

Module Title:	Dissertation
Credits:	10
NFQ Level:	8
Module Delivered In	No Programmes
Teaching & Learning Strategies:	A constructivist approach will be taken whereby the active learner makes judgements about when and how to modify their knowledge. • Learning environment (lectures) – this time will be spent prompting learning of particular knowledge by students • Supervision Sessions – students engage with a supervisor who gives 'light-touch' guidance to the students over the full course of the project
Module Aim:	The main aim of this project is to enable the student to understand the research process and produce a dissertation thesis. The project will help the student to identify a research problem and carry out an independent research project within the field of media/public relations.
Learning Outcomes	
<i>On successful completion of this module the learner should be able to:</i>	
LO1	Undertake primary and secondary research on a topic involving multiple disciplines within the course
LO2	Analyse and present the findings of their research
LO3	Critique recommendations on the basis of their analysis
Pre-requisite learning	
Module Recommendations <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is recommended before enrolment in this module.</i>	
No recommendations listed	
Incompatible Modules <i>These are modules which have learning outcomes that are too similar to the learning outcomes of this module.</i>	
No incompatible modules listed	
Co-requisite Modules	
No Co-requisite modules listed	
Requirements <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is mandatory before enrolment in this module is allowed.</i>	
No requirements listed	

Module Content & Assessment
Indicative Content
Overview

Students will receive a 10 hour workshop in Research Methodology at the beginning of the year. This workshop will cover; • The Research Process o Defining the problem and research objectives o Developing the research plan o Implementing the research plan o Interpreting and reporting the findings • Secondary research – development and analysis • Primary research o Qualitative and quantitative research techniques This will provide the students with the research skills to use in addition to the skills and knowledge gained from their other subjects. The students will be given a hand-out at the beginning of the academic year containing precise details on the requirements for the dissertation. Each student will be allocated a project supervisor with whom they will agree the research topic. The research topic must be of an interdisciplinary nature and combine subject matter from a number of different subjects. A timetable of weekly meetings will be developed at which progress or problems will be discussed and dates for deliverables agreed. Deliverables as follows:- • Project requirements explained – request for project proposals • Project proposal discussed with student • Research methodology • Review of secondary research • Implementation of primary research plan • Student submits final project

Assessment Breakdown

	%
Continuous Assessment	40.00%
Project	60.00%

Continuous Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Other	Percentage mark of each deliverable:- Initial topic/research proposal Research Methodology Literature Review Findings/Analysis Project Management (includes attending scheduled meetings with supervisor, attendance at research lectures, submission of continuous chapters on time etc.) Presentation of work	1,2,3	40.00	n/a

Project

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Project	Submitted at agreed date	1,2,3	60.00	Sem 1 End

No Practical

No End of Module Formal Examination

SETU Carlow Campus reserves the right to alter the nature and timings of assessment

Module Workload

Workload: Full Time		
<i>Workload Type</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Average Weekly Learner Workload</i>
Lecture	30 Weeks per Stage	0.33
Tutorial	30 Weeks per Stage	2.67
Estimated Learner Hours	30 Weeks per Stage	3.67
Total Hours		200.00

