

Module Overview			
Module Title	Research Skills		
Module Code	4413	Module Type	Taught Module
School	School of Agriculture, Food and the Environment		
Module Leader	Atenchong Talleh Nkobou		
Location	Cirencester	Semester	Semester 1 (RAU)
FHEQ Level	Level 7	Credits	15 credits
QAA Subject Benchmark Statement	Choose an item.		
Module Description			
<p>There will be a focus on developing critical thinking to enhance the research process and understanding specific methods/techniques appropriate for application to professional and management practices. The module will facilitate the development of research competencies – particularly those related to data collection and analysis that enable the student to design, undertake and evaluate independent research in organisational and industry settings.</p>			
Intended Learning Outcomes			
ILO1	Evaluate their current core study skills and show self-awareness of areas needing improvement		
ILO2	Develop an understanding of the critical thinking needed to analyse and evaluate other research work (academic or industry)		
ILO3	Select an appropriate methodological approach for the proposed research project and identify suitable research methods and data analysis techniques.		
ILO4	Synthesise a research plan that specifies a knowledge gap that needs further study using a justified framework		
Learning, Teaching and Assessment			
Approach to Learning and Teaching			
<p>More online teaching, with shorter F2F seminars is appropriate here as the postgraduate students are self-motivated for their learning and the topics cover, e.g. critical thinking, do not require 2hrs discussion time. Shorter seminars provide opportunities for them to discuss/clarify the weekly topics. In addition,</p>			

the module content introduce concepts early in their academic year which are not utilised until the summer so relevance at the time of teaching is limited, but access to materials at point of use is more important.									
Approach to Assessment									
This module requires students to develop a Research proposal, ideally the one used for their dissertation module, which this assessment achieves. The process of developing the proposal is beneficial to students, both in their careers as they are likely to write business or research proposals, and for those students who change topics, as they can quickly prepare a new proposal using the skills learnt.									
Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours (seminars)						12			
Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours (field trips)						0			
Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours (lab practical)						0			
Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours (computer-based)						0			
Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours (online learning)						24			
Independent Study Hours						114			
Placement Learning Hours						0			
Total Study Hours						150			
Assessment Components									
Component	Type	Weight	Acc' Req?	Submission Week	ILOs Assessed				
					1	2	3	4	5
Written self-reflection (1000 words excluding references)	Coursework	50%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Week 9	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research proposal (2000 words excluding references)	Coursework	50%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Week 17	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Associated Programmes									
Programme Title						Designation			
MSc Business Management						Core			
MSc Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security						Core			

MSc Agricultural Technology and Innovation	Core
Resources	
Reading list	https://rau.rl.talis.com/index.html