

<b>Module Title</b>	Research Methods and Project Planning	<b>School</b>	Mathematical & Computer Sciences				<b>On or Off-Campus</b>	<b>On</b>	
<b>Module Co-ordinator</b>	Greg Michaelson	<b>SCQF Level</b>	11	<b>Module Code</b>	F21RP	<b>Semester</b>	2	<b>Credits</b>	15

<b>1. Pre-requisites</b>	None									
<b>2. Linked Modules (specify if synoptic)</b>	F21MP Masters Project & Dissertation									
<b>3. Excluded Modules</b>	None									
<b>4. Replacement Module</b>	<b>Code:</b>			<b>5. Availability as an Elective</b>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>				No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Date Of Replacement:</b>									
<b>6. Degrees for which this is a core module</b>	Mandatory module for all courses in the Computer Science PGT Programme									
<b>7. Aims</b>										
<p>To enable students to develop skills in critical thinking, research planning, academic writing and experimental design appropriate for a post-graduate programme.</p> <p>To enable students to gain skills in project planning</p> <p>To give students an awareness of legal, social, ethical and professional issues relevant for IT practitioners.</p> <p>To enhance students' employability by development of job seeking and career planning skills.</p>										
<b>8. Syllabus</b>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Research aims and objectives, literature search, critical analysis and review.</li> <li>◆ Technical writing.</li> <li>◆ Project planning, testing, risk analysis, requirements and design.</li> <li>◆ Human factors in software development.</li> <li>◆ Experimental design and software evaluation.</li> <li>◆ Professional standards and issues.</li> <li>◆ Legal, social and ethical issues in IT.</li> <li>◆ Job seeking and career planning.</li> </ul>										

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### 9. Learning Outcomes (HWU Core Skills: Employability and Professional Career Readiness)

<b>Subject Mastery</b>	<p><b>Understanding, Knowledge and Cognitive Skills</b>      <b>Scholarship, Enquiry and Research (Research-Informed Learning)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Ability to write literature review which critically evaluates research and current technical developments against a stated aim.</li> <li>◆ Ability to search for and evaluate the value of written and online material.</li> <li>◆ A critical understanding of the role of human factors in software development, and of a range of techniques for designing and evaluating with users in mind.</li> <li>◆ A detailed understanding of general issues in experimental design, and how to verify a research hypothesis.</li> <li>◆ An ability to apply general methodologies for project planning, and more specific methodologies related to IT projects.</li> <li>◆ Awareness of what employers are looking for in prospective employees.</li> <li>◆ Awareness of professional codes of conduct, safety, quality and security standards, UK computing law and ethical aspects of computing</li> </ul>
<b>Personal Abilities</b>	<p><b>Industrial, Commercial &amp; Professional Practice</b>      <b>Autonomy, Accountability &amp; Working with Others</b>      <b>Communication, Numeracy &amp; ICT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ A proper appreciation of current professional standards in software documentation, and professional legal and ethical standards relevant to the IT industry.</li> <li>◆ Ability to work independently on a small project, planning and managing time.</li> <li>◆ Ability to present work effectively to others, orally and written.</li> <li>◆ An ability to use software tools appropriate to IT project planning and evaluation.</li> <li>◆ Ability to write a CV and develop a personal career plan.</li> <li>◆ Ability to reflect on relevant normative issues arising from computing practice</li> </ul>

10. Assessment Methods				11. Re-assessment Methods	
Method	Duration of Exam (if applicable)	Weighting (%)	Synoptic modules?	Method	Duration of Exam (if applicable)
Continuous assessment		100%		Coursework	

12. Date and Version							
<b>Date of Proposal</b>	February 2009	<b>Date of Approval by School Committee</b>	February 2009	<b>Date of Implementation</b>	September 2009	<b>Version Number</b>	2.0