

Module Descriptor: BAM 123 IT Skills to Support Research

<u>Module Name:</u>	IT Skills to Support Research
<u>Level/Credits:</u>	Level 1, 8 Credits
<u>Module Aim:</u>	<p>This module aims to develop students' experience, knowledge, confidence and skills in using IT effectively to support their research skills.</p> <p>This module aims to enable students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider IT as a tool for supporting their own research, and begin to explore and reflect upon its use and significance in their studies; • Appreciate the value of working individually and in pairs to support their learning; • Provide an overview of the way in which IT can support flexible learning; • Have an underpinning of the necessary IT skills in support of the other modules within the programme.
<u>Learning Outcomes:</u>	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding of the role IT can play to support research; • Competence in the key skills of using IT; • Skills to use specific software packages to support their research; • Self-monitor effectiveness through an Audit • Log/contact map of communication, co-operation and support given and received in the group.
<u>Curriculum Content:</u>	<p>An audit of students' IT experience, knowledge and learning needs will be continued in this module, enabling future sessions to be closely related to students' developing skills and insights. Students will have the opportunity to explore software applications, including the internet, databases, and video conferencing through a variety of scenarios and activities. Issues will be explored such as: how IT can support research effectively in the development of a learner-centred environment.</p>
<u>Learning Strategy:</u>	<p>This half-module will be delivered in Semester 2 and alternate sessions with BAM 124 Thinking, Knowing and Arguing. It will consist of demonstrations, discussions, practical workshops, seminars and online support and debate that provide opportunity for students to develop their IT skills through demonstration and exploration techniques. Students will be expected to work individually and in small groups during this course and will be asked to keep a log (contact map) of these groups and the students they have given or received support from during the module.</p>

	<p>They will undertake an IT skills audit of their experience, knowledge and learning needs as a foundation for their future development in the module and their subject study, setting individual action plans. They will be introduced to and/or have opportunity to improve their personal IT skills. They will reflect and evaluate their effective use of IT to develop their research skills at the end of the module.</p>
<u>Assessment:</u>	Formative: All students will be required to contribute to the module through discussions and in class activities. They will be asked to complete inter-session tasks and receive verbal feedback for these from the module tutor/ peers as well as an opportunity to share achievements with the class.
	Summative: All students will be asked to submit a reflective essay (1500 words) discussing how they have developed their skills to use IT to support their research skills. Students will also submit Part 2 of their audit of IT skills and action plan together with a log/contact map of communication/ co-operation/ support from other students during the module.