

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Honours Project
2	Module Credits	40
3	Module Level	6
4	Module Code	PHE6074

5	Module Overview
<p>The Honours Project requires you to plan, design, execute and communicate a sustained piece of independent work addressing a specific question for health-related practice /policy. It is an opportunity to complete an extended piece of work around a topic of your choice, in order to demonstrate Honours-level competence in independently reviewing, appraising and evaluating evidence, and applying knowledge in the pursuit of excellence. This is a substantial piece of work that you complete independently, with guidance from an academic supervisor. You will be drawing upon the independent learning skills that you have developed in the first two years of your degree. The project enables you to demonstrate initiative and creativity in your approach to a specific problem or question, and to fully realise the 'growth mindset' that is a characteristic of the programme.</p> <p>The key skills demonstrated in a successfully completed project, combined with in-depth familiarity with a specific area of theory or practice /policy, are essential for graduate employability in the health –related or wider workforce. They also establish a firm foundation for postgraduate study. You will be demonstrating your ability to plan and complete work autonomously and to acknowledge the limits of your competence, by making use of supervisory guidance and other expert resources. The Honours Project is an in-depth opportunity to demonstrate and apply the underpinning skills and knowledge, and the technical competencies, for working in health. For example, it may allow you to show in your portfolio, how you are working to meet the UK Public Health Practitioner Standards around analysis of evidence, assessing effectiveness of interventions, planning services to improve health and wellbeing, understanding how policies, strategies or priorities impact on health work and health outcomes.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
<p>You are required to undertake an inquiry within a specific area that is clearly linked to your degree title (e.g. if you are doing the 'public health' award, you will clearly show how this is a public health-relevant topic). Choose something that genuinely sparks your interest and enthusiasm - this project will accompany you for the whole of the academic year, and you will need drive to see it through to successful completion. Your focus or question should be carefully defined, and must be agreed with your supervisor and/or the module leader. The topic can be local, national, international or global in scope. The project may lend itself to being examined primarily through one of the background disciplines underpinning the course (e.g. psychology or sociology), or using an interdisciplinary lens. Remember that whatever the topic, you will need to demonstrate that you are able to set it in a wider context and to justify your focus and the approach taken.</p> <p>You can choose between two distinct types of project to meet the learning outcomes:</p> <p>A practice based project: for example, a development plan for an intervention /service or change in practice related to your final placement; or</p> <p>A purely literature based project (extended essay) based on an area of inquiry (theory or practice in public health) inspired by any aspect of your degree studies, including your placements.</p>	

The shape, structure and elements of the different types of project differ somewhat (see Assessment section). However, both involve a comprehensive and critical engagement with the existing evidence in your chosen area, application of relevant theories /frameworks, and the development of recommendations for practice, policy and /or research. Note that the project does not require you to conduct primary research.

How the module will be taught and Time allocation

We introduce you to the Honours Project and its requirements, at the end of your second year (Level 5) to allow plenty of time for you to think about your project focus prior to its formal launch at the start of your final year, including during your time on placement. It is important that you spread your work on the Project over the full period of time that you are offered (both semesters of your final year of study). You should have submitted a provisional project title /indication of area of interest and type of project (by email to the module leader or using the module Moodle site) by the end of the first week of Semester 1.

This is a double module (40 credits) and a major component of your Honours degree. Although there is a relatively small amount of scheduled time (classroom-based and directed study) within it, you should plan to spend at least as much time on it as any other double module. Good planning and time management are essential to your success.

The scheduled classroom workshops take a 'group supervision' approach to core aspects of the Honours Project. In the first term, the workshops aim to start you off, with guidance on refining your question and project aims; literature searching and appraisal; and managing a project. In the second term the focus of workshops will be on responding to supervisor feedback on your written plan /draft work, structuring your work to ensure completion, and maintaining good writing habits. The module Moodle site hosts resources that will support you at all stages of your project and workshop-related activities.

For the remainder of the time, throughout your final year of study, you will work independently, supported by a supervisor. It is very important that you maintain regular contact with your supervisor, and meet mutually agreed deadlines to progress your work. You and your supervisor will develop a 'learning contract', including a commitment to a specified number of supervision sessions in each semester.

This work is challenging but exciting, and should provide you with a real opportunity to work on a substantial assignment with a topic of your own choice.

7	Module Learning Outcomes	
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:	
	1	Work independently to plan and conduct a project in an area of theory, policy or practice that is clearly linked to improving health and wellbeing outcomes for populations/communities/groups.
	2	Justify the focus and approach taken, taking into account the academic discipline, social, political, geographical and practice/professional contexts.
	3	Critically evaluate a wide range of relevant research and other forms of evidence, and apply this knowledge to the selected area of focus to underpin an in-depth analysis or detailed practice proposal.
	4	Critically reflect on the success of your project, and identify outcomes that have clear relevance for future research, policy and practice.

8 Module Assessment				
Learning Outcome		Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1-3		X Coursework 1:Plan (1)		
1-4		x Coursework 2: Dissertation (2)		

9 Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities	
Learning Activities	Hours
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	24
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	10
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	366
Total Study Hours:	400