

Module specification

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Module Code	LAN603
Module Title	PRESS: Postgraduate Research & Study Skills Pre-Sessional
Level	6
Credit value	0
Faculty	University Wide
HECoS Code	100962
Cost Code	GASL

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
n/a	Stand-alone module designed to support students preparing to start L7 programme study

Pre-requisites

None

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	60 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	60 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	60 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	120 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	29/11/2023
With effect from date	29/11/2023



For office use only	
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1

Module aims

This module has been designed to help international students further develop or top up their research/study skills and digital literacy skills prior to starting their substantive Master's programme. The four-week course will introduce students to expectations of postgraduate study in the context of UK HE, which will then feed into the delivery of skills content and its application in practice. This is an intensive course and students are expected to be present on campus for most of the day. International students are expected to maintain regular attendance and engagement in line with university policy and UKVI Tier 4 regulations.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Recognise expectations of postgraduate academic study in the UK HE context
2	Identify areas in study skills and digital literacy for personal development
3	Apply study skills and digital literacy skills to mini research tasks

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

Formative assessment will be carried out via Moodle quizzes conducted in lab sessions. These quizzes will test the following: (1) students' understanding of what is expected of them as a postgraduate student studying at a UK university; (2) students' knowledge of study skills and digital skills taught on the course; and (3) students' ability to reflect on how effectively they have applied these skills to the research tasks given. There is no summative assessment on this module and neither will it impact students' progression to their substantive Master's programme.

Derogations

None

Learning and Teaching Strategies

Learning and Teaching will be carried out using the university's Active Learning Framework (ALF): Flexible and accessible learning, scaffolded student engagement, and innovative/creative learning tasks.

In addition, delivery will be structured on TEA: Teach, Explore, Apply.



Teach: delivery of content via lectures (at least 60% on campus, at most 40% online in the first two weeks)

Explore: guided independent study tasks (individual and group) carried out on campus where students to use study spaces and PC labs or open access PCs.

Apply: demonstration of application of skills in tutorial groups

Content delivery will be further supported via online resources and activities on Moodle.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

Academic Integrity
Critical Thinking
Research Methods
Academic Literacy: Reading and Writing Skills
Communication and Presentation Skills
Referencing Skills
Digital Literacy for Postgraduate Study
Information Search Skills
Tackling Assignments
Time Management Skills

Indicative Bibliography:

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update. Please *ensure correct referencing format is being followed as per University Harvard Referencing Guidance*.

Essential Reads

Cottrell, S. (2019), *The Study Skills Handbook*. 5th ed. London: Red Globe Press.

Other indicative reading

Cottrell, S. (2023), *Critical Thinking Skills: Effective Analysis, Argument And Reflection*. 4th ed. London: Bloomsbury Academic.

Davies, M. (2022), *Study Skills for International Postgraduates*. 2nd ed. London: Bloomsbury Academic.

Day, T. (2023), *Success in Academic Writing*. 3rd ed. London: Bloomsbury Academic.

De Brún, C. & Pearce-Smith, N. (2014), *Searching Skills Toolkit: Finding The Evidence*. 2nd ed. Chichester: Wiley.

Egege, S. (2021), *Becoming a Critical Thinker*. London: Red Globe Press.

Godfrey, J. (2018), *How To Use Your Reading In Your Essays*. 3rd ed. London: Palgrave.

Gray, D. E. (2020), *Doing Research in the Business World*. 2nd ed. Los Angeles: SAGE.

Harris, R.A. (2017), *Using Sources Effectively: Strengthening Your Writing And Avoiding Plagiarism*. 5th ed. Abingdon: Routledge.

Hopkins, D. and Reid, T. (2018) *The Academic Skills Handbook*. London: SAGE.



- Katz, L. (2018), *Critical Thinking and Persuasive Writing for Postgraduates*. London: Palgrave.
- Read, S.H. (2019), *Academic Writing Skills for International Students*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.
- Roberts, J.Q. and Hamilton, C. (2020), *Reading at University: How to improve your focus and be more critical*. London: Red Globe Press.
- Salkind, N.J. (2022), *Exploring Research*. 10th global ed. Harlow: Pearson Education Ltd.
- Wallace, M. and Wray, A. (2021), *Critical Reading And Writing For Postgraduates*. 4th ed. London: SAGE.

Employability – the University Skills Framework

Each module and programme is designed to cover core Graduate attributes with the aim that each Graduate will leave the University having achieved key employability skills as part of their study. The following attributes will be covered within this module either through the content or as part of the assessment. The programme is designed to cover all attributes and each module may cover different areas.

Core Attributes

Engaged
Enterprising
Creative
Ethical

Key Attitudes

Commitment
Curiosity
Resilience
Confidence
Adaptability

Practical Skillsets

Digital Fluency
Organisation
Leadership and Team working
Critical Thinking
Emotional Intelligence
Communication