Module Specification

Module Title	Exploring Neuroscience	Module Code	BMD161

Credit Value	15	Level	4	Mode of Delivery	On Campus	Semester	Semester A

Pre-requisite modules	Co-requisite modules	Overlapping modules

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 introduces leading topics of interest in neuroscience, through study of which students will gain essential skills in academic and scientific writing, reading scientific literature and writing short reports. An introduction to research methods and statistics will also be provided. The module will aim to give a historical and scientific overview of neuroscience from early anatomists studying the nervous system to the significant contribution to the discipline made by Nobel laureates.

2) Module Aims

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

The module aims to provide a basic understanding of scientific research methods used in neuroscience. Knowledge of significant advancements in neuroscience and their impact in medicine, science and society will be discussed. The module will provide an understanding of basic statistics, experimental design and ethical considerations to research.

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:	
A 1	Access scientific information related to neuroscience from a variety of sources
A 2	Describe scientific research methods used in neuroscience
A 3	Show consideration of the strengths and limitations of experimental design
A 4	Discuss ethical issues surrounding experimental research
A 5	Explore the impact that advancements in neuroscience have made to society

Disciplinary Skills - able to:	
B 1	Describe experimental methods used in neuroscience and comment on their appropriate use
B 2	Read scientific literature and interpret findings.
B 3	Record data accurately and carry out basic manipulation of qualitative. and quantitative data (with statistical analysis where appropriate)
B 4	Display skills in searching and collecting information and disseminating by oral and written means

Attributes:	
C 1	Acquire knowledge of scientific research methods used in neuroscience
C 2	Participate constructively as a member of a group/team
C 3	Communicate effectively by written and verbal means
C 4	Apply basic knowledge of experimental design and analytic skills required to conduct research
C 5	Plan and manage time effectively and begin to be independent learners

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.

Purves, D., Augustine, G. J., Fitzpatrick, D., Hall, W. C., LaMantia, A.-S., McNamara, J. O. and White, L. E. (Eds.) (2012) Neuroscience (5th ed 2012), Sinauer Associates, Inc., Sunderland, Massachusetts

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	22
Tutorial	Scheduled	4
Practical Classes and workshops	Scheduled	9
Guided independent study	Independent	115
	Total	150

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	35	23
Placement		
Independent Study	115	77
Total	150	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	% Weighting	Final element of assessment?	Qualifying Mark
Essay	Coursework	Coursework	500 words	30%		N/A
Poster presentations	Coursework	Coursework		20%		N/A
Data Handling	Coursework	Coursework		20%		N/A
Written report (CV/ career aspirations)	Coursework	Coursework	500 words	30%		N/A

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.

○ Synoptic Reassessment ◉ Standard 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