Critical Appraisal of a Current Topic in the Biomedical Sciences

Module Code: BIS7015-B
Academic Year: 2018-19
Credit Rating: 20
School: School of Chemistry and Biosciences
Subject Area: Biomedical Science
FHEQ Level: FHEQ Level 7 (Masters)

Pre-requisites:
Co-requisites:

Contact Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorials</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td>185</td>
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Availability Periods

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Occurrence</th>
<th>Location/Period</th>
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<tr>
<td>BDA</td>
<td>University of Bradford / Semester 2 (Feb - May)</td>
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Module Aims

Develop a critical awareness and a comprehensive understanding of scientific research on a specific topic at the frontiers of biomedical sciences. Provide students with an opportunity to autonomously plan, undertake and report, orally and in writing, their comprehensive and critical understanding and analysis of the topic.

Outline Syllabus

The syllabus will be determined by the topic chosen by the student and will therefore be individual to the student. A recommended reading list is not appropriate given the different
essay titles each year, but each supervisor is requested to provide at least one review as a starting point, and indicate key journals or authors as a starting point for the topic.

Module Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

1. Explain and critically evaluate specialist subject areas.

10. Undertake project planning to review and revise approaches to monitor and critically reflect on progress, to implement a plan for the critical appraisal report.

11. Exercise initiative, personal responsibility and independent learning.

12. Develop practice through reflection.

13. Work co-operatively with a supervisor to plan work, agree objectives and responsibilities.

14. Contribute to discussions on presentations.

15. Present a seminar, attend seminars presented by other students and contribute in the form of questions and discussion.

2. Critically evaluate and communicate scientific data and literature.

3. Critically evaluate experimental laboratory techniques.

4. Critically assess literature in specialist subject areas.

5. Understand research and scientific methods.

6. Undertake critical thinking.

7. Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills to produce an extended essay/report.

8. Develop an IT strategy to organise and manage an extensive literature search at the forefront of knowledge. Develop an IT strategy to communicate in writing and orally your critical appraisal topic.

9. Use TurnItIn to reflect on your writing style in terms of originality.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy
Each student will choose a topic of interest from an extended list in Semester 1, then plan, undertake and report on this topic. An academic member of staff will act as a supervisor for their topic providing guidance and advice on the research area, and on the preparation for the critical appraisal. A draft of the essay will be produced by the end of Semester 1 for formative feedback on the initial draft, and further formative feedback will be given before summative assessment of the essay towards the end of the module. Students will be encouraged to submit their final draft to TurnItIn for formative assessment of its originality relative to published work.
Prior to submitting the essay the student will present a 15 min Powerpoint presentation on the topic to their supervisor and peers, permitting minor amendments to their essay. The approach to critical appraisal essays and organisation of an extended literature search is the subject of several tutorials and a workshop with the MSc Course Tutor, and the remaining directed Seminars/Tutorials covers the attendance at meetings with their supervisor and at presentations by their peers.

**Mode of Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Final Assess'</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summative</td>
<td>Coursework</td>
<td>A critical essay of less than 5,000 words</td>
<td>-5000 words</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Summative</td>
<td>Coursework</td>
<td>A seminar presentation on the topic</td>
<td>0 hours</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**Legacy Code (if applicable)**

BM-7004D

**Reading List**

To view Reading List, please go to [rebus:list](http://rebus:list).