Imperial College London

Module Specification (Curriculum Review)

Basic details

			Earliest cohort	Latest cohort
UID		Cohorts covered	2022-23	

Long title Research Interfaces

New code PHYS70001 **New short title**

Brief description of module
(approx. 600 chars.)
This module is designed to develop the personal, professional and transferable skills of year 4 MSci and MSciT students in order that they can be more effective in attaining their career goals. The focus is on building communication, teamworking and leadership skills.

270 characters

Available as a standalone module/ short course? N

Statutory details

	ECTS	CATS	Non-credit	
Credit value	5	10	N	HECOS codes

FHEQ level Level 7

Allocation of study hours

	Hours	
Lectures	8	
Group teaching	8	*Incl. seminars, tutorials, problem classes.*
Lab/ practical	0	
Other scheduled	5	*Incl. project supervision, fieldwork, external visits.*
Independent study	104	*Incl. wider reading/ practice, follow-up work, completion of assessments, revisions.*
Placement	0	*Incl. work-based learning and study that occurs overseas.*
Total hours	125	
ECTS ratio	25.00	

Project/placement activity

Is placement activity allowed? No

Module delivery

Delivery mode	Taught/ Campus	Other	
Delivery term		Other	Terms 1 & 2

Ownership

Primary department Physics

Additional teaching departments None

Delivery campus	South Kensington

Collaborative delivery

Collaborative delivery?	N

External institution	N/A
External department	N/A
External campus	N/A

Associated staff

Role	CID	Given name	Surname
Module Leader		Heather	Graven
Lecturer		Steve	Kolthammer
Lecturer		Helen	Brindley
Lecturer		Jonathan	Fenton
Topic Leader		Jane	Pooler
Topic Leader		Katie	Dallison

Learning and teaching
Module description

Learning outcomes	On completing the Research Interfaces module, students will have: - Experience of team working to achieve a common goal - Appreciation of the challenges of working within a diverse team - Improved written and verbal communication skills - Improved time management skills - Experience giving feedback to peers
Module content	Formal introduction to team working and practical team-working ice-breaker exercises, Background to research funding, Steps in developing a successful research proposal from initial idea to writing and presenting a bid, Writing for your fellow scientists, Writing for the lay-person, Giving an effective pitch
Learning and Teaching Approach	Students are taught through a combination of whole cohort lectures (to set the scene, outline a particular topic and provide logistical information regarding assessments etc.), team consultancy sessions (with 1 lecturer - to develop individual research proposals) and practical exercises (team-work). Office hours are also available as required.
Assessment Strategy	100% in-course assessment. The module is assessed via three Activities centred on the development of a team-based research proposal. Activity 1 (hand-in week 5) constitutes a 1-page summary of the initial research idea: formative feedback is provided to guide the students as to the suitability of their topic choice and to provide tips for its development. The remaining 2 activities are summative. Activity 2 is the full, written research proposal, and contributes 70% of the total course grade (hand in end of term 1). Activity 3 is a 6-minute pitch of the proposal to lecturers and other students and constitutes the remaining 30% of marks (hand in week 2 term 2). Students also have the opportunity to self-assess the relative contribution of different team members twice during the course and their final, team-agreed weighting affects the final grade. All 3 activities contribute towards all aspects of the learning objectives.
Feedback	Feedback on Activity 1 is formative - a grade is provided for guidance regarding the quality of the work but it is made clear that it does not count towards the final module mark. Detailed written feedback is provided along with verbal feedback in a dedicated consultancy session. Detailed written feedback and grades are also provided to the students for Activities 2 and 3. Activity 2 feedback is returned in time for the students to address any comments made before they finalise and present their pitch.
Reading list	Writing a successful science proposal, Friedland and Folt; The craft of scientific writing, Alley

Quality assurance

Date of first approval	
Date of last revision	
Date of this approval	

Module leader	Heather Graven

Notes/ comments	

Office use only

QA Lead	
Department staff	
Date of collection	

Date exported	
Date imported	

Programme structure
Associated modules

UID	Legacy code	Module title	Requisite type

Assessment details

Grading method | Numeric

Pass mark | 50%

Assessments

Assessment type	Assessment description	Weighting	Pass mark	Must pass?
			50%	
Coursework	Teams produce a full research proposal document	70%		N
Practical	Teams produce a 6-minute pitch to an expert panel	30%		N
		100%		