Module Specification

Module Title	Project Skills in the Life Sciences	Module Code	BIO603

Credit Value	30	Level	6	Mode of Delivery	On Campus	Semester A & B

Pre-requisite modules	Co-requisite modules	Overlapping modules
1st year mean of 55%		

1) Content Description

Provide a description of the module, as it will appear in the Module Directory and on the Student Information System (approx. 70-80 words).

This module deals with the transferable skills associated with project work in Biological Sciences, and that are useful in a variety of situations. This includes: a) reading and interpreting scientific data, b) writing up technical scientific information in a form accessible and interesting to the general public'/sixth former', c) assembling and summarising information on a highly technical area into a formal report aimed at a scientific audience, d) presenting and debating information verbally to an audience.

2) Module Aims

Specify the aims of the module, i.e. the broad educational purposes for offering this module.

We aim to show students:

a) How to read scientific and interpret scientific data.
b) How to present scientific data to a live audience.
c) How to collect scientific information from published/other sources and to synthesise and summarise it such that it is accessible to different audiences

3) Learning Outcomes

Identify the learning outcomes for this module, i.e. knowledge, skills and attributes to be developed through completion of this module. Outcomes should be referenced to the relevant QAA benchmark statements and the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (2008). The SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Further and Higher Education 2003 and Queen Mary Statement of Graduate Attributes should also be used as a guiding framework for curriculum design.

Academic Content:	
A1	The students will have dealt with a range of topics in biology
A2	The students will have produced lay-style articles that are interesting and accessible, but accurate.
A3	The students will have produced a high-level synthesis of a substantial area of work for a scientific readership
A4	The students will have attempted to 'sell' a novel invention to a live audience.

Disciplinary skills - able to:	
B1	The students will have increased knowledge and understanding of those specific areas of life science in the topic they are studying.

Attributes:	
C1	The students will have improved writing skills.
C2	The students will have improved communication skills and better appreciate how to tailor these to various audiences.
C3	The students will have learned to read and interpret scientific data.
C4	The students will have learned to find, assemble, synthesis and summarise complex scientific information in a clear, interesting and authoritative way, in writing.
C4	The students will have learned to present quantitative information in an objective manner.

4) Reading List

Provide an indicative reading list for the module. This should include key texts and/or journals but should not be an exhaustive list of materials.

Individual lists given depending on subject.

5) Teaching and Learning Profile

Provide details of the method of delivery (lectures, seminars, fieldwork, practical classes, etc.) used to enable the achievement of learning outcomes and an indicative number of hours for each activity to give an overall picture of the workload a student taking the module would be expected to undertake. This information will form the Key Information Set for each undergraduate programme and will be used to populate the KIS widget found on the QMUL programme information pages. More information can be found online about KIS. You may also wish to refer to the QAA guidance on contact hours when completing this section.

Activity Type	KIS Category	Time Spent (in hours)
Lecture	Scheduled	2
Workshops	Scheduled	11
Tutorial	Scheduled	4
Private Project Work	Scheduled	120
	Total	137

Specify the total module notional study hours. This should be a total of the hours given for each activity. The notional study hours for each academic credit point is 10. A 15 credit point module therefore represents 150 notional study hours.

Activity Type	Total Time Spent (in hours)	Percentage of Time Spent
Scheduled learning and teaching	137	45
Placement	0	0
Independent Study	163	55
Total	300	100

Use the information provided in the box above to specify the total time spent and the percentage time spent in each category of teaching and learning activity.

6) Assessment Profile

Provide details of the assessment methods used to assess the achievement of learning outcomes.

Description of Assessment	Assessment Type	KIS Category	Duration/Length	Percentage Weighting	Final element of assessment	Qualifying Mark
Coursework	Writing and presentation exercises.	Coursework		60%		
Dissertation	Final Project Report.			40%	Yes	

Final element of assessment: The assessment that takes place last. There should normally be only one element of assessment marked as final unless two assessment or submission dates occur on the same day.

Qualifying mark: A specified minimum mark that must be obtained in one or more elements of assessment in order to pass a module. This is in addition to, and distinct from, the requirement to achieve a pass in the module mark to pass the module.

Reassessment

Provide details of the reassessment methods used, specifying whether reassessment is either standard reassessment or synoptic reassessment.

○ Standard Reassessment ◉ Synoptic Reassessment

Synoptic reassessment details (if you have indicated synoptic reassessment above, please give details)		
Brief Description of Assessment	Assessment Type	Duration/Length of Examination/ Coursework
Dissertation	Final Project Report	100%