

Module Title: Dissertation Module	Module Code: EV7101 Level: 7 Credit: 60 ECTS credit: 30	Module Leaders: Ruth Stevenson Jane Fisher Additional tutors: Bryce Gilroy-Scott Alan Owen Frances Hill Louise Halestrap Siobhan Maderson Tim Coleridge
Pre-requisite: None	Pre-cursor:	
Co-requisite: None	Excluded combinations:	
Location of delivery: Other (please delete as appropriate) If 'Other' please insert location here: CAT and distance-learning		
The main aims of the module are to: To demonstrate students ability to explore a relevant research topic in depth, with appropriate research methodology, displaying creativity and analytical skills. For students to become familiar with the procedures and conventions of academic scholarship. Time manage the completion of the research investigation, and the submission of a research dissertation		
Main topics of study: Students are required to choose a subject in consultation with the Module Leader and as a result of group discussions around initial ideas. Small groups or individual tutorials are given as appropriate. Workshops: The process of dissertation production starts with participation in Dissertation Research Methods Workshop, which normally occur in October and May.		
Learning Outcomes for the module At the end of this module, students will be able to: Knowledge <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Undertake an extended independent piece of original research and writing upon a topic of their choosing within the field of sustainability and adaptation planning. Thinking skills <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Implement a piece of advanced research as formulated in the project proposal 3 Competently choose appropriate research methods and tools for data collection and analysis 4 Critically interpret the results in relation to existing knowledge 5 Demonstrate critical self-reflection on the research process and suggest further developments Subject-based practical skills <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Critically evaluate the methodologies, analysis, conclusions and relevance, and where appropriate, propose new hypotheses from congruent argument, of current research and advanced scholarship. 		

Skills for life and work (general skills)

- 7 Design, investigate, and present an extended and independently-conceived piece of research
- 8 Demonstrate the confidence and skills to manage research in a way that is consistent with both professional practice and the normal principles of research ethics
- 9 Demonstrate clarity, fluency, and coherence in a variety of written forms and expression.
- 10 Use IT and computer skills to gather and deploy evidence and data to find, retrieve, sort and exchange new information.
- 11 Organise tasks and manage time effectively.

Teaching/ learning methods/strategies used to enable the achievement of learning outcomes:

This is the Dissertation Module, which culminates the work on the MSc programme. Teaching and learning is by tutorial supported student work on the preparation of this major item of academic discourse. After an initial seminar group meeting involving other students, tuition is mainly on an individual basis.

Assessment methods which enable students to demonstrate the learning outcomes for the module:**Portfolio**

The portfolio consists of:

1. Research Design Proposal (1,500 words max.)
2. Dissertation (16,500 words max.)

Weighting:

100%

Learning Outcomes demonstrated:

1 - 11

Reading and resources for the module:**Core**

Hall, C. (1994). *Getting Down to Writing: A Student's Guide to Overcoming Writer's Block*. Peter Francis Publishers, Dereham.

Murray, R. (2011) *How to write a Thesis (Open Up Study Skills)*. 3rd edition. Maidenhead: Open University Press, Berkshire.

Pears R. and Shields G. (2013). *Cite Them Rite: The Essential Referencing Guide*. 9th edition. Palgrave Macmillan, Basingstoke.

Recommended

Anderson, J. (2002). *Thesis and Assignment Writing*. John Wiley and Sons, Chichester.

Bell, J. (2010) *Doing Your Research Project*. Open University Press, Buckingham.

Denscombe, M. (2014), *The Good Research Guide for Small Scale Research Projects*. 5th edition, Maidenhead: Open University Press

Hart, C. (1998) *Doing A Literature Review* Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks and London.

Rudestan K.E. and Newton R.R. (2007). *Surviving Your Dissertation: A Comprehensive Guide To Content And Process*. 3rd Edition. Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks and London.

Sharp, J. A., Howard, K and Peters, J. (2012). *The Management Of A Student Research Project*. 3rd Edition. Gower, Aldershot.

Silyn-Roberts H. (2012) *Writing for science and engineering: papers, projects & proposals: a practical handbook for postgraduates in science, engineering and technology*. Butterworth-Heinemann, Oxford.

Further relevant websites and other relevant resources will be provided within reading materials that are made available for the module.

(* Available as an e-book

Indicative learning and teaching time (10 hrs per credit):	Activity
1. Student/tutor interaction, some of which may be online: 45 hours	Activity (e.g. lectures/seminars/tutorials/workshops/studio work/moderated online discussions, online chat etc): Lectures, Seminars, Tutorials
2. Student learning time: 555 hours	Activity (e.g. seminar reading and preparation/assignment preparation/background reading/ on-line activities/group work/portfolio/diary, studio work etc): Dissertation writing Background reading
Total hours (1 and 2):	600 hours