Module Details	
Module Title	Critical Appraisal
Module Code	LIS7022-B
Academic Year	2023/4
Credits	20
School	Life Sciences (Faculty-wide)
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 7

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Lectures	1
Practical Classes or Workshops	18
Tutorials	2
Independent Study	178

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1

Module Aims

To provide the opportunity for students to:

Autonomously plan, undertake and report, orally and in writing, a comprehensive analysis of a topic at the forefront of research in their chosen programme specialisation.

Develop a critical awareness and a comprehensive understanding of research being undertaken by other scientists in a specific topic.

Outline Syllabus

Introduction to critical appraisal. Techniques for critical analysis. Introduction to the library, literature searching,Turnitin and plagiarism awareness, preparing libraries and bibliographies using Endnote.

Independent study supported by an individual academic supervisor to conduct research on your selected topic.

Learning Outcomes

Outcome Number	Description
O1	Plan and implement autonomously a critical appraisal of a selected area of previously reported research.
O2	Apply critical thinking and analytical skills to explain and critically evaluate scientific data and literature in a specialist subject area.
O3	Understand research and scientific methods.
O4	Apply effective written communication skills to produce an extended piece of scientific writing in the format of a review article.
O5	Develop literature searching skills using electronic databases.
O6	Plan, organise and manage an extensive literature search at the forefront of knowledge.
O7	Work co-operatively with a supervisor to manage work, objectives and responsibilities.
O8	Demonstrate effective oral communication skills and use of technology.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Each student will choose a topic of interest relevant to their selected programme specialism from an extended list at the beginning of the semester, then plan, undertake and report on this topic. The emphasis is on developing learner autonomy as students conduct individual research, consulting and reviewing recent papers in the scientific literature, supported by an academic member of staff who acts as a supervisor for their topic, providing guidance and advice on the research area through 1-1 tutorials. The prerecorded podcast/video presentation provides a choice of assessment format and experience of modern ways of communicating research to diverse audiences. Introductory lectures and workshops at the beginning of the module introduce the research, literature analysis and IT skills required to complete the learning outcomes. Students will be supported by supervisors to plan their iterature search and essay. A full draft of the essay will be produced in the middle of the semester for formative feedback, before summative assessment of the essay at the end of the module. The module is assessed by production of an extended essay (LO1-7) and an audio/video presentation on the topic (LO2, 8).

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Weighting
Summative	Presentation	10 minutes: Recorded podcast or video	15%
Summative	Coursework - Written	5000 words: Extended essay critically appraising a selected topic	85%
Formative	Coursework - Written	Draft essay	N/A

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html