1. **Title of the module**

SACO8130 (SE813) Dissertation Project

1. **Division or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Division of Human and Social Sciences

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

60 credits (30 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Summer (plus summer vacation)

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The courses of study to which the module contributes**

MSc Forensic Osteology and Field Recovery Methods

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 develop a research project to test a specific research question, test hypothesis and formulating a

cohesive discussion based on the results of data.

8.2 demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the appropriate analytical tools for collecting and analysing research data.

8.3 demonstrate a systematic knowledge and critical understanding of the ethical standards required in research of forensic osteology and anthropology.

8.4 demonstrate a systematic knowledge and advanced understanding of the protocols and styles required for citing articles in peer-reviewed journals and other sources of published/unpublished work in the specific field of research.

8.5 demonstrate an advanced application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline;

8.6 demonstrate a conceptual understanding that enables the student:

• to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline; and

• to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

9.1. critically evaluate published research and problem solve.

9.2. organise and present information in a clear and concise manner.

9.3. demonstrate advanced development of laboratory and practical skills.

9.4. demonstrate further development of communication through a variety of methods.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

The dissertation project is a piece of independent research carried out by the student. Before undertaking the research, students are trained in research design and planning, statistical analysis and writing skills. A project supervisor is allocated to each student and students are expected to produce a research plan and budget for their proposed programme of research in conjunction with the supervisor. Students will intensively discuss methods of data collection, theoretical models for the analysis of this material, and the use and integration of research methods into both its preparation and its final presentation with his or her supervisor. The programme of research may consist of a literature review, analysis of existing data sets, analysis of newly-collected field or laboratory data. The student will work independently on the dissertation over the summer term and summer vacation until early September when it will be submitted. The topic of the dissertation must be directly relevant to the course of study.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Day , R.A. ad Gastel, B. (2011) How to write and publish a scientific paper. (7th edition) Greenwood

press.

Lasker, G.L. and Gastel, B. (2005) Research strategies in human biology. Cambridge University

Press.

In addition students will be required to complete their own project -specific literature searches and read relevant literature for their research project. They will provide an account of this in the literature review section of the dissertation

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 8

Private study hours: 592

Total study hours: 600

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Dissertation (12000 – 15000 words) (90%)\*

Dissertation Notebook (10%)

\*This element is pass compulsory and must be passed to achieve the learning outcomes of the module.

13.2 Reassessment methods

Like for Like.

1. ***Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | *8.1* | *8.2* | *8.3* | *8.4* | *8.5* | *8.6* | *9.1* | *9.2* | *9.3* | *9.4* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| *Supervisory Sessions* | **X** | **X** |  | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Dissertation* | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| *Dissertation notebook* |  | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The study of Forensic Anthropology is an area that is internationally recognised by the numerous

organizations. Therefore over the course of the year, and while preparing research topics students

will be encouraged to investigate research questions that address problems within the UK as well as

sourcing how other countries may deal with similar forensic issues. Many international organizations

are interested in research in the forensic anthropology and much research done at this level can later be applied within various international organizations.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 21.07.21 | Major | Sept 21 | 8,9,13,14 | No |
|  |  |  |  |  |