Module Descriptor

Part 1: Basic Data						
Module Title	Evidence-Informed Sports Therapy Practice					
Module Code	HSPVSQ-45-7		Level	7	Version	1.0
Credit Rating	45		ECTS Credit Rating	22.5		
Teaching Institution	Hartpury	Department	Sport	Module Type	Standard	
Contributes towards	MSc Sports Therapy					
Professional Accrediting Body	The Society of Sports Therapists (SST)		Module Entry requirements	None		
Pre-requisites	None		Excluded Combinations	None		
Most recent Validation Date	12 February 2025		Due for re-validation by	01 September 2030		
Amendment Approval Date			Approved with effect from	V1.0 – 01 September 2025		

Part 2: Module Content	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to: 1. Critically evaluate a relevant research / sports therapy practice gap and design a project proposal and ethics application to address a research question. (A) 2. Collect, analyse and present research data appropriately. (B) 3. Present and communicate a research project in a professional and academically rigorous manner, in written format. (B) 4. Plan time towards both short- and long-term goals. (A)
Syllabus Outline	• Academic writing skills at postgraduate level including referencing, building a rationale, creating an argument, critical analysis and evaluation • Methodological approaches including inductive and deductive approaches to qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods data collection, analysis and interpretation • Validity and reliability of research methods and analysis • Research questions, writing aims and objectives, research designs, sampling, populations • Appreciation of the strengths and weaknesses of commonly-used relevant data analysis procedures • Critical analysis and evaluation of academic literature • Ethics of research

	• Quality measures of research
	• Feasibility of projects and relevant Sports Therapy journals requirements
	• Dissemination of research for diverse audiences
	• Self-reflection for academic development.
	All the above will be contextualised to research relevant to sports and healthcare, with a focus on how evidence should be designed and interpreted to inform best practice as a Graduate Sports Therapist.
	The Society of Sports Therapist educational competencies aligned with this module: 5.1, 5.15, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5.

Part 3: Learning, Teaching and Assessment	
Description of Learning and Teaching	This module is delivered largely via self-directed and independent learning through the completion of a research project. Support sessions will be delivered using a mixture of face-to-face onsite taught sessions and online support sessions. Sessions will run dependent on the nature of the material and students will be expected to attend all sessions in accordance with the programme attendance policy.

The module is part of the evidence-informed practice strand and begins by introducing the students to academic skills required at postgraduate level study alongside understanding the role of research in developing evidence-informed practice. Key research methodologies and analysis methods used in healthcare and sport to inform practice will be explored to support development of a research idea. Internal opportunities, staff expertise and student curiosity will support students further to propose, conduct and write up a small research project related to a practice gap.

Delivery will be through seminars and support tutorials. During delivery, students will be required to engage in reading and critical review of research methodologies and analysis. Scenarios will be presented requiring individual student and group responses. Proposal development and research project completion will be supported by a project supervisor to support development their research project proposal and ethics application in group and one-to-one formats. This will also involve collaborative contact from Sports Academy staff to support applied research ideas related to applied opportunities. It is, however, expected that students will engage with independent learning, as this is an essential component of such a research project at postgraduate level.

Students will be required to engage with independent study in accordance with the learning outcomes of the module. In addition to the topics that are covered throughout the module, attention will be placed on developing a range of skills, primarily research and personal and professional skills, in accordance with Hartpury Graduate Attributes.

This module is supported by a virtual learning environment (VLE) where students will be able to find all necessary module information. Students are expected to conduct their own independent study. The VLE will be used to support delivery in three ways: 1) Resources for sessions and directed study to compliment delivery. 2) As a communication channel for module tutors to disseminate important information for the module. 3) To facilitate active engagement of the students in their learning through use of relevant interactive and collaborative approaches. |

Resource Strategy	**Essential reading** Essential material will be indicated to the student via pre-course material, module guides and through their accessing a dedicated VLE presence. No requirement for the purchase of set text(s) will be made unless explicitly stated and students will have full access to library services, online applications, and inter-library loans. **Further reading** Students are expected to identify all other reading relevant to their chosen topic for themselves. They will be required to read widely using the library catalogue, a variety of bibliographic and full text databases, and internet resources. Many resources can be accessed remotely. The purpose of this further reading is to ensure students are familiar with current research, classic works and material specific to their interests from the academic literature and wider professional sources. **Access and skills** Formal opportunities for students to develop their library and information skills are provided within the induction period and student skills sessions. Additional support is available through online resources. This includes interactive tutorials on finding books and journals, evaluation information and referencing. Sign up workshops are also offered.
Assessment Strategy	This module will be assessed according to the approved Hartpury Academic Regulations including any specific regulations detailed within the student's programme specification. Component A will be a report. The report allows students to develop written communication and articulation of ideas in an academic style through critical analysis and evaluation of credible sources, creating well-founded arguments to support evidence-informed approach to practice. This report will be the completion of a research proposal including an appendix of the ethics application and Gant chart to address a research or practice gap of the student's interest. Component B will be a project report. The project report develops critical thinking, problem solving, data analysis, time management, synthesis and application to professional practice in an academic written format. This project report will be accumulation of the full research process directly related to previously submitted proposal and ethical application. Students will carry out a literature review, collect or review data through an appropriate and ethically sound methodology, and then analyse the data to draw key conclusions and recommendations. Students are recommended to write the report in the style of a suitable academic journal. There will be formative feedback opportunities throughout the module including practical, peer and verbal feedback within scheduled teaching. The nature of the module and assessment demonstrates competency as set by the professional body therefore a student may apply for alternative means of assessment, if appropriate, but the professional body cannot provide a professional membership or related insurances to students who have not met all the competencies required. Each application will be considered individually, considering learning and assessment needs.

Identify final assessment component and element	A1	

	A:	**B:**
% weighting between components A and B	**25%**	**75%**

First Sit	

Component A **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Report (2000 words)	100%

Component B **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Project Report (4000 words)	100%

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)	

Component A **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Report (2000 words)	100%

Component B **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Project Report (4000 words)	100%

Please note: If a student is permitted a retake of the module under the Academic Regulations, the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Specification at the time that retake commences.

Part 4: Comparative Information	
Information	Information has to be produced at programme level to produce comparable sets of standardised information about courses allowing prospective students to compare and contrast between programmes they are interested in applying for. Expected learning hours for the module:

Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours
450	50	400	0

Please note that this is the total of various types of assessment and will not necessarily reflect the component and module weightings in the Assessment section of this module description:

Total assessment of the module	Percentage
Written Examination (Written Examination / Written Test)	0%
Coursework (~~Coursework /~~ Report ~~/ Portfolio~~)	100%
Practical Examination (Practical Skills Examination / Practical Skills Assessment / Oral Assessment)	0%
Total	100%

Module Amendment Log

Module Title:	Evidence-Informed Sports Therapy Practice
Module Code:	HSPVSQ-45-7
Initial Approval Date:	12 February 2025

Approved Module Changes (most recent at the top):

Outline Change Details: new module	
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC Chair's action (SD) 2025 02 12 (from CVC 2025 01 28)
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2025
Resulting new version number:	1.0

Initial HECOS code:	100475 Sports Therapy
Initial module description for Course Marketing Purposes: In this module, you will independently identify and address a research or practice gap within Sports Therapy, conducting a research project to explore your area of interest.	