1. **Title of the module**

SPOR8300 (SS830) Research Methods

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

School of Sport and Exercise 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**

40 credits (20 ECTS)

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

Autumn and Spring

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

None

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

MSc Sports Science for Optimal Performance

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
2. Analyse critically the methodological assumptions and approaches to existing research in the relevant subject area
3. Critically evaluate the process of research in the relevant subject area
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical considerations involved in research design in the relevant subject area
5. Select and apply data analysis techniques used in research
6. Demonstrate competence in safe laboratory/human testing practice.
7. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
8. Demonstrate communication and presentation skills - evidenced via the use of student led workshop discussions and presentations.
9. Apply information technology and numeracy – evidenced via the preparation for the research proposal (including importing of graphics, word processing, and internet searches) and working with a statistical software package.
10. Demonstrate problem solving and the ability to plan and manage learning – achieved through the identification and correct usage of statistical tests for specific data types and sets and through completing the extra self-directed study and managing the supervisor meetings necessary to successfully complete the required assignments and tasks set during this module.
11. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

Typical topics included in this module are:

• Introduction to philosophy of science

• Evidence-based practice

• Levels of evidence

• Exploring research methods in sport science

• Different approaches to research – qualitative and quantitative methods

• Ethical considerations in sports science

• Safe laboratory/human participant testing practice

• Experimental research designs:

a) Pre-experimental;

b) Quasi-experimental;

c) True experimental designs.

• Causal-Comparative research

• Survey research and qualitative methods

• Evaluating, interpreting and presenting results

• Statistics to include descriptive statistics, testing for differences and exploring relationships

• Researching and writing the research proposal

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

Burns, R. (2000). *Introduction to Research Methods*. London: Sage.

Creswell, J. (2013). *Research design: qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches.* 4th Edition, London: Sage

Denzin, N. and Lincoln, Y. (2012) *Collecting and Interpreting Qualitative Methods*. 4th Edition, London: Sage.

Field, A. (2013) *Discovering Statistics Using IBM SPSS Statistics*. 4th Edition. London: Sage

Greenhalgh, T. (2014) How to Read A Paper: the basics of evidence-based medicine, 5th Edition, Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell Publishing

Hulley, S. B et al. (2013) *Designing clinical research*. 4th Edition, London: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins

Weir, J. P. and Vincent, W. J. (2012) *Statistics in Kinesiology*, 4th Edition, Champaign, Illinois: Human Kinetics.

Williams, C. Wragg, C. (2004) *Data analysis and research for Sport and Exercise Science*. London: Routledge.

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 44

Private study hours: 356

Total study hours: 400

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

Data Analysis & Reporting Exercise – 50%

Research Proposal – 50%

Safe Lab and Human Testing Induction and Competency (pass/fail)

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* | *9.1* | *9.2* | *9.3* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Private Study** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** |
| *Workshops* | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| *Safe Working Practice Induction* |  |  |  |  | **x** | **x** |  |  |
| *Meetings with Potential Supervisors* | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |
| *Preparation of research proposal* | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| *Data Analysis exercise* | **x** |  |  | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Research Proposal* | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| *Data Analysis, Interpretation and Reporting exercise* | **x** |  |  | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| *Safe laboratory and human testing induction and competency* |  |  |  |  | **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:

1. Accessible resources and curriculum
2. Learning, teaching and assessment methods
3. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Medway

1. **Internationalisation**

Sport and Exercise Sciences are international subjects and the primary research upon which students must draw for this module will be from researchers and authors worldwide and published in international journals. Students must design a research project, to answer a specific research question, under the supervision of staff from the school (SSES). Many SSES staff are recognised internationally in their field, and are from a range of different nationalities. The applications to sport and exercise have international appeal and importance given the global appeal and media attention that sport receives.

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**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) |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 21/04/2016 | Major | Sept 2016 | 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Revised FSO Feb 2018