

# WM999-15 Study, Professional & Analytical Skills

**23/24**

**Department**

WMG

**Level**

Taught Postgraduate Level

**Module leader**

Maryam Masood

**Credit value**

15

**Module duration**

35 weeks

**Assessment**

100% coursework

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

Adopting a blended learning approach, the Study, Professional & Analytical (SPA) Skills Module is purposefully designed to meet the complex learning and professional needs of postgraduate students. The module is composed of three interlinked yet distinctive learning strands: Study Skills, Professional Skills, and Analytical Skills. This blended module runs asynchronously and synchronously with the student learning journey providing a programme of carefully designed learning activities, materials, and resources.

### Module aims

1. To deliver a series of high quality, interactive study skills sessions and blended learning activities that will provide students with the means to gain a broad range of graduate level study skills necessary to succeed in their chosen field
2. To provide a series of learning opportunities, including interactive seminars and self-paced online learning, to enable students to develop a broad range of transferable skills and competencies relevant to their current and future careers
3. To provide students with opportunities to gain a broad knowledge about the process of research for engineering and business subjects, including awareness to ethical concerns,

methods for data collection, and techniques for analysing data

## Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

SPA is designed to support student learning and professional needs. In order to accomplish this, the module is designed as follows:

Study Skills sessions cover the wide-range of academic support topics that students need to succeed at postgraduate level, including their post-module assignments. This includes critical thinking, academic writing, and academic integrity (including referencing). Study Skills is purposefully designed to enable students to succeed, irrespective of previous qualifications, areas of study, culture or discipline. Study Skills is 30% of study time.

Professional Skills sessions provide students the opportunity to develop a range of implicit and explicit transferable, employability skills which may be applied across all aspects of learning and will link directly to future careers. These skills are embedded throughout the module and are constructively aligned with the Warwick Core Skills. Professional Skills is 20% of study time.

Analytical Skills sessions provide students with the required high level of knowledge and skills about research and research methods to enable students to undertake and successfully complete an independent dissertation and original piece of research. Analytical Skills is 50% of study time.

## Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate the transferable Warwick Core Skills
- Support their argument and claims through correctly cited and accurately referenced sources of credible knowledge and information
- Apply core study skill of academic writing to subject-related knowledge and practice
- Evaluate research in their discipline by applying core analytical skills
- Apply core study skill of critical thinking to subject-related knowledge and practice
- Analyse suitable research methods for a research project

## Indicative reading list

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

## Research element

A considerable part of the module focuses on the development, growth and enhancement of individual analytical and research skills to provide students with the skills and competencies needed to undertake an independent, original piece of research. In addition, the Study and Professional Skills strands of the module are also grounded in research and aim to build students' skills to undertake independent research and complete a dissertation.

The module has been designed so as to be underpinned by the principles of scholarship whereby research, teaching and learning are intrinsically linked throughout.

## **Interdisciplinary**

This module is purposefully designed for WMG postgraduate students, irrespective of subject area or if they are enrolled on a full or part-time programme. SPA is by nature interdisciplinary and is designed to incorporate examples from across the disciplines taught in WMG whilst embodying the intersectionality of everyday professional life.

The core teaching team represent a range of different academic backgrounds and disciplines reflective of the interdisciplinarity within WMG. With learning and teaching materials co-designed by colleagues from engineering, science, business and social science backgrounds the module has been carefully designed to be suitable across disciplines to form a broad foundation for successful learning at postgraduate level.

## **International**

The module is designed for a multi-discipline, international cohort. Learning materials and examples are drawn from a range of disciplines, cultures and countries covering the whole range of subjects and disciplines taught in WMG in order to teach specific core and threshold concepts.

## **Subject specific skills**

SPA provides students the opportunity to develop skills needed to successfully undertake their studies and independent research. In recognising the variety in student backgrounds, students will be supported to develop a foundational to advanced level of skill capability depending on their needs. The study and analytical skills developed in SPA are supported by students' professional skills development (see transferable skills).

## **Transferable skills**

The Professional Skills strand focuses on developing student's transferable skills that are also embedded into study and analytical skills learning and teaching. Professional skills are constructively aligned to the Warwick Core Skills. Transferable skills students will acquire on the module include, but are not limited to:

Communication, (including academic writing, referencing, presentations, active listening)

Critical thinking,

Ethical values, (including academic integrity)

Information literacy, (including searching for and evaluating information)

Problem solving,

Professionalism, (including time management) and

Teamwork.

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## **Study**

## Study time

Type	Required	Optional
Lectures	10 sessions of 1 hour 30 minutes (10%)	5 sessions of 1 hour
Online learning (scheduled sessions)	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)	5 sessions of 1 hour
Online learning (independent)	12 sessions of 3 hours (24%)	5 sessions of 1 hour
Private study	30 hours (20%)	
Assessment	60 hours (40%)	
Total	150 hours	

## Private study description

Students receive additional readings and workbooks to support their learning in the module. This enables students to build their foundational knowledge or go deeper into the application and evaluation of knowledge presented in the module.

## Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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## Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

### Assessment group A2

	Weighting	Study time
Reflection on study and professional skills	20%	5 hours
Students will submit an individual essay reflecting on their study and professional skills and plan for development.		
Continual assessment	20%	20 hours
Students will engage in various learning activities across the study, professional, and analytical skills streams that are released on separate occasions during the module. Students will need to pass or complete these activities in order to achieve the full marks for continual assessment, or 20% of their overall module mark. To do this students will need to earn up to 10 badges during the SPA module.		

	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Study time</b>
Individual essay	60%	35 hours
Students will submit an individual essay applying their analytical skills to evaluate research. In addition students will submit a visual analysis reflecting application of study and professional skills while completing the assignment.		

### **Feedback on assessment**

Students will be provided individual and class feedback and feed-forward on their assessments.

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### **Availability**

There is currently no information about the courses for which this module is core or optional.