Dissertation for Exercise and Sports Medicine (Football)

Module Overview

The module will enable students to select an area of interest and develop a research question, identify an appropriate design to answer the research question, and to undertake and present the findings of the project. The selected research question will be appropriate to the aims of the individual student's programme.

Opportunities for carrying our projects within existing staff research programmes will be provided.

Each student will be allocated a supervisor for their project who will contribute a background of subject and/or methodological expertise.

Workshops on common areas will be provided (e.g. to support identification of research question, familiarisation with equipment, data analysis, statistical packages etc).

Students will be allocated an individual supervisor to support them throughout the module. Supervision will occur through a variety of means to suit the individual student's needs including face to face meetings, email, Skype, teleconference etc.

Delivery

A range of environments are available to support student projects, including sports and exercise science, physiotherapy, MDS research facilities and equipment, and the Football Association's National Football Centre, St George's Park at Burton on Trent. Access to use facilities/equipment will be negotiated by the individual student, in the context of the opportunities afforded by their individual programme.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the module you should be able to:

- Develop and justify the choice of research question within the context of their programme aims
- Critically appraise relevant research literature to design a suitable research study to answer the research question
- Identify, collect and analyse appropriate data/information (gaining ethical approval if appropriate), demonstrating effective project management
- Interpret the findings and critically evaluate the implications of the findings to practice and/or policy
- Demonstrate the ability to disseminate the research, its conduct, methodology, results, conclusions and implications at M level through both written and oral means

Credits

60 credits

Module Attendance Required

None

Module Dates

2012/13 dates

- 6 hours lectures/tutorials to be timetabled in negotiation with students (optional).
- Tutorial support from supervisor (means and timing negotiated with each student).

Assessment

Formative assessment:

Before embarking on the research project, all students will produce a satisfactory research proposal assessed by a panel of experienced supervisors to provide feedback and approval. The approved proposal is essential to obtaining ethical approval (if appropriate). The research proposal must be submitted and passed before the student can progress to dissertation.

Summative assessment:

1. An article based on the conducted research, written for an identified peer-reviewed journal with a Journal Impact Factor that is appropriate for the project, in accordance with the 'Guidelines for Authors' of the chosen journal. Marking will be against the M level marking criteria and the 'Guidelines for Authors'. This is intended to facilitate dissemination of student work. [70% total module mark]
2. Either a 5-minute poster presentation of the research, with 5 minutes for questions, or a 15-minute oral presentation of the research, with 5 minutes for questions. This is intended to simulate a conference presentation, and facilitate dissemination of student work. [30% total module mark]

Academics involved in the delivery of this module

Dr Sarah Aldred (/staff/profiles/sportex/aldred-sarah.aspx)

Dr Michael J. Grey (/staff/profiles/sportex/grey-michael.aspx)

Dr Susan Kelly

Dr François-Xavier Li (/staff/profiles/sportex/li-françois-xavier.aspx)

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Christine Wright

Stand Alone Course

This module is not available as a stand alone module.

Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14 (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)

Course fact file

Type of Course: Continuing professional development, module

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