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| Module code | HCMD | NQF level | 6 |
| Credit value | 30 | Study duration | 18 weeks |

Healthcare Management Dissertation

Module description

This module is designed to give you an opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of the nature of research methods, gained through the research methods module. This will enable you to design, develop and prepare your own research project on a healthcare management related topic. You will be expected to set clear research objectives, as well as conduct a small piece of independent research effectively and ethically.

This module aims to:

- Allow students to undertake an in-depth investigation into an aspect of healthcare management of interest to them, for example a contemporary health and social care issue. This will allow the development of research skills throughout the module and across the programme.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- identify, evaluate and apply appropriate research methods used in healthcare
- investigate a healthcare-related issue independently, considering wider context issues
- analyse, critically evaluate and synthesise data, ideas and information
- use relevant academic references accurately to support a clear argument
- understand and consider ethics associated with their dissertation and complete an ethical application form
- reflect on their progression throughout the module and on their ability to improve as an independent researcher

Syllabus

In this module, students will undertake in independent project on a healthcare management or related topic, allowing them to build on core skills learned throughout the programme. Students will research, develop and present their idea in the form of an initial proposal, followed by a dissertation of approximately 5000 words. The initial proposal will be approved by the module tutor, and development will be discussed at pre-agreed timings throughout the duration of the module to ensure a successful healthcare research project is achieved.

Learning and teaching methods

The learning and teaching methods for the module follow the online delivery strategy for the programme as a whole. The module will be delivered by reading materials available on the learning platform supported by pre-recorded lecturecasts, synchronous question and answer (Q&A) sessions, directed independent study, formative and summative activities and assessments. Across the programme students will undertake a variety of assessment which are aimed to evidence their learning against the learning outcomes and develop a broad range of skills. Students will be encouraged to identify and share relevant resources and are expected to extend and enhance the knowledge and understanding they acquire by regularly consulting on-line library materials relating to the course. Tutor support will be available to students via online office hours, prearranged telephone and/or Skype calls and email communication.

| Description of unit of assessment | Length/Duration | Submission date | Weighting |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| Research proposal | 1,000 words | Week 4 | Compulsory |
| Dissertation | 6,000 words | Week 17 | 90% |
| Research reflection | 500 words | Week 18 | 10% |