

MODULE CODE: CSSK6003
TITLE: Independent Project
DATED: 26/06/2013

LEVEL: 6
CREDITS: 20

JACS CODE: V400, V100, L600

AIM(S)

- To enable the student to undertake an independent research project.
- To enable the students to identify an appropriate and meaningful research question, and to develop appropriate methodological and theoretical approaches to answer this research question.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon the successful completion of this module, the student should be able to demonstrate the ability to:

- identify a suitable area and question for in-depth research;
- construct and manage a body of raw data drawn from research amongst source materials;
- critically evaluate that body of raw data, drawing interpretations and conclusions that are informed and rooted in the original research;
- embed those ideas and conclusions within a framework of established scholarly writing and theoretical explanation;
- write up the results of personal research in a clear, structured format, be that a dissertation or extended report.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

This is a piece of independent personal research, often based upon a topic of personal interest to the student. The focus of study is identified by the student. The aim is for the student to identify a body of material to study, to develop an appropriate and meaningful research question, to develop appropriate methodological and theoretical approaches to answer this research question, and to situate their work within the wider academic literature of their chosen discipline.

LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY

Tutorials and **seminars** are used to support the discussion and critical evaluation of what has been learned, normally in a smaller group size than a lecture.

Guided independent study allows students to further their independent learning skills with appropriate support provided by the module tutor(s) (e.g. preparation for lectures and seminars, follow-up work, background reading, revision, completion of assessment tasks).

Allocation of teaching to deliver the module are:

Activity type	Hours	Percentage
Scheduled learning	30	5%
Independent learning	170	95%
Placement learning		
TOTAL	200	100%

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Component 1 – 10%

Ten minute oral presentation

Assessment Component 2 – 90%

5,000 word dissertation

Assessment Summary

Activity type	Percentage
Written	
Coursework	90%
Practical	10%
TOTAL	100%

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Essential

Cottrell, S. *Critical Thinking Skills. Developing Effective Analysis and Argument* (Basingstoke, Palgrave MacMillan, 2005).

Recommended

Barnes, R. *Successful Study for Degrees*, 2nd edition (London, Routledge, 1992, 1995).

Bucknall, K. *Studying at University* (Plymouth, How to Books, 1996).

Burns, T. and Sinfield, S. *Essential Study Skills* (London, Sage, 2003).

Chambers, E. and Northedge, A. *The Arts Good Study Guide* (Milton Keynes, The Open University, 1997).

Dunleavy, P. *Studying for a Degree in the Humanities and Social Sciences* (London, MacMillan, 1986).

Hector-Taylor, M. and Bonsall, M., *Successful Study. A Practical Way to Get a Good Degree* (Sheffield, The University of Sheffield, 1993).

Northedge, A. *The Good Study Guide*, new edition (Milton Keynes, The Open University, 2005, 2007).

Turner, J. *How to Study: a Short Introduction* (London, Sage, 2002).