|
| 1 | Lectures  | 36                            |          | LO 1-4               |
| 2 |   |                               |          |                      |
|   | Total Hours                                     | 36                            |          |                      |

If delivery method is *not* classroom based state lecturer hours to support delivery

### 4. Learning Resources

To include contextualised Reading List.

## **Highly Recommended**

Farrell, P. and Sherratt, F. (2016) *Writing a Built Environment Dissertation: Practical Guidance and Examples 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*, Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell

Fellows, R.F. & Liu, A. (2015) Research Methods for Construction 4<sup>th</sup> Edition Oxford: Chichester: Wiley Blackwell

Naoum, S.G. (2012) Dissertation Research Writing for Construction Students 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Abingdon: Routledge

#### Recommended

Creswell, J.W. (2018) Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Method Approaches 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications

Fink, A. (2016) *How to Conduct Surveys: A Step by Step Guide 6<sup>th</sup> Edition* Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications

Seely, J. (2013) Oxford Guide to Effective Writing and Speaking: How to Communicate Clearly 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Weyers, J. & McMillan, K. (2011) How to Write Dissertations and Project Reports, London: Pearson

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