Module Descriptor Form

Civil and Environmental Engineering

CL448　- Individual Project

Module Code	CL448	Module Title	Individual Project				
Module Registrar	Kamranzad, Dr Bahareh						
Other Staff Involved							
Credit Weighting	30	Semester	1/2	Elective	No	Academic Level	4
Pre-requisites							
Required for							

Module Format and Delivery (hours):

Lectures	Tutorials	Assignments	Labs	Private Study	Total
0	0	0	0	0	0

Educational Aim

This module aims to:

In this course, the student aims to undertake an individual research investigation, including a literature study, critical assessments and original research work, which is presented in the form of a dissertation and poster The student pursues an intensive study in an area of interest under the supervision of a member of academic staff . The project involves research, which may include investigative, experimental, computational, or design work that is not of a routine nature. The project aims and plan of work must be agreed with the supervising member of staff as part of the course , but the student is responsible for managing their time and ensuring that they deliver the project successfully.

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Syllabus

This module will teach the following:

The course will consist of the following:

Project Topic Selection (Summer/consolidation week Semester 1): Students will select project topics from the end of Year 3 through the end of the summer recess. Topics are allocated among a number of project advisors, to balance demand on any single member of staff. When making their project selections, students are invited to provide the reasons for the choice, which are taken into account during the allocation process where demand for a supervisor is high. As a result of this process, students are expected to have a clear topic focus by the start of Semester 1.

Project Workshops and Project Proposal (Semester 1): Students investigate, design, and propose an original project to be conducted on an individual basis. Skills sessions will be provided to support the development process. The project proposal should include an introduction to the topic; aims and objectives; literature overview; and proposed methodology. Preliminary results may be included, where applicable. The proposal is marked by the student's project supervisor/advisor and is worth 10% of the module mark.

Project work and Poster Presentation (Semester 1 Weeks 4-11, Semester 2, Weeks 0-8): Students should use the remainder of semester 1 and the early part of semester 2 to focus upon the practical aspects of the project. The poster presentation comprises 10% of the final mark and is an opportunity to practice presenting technical work, and get feedback on the project to do. Some results may be available to present at this time, but if not the poster should focus upon the methodology and what the student expects to see/find.

In the consolidation week (Semester 2), students will attend seminars on further key skills, such as using MS Word to write a dissertation, handling primary and secondary data. These seminars are designed to help the students analyse results and, when writing up their projects, present them neatly.

Dissertation Report: Students carry out their research, practical or design work and write it up in the form of a dissertation, journal paper or technical report. The report presents and analyses the new information produced during the project. The dissertation should be written in an academic style and appraise the value of the work in the context of previous literature in related subjects. The text should be between 8,000 and 10,000 words, excluding title page, contents page, abstract, acknowledgements, declaration, tables, figures/table captions, references and appendices. The dissertation is worth 75% of the final mark. The dissertation is marked by at least two members of staff, one of whom is normally the student's supervisor.

Engagement Throughout the Year: students are expected to lead their projects including arranging and attending at least three meetings throughout S1 and S2 (additional meetings may be required and should be discussed and agreed with project advisor). Three Myplace quizzes must be completed across the year in order to summarise engagement and confirm meetings with supervisor. Confirmation of engagement constitutes 5% of the module mark.

Students are reminded of the University Regulations concerning plagiarism, and that all work of others must be acknowledged and cited properly. Students must submit all of their written work online via Turnitin. Advice on producing the dissertation, including referencing and the use of Turnitin, is given in a separate document.

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Learning Outcomes

On Completion of the module, the student is expected to be able to:

LO: 1	Develop a methodology, design and carry out a programme of research work that is set in an appropriate engineering context.
LO: 2	Carry out a critical review of prior work and literature in the topic area., and present this concisely in a written, academic form.
LO: 3	Analyse and present the results of the study, and carry out critical assessments of existing and new information.
LO: 4	LO4 Communicate the work clearly and concisely in written and oral form to an educated engineering audience.

(UK SPEC suggests no more than 4 learning outcomes per module. Statements must be broad and be syllabus free and link in with the intended learning outcomes on the programme specifications.)

Assessment of Learning Outcomes - Criteria

Learning Outcome: **1**

	Criteria
1	C1 The project aims and objectives are clearly defined in the project plan.
2	C2 A research methodology is developed which is capable of meeting the project aims.
3	C3 The project work is performed to a high standard, as demonstrated in the dissertation report, poster presentation and video abstract.

Learning Outcome: **2**

	Criteria
1	C1 The review of previous work is up to date and comprehensive, drawing from peer reviewed and scholarly literature
2	C2 The review identifies weaknesses in previous work and highlights areas where further research is required.

Learning Outcome: **3**

	Criteria
1	C1 Results of the project work are presented fully and logically in the dissertation report.
2	C2 Results of the project work are assessed and discussed in the context of previous work.

Learning Outcome: **4**

	Criteria
1	C1 The dissertation report is written in a clear and concise form, using a scholarly academic style of writing and describes the full scope of the work undertaken.
2	C2 The student is able to verbally communicate and discuss the work through a poster presentation and video abstract.

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Assessment Method(s) Including Percentage Breakdown and Duration of Exams

To Pass the module, students need to gain a summative mark of: 40%

Description	Semester	Start Week	Duration	Weight	Submission Week	Linked Criteria
Project Proposal	1	6		10%	6	
Poster Presentation	2	11		10%	11	
Dissertation	2	11		75%	E	
Student-led Project Advisor Engagement	1/2	5		5%	11	

Principles of Assessment Feedback

(within Assessment and Feedback Policy at: https://www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/academic/)

PRINCIPLE 1. ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK PRACTICES PROMOTE EFFECTIVE STUDENT LEARNING
Assessment and feedback structure and timing is designed to support students from the project idea stage through final dissertation submission. Initial training is concentrated at the start of each semester to help students get started or resume their project work. Marked assessments are timed to encourage consistent working.

PRINCIPLE 2. ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK PRACTICES ARE APPROPRIATE, FAIR, AND TRANSPARENT
Assessment criteria are published to students and staff in advance of all submissions in dissertation guidance as well as summary instructions for each submission. Where appropriate, marking sheets are provided to students. Project proposal and poster, are not anonymous. Dissertations and video abstracts are double-marked blindly and marks are submitted to the registrar independently ahead of agreeing final marks for the dissertations. When necessary, a third marker is engaged.

PRINCIPLE 3. ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK PRACTICES ARE CLEARLY COMMUNICATED TO STUDENTS AND STAFF
All staff and students have access to the CL448 page on Myplace where guidance and assessment instruction sheets are provided. Notices ahead of submissions are also communicated by email to staff and students .

PRINCIPLE 4. ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK PRACTICES ARE CONTINUOUSLY REVIEWED
Assessment and feedback practices are reviewed annually and input is taken from students directly or via class representatives. Feedback from students is taken during the academic year as well.

Additional Information

Coursework / Submissions deadlines (academic weeks):
Project Proposal (10% of module mark) – Week 6 S1
Poster Presentation (10% of module mark) – Week 11 S2
Dissertation (75% of module mark) – First day back after spring break S2
Student-led Project Advisor Engagement (5% of module mark) – Week 5 S1; Week 1 S2; Week 6 S2

Resit Procedure

Resubmission of dissertation report prior to August exam diet .

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Recommended Reading

Study skills guides (e.g.) The Study Skills Handbook (Cottrell, 2019) contain useful additional advice on time management, critical thinking and academic writing. These are available in the library.

Module Timetable

Week	Semester 1	Semester 2
0		
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6	Submission 10%	
7		
8		
9		
10		
11	Continuous 5%	Continuous 5%, Submission 10%
E		Submission 75%

Date of Last Modification

11-09-2025