



## Unit Specification

### 1. Unit details

<b>Unit Code</b>	PHY7000
<b>Unit Title</b>	Physiotherapy Dissertation
<b>Version number</b>	1.1
<b>Credit</b>	<b>Credits/ECTS:</b> 40 CATS 20 ECTS
<b>FHEQ Level</b>	7
<b>Semester taught in</b>	Year
<b>HeCOS codes</b>	100962 Research Skills
<b>Course (s) for which unit is delivered</b> <small>For multiple courses, please asterisk (*) the course which owns this unit</small>	MSc Physiotherapy (Pre-registration)
<b>Pre-requisites</b> <b>Co-requisites</b>	None
<b>Where will the unit be taught?</b>	AECC University College
<b>Unit Leader name(s) and contact details</b>	Zoe Wimshurst Zwimshurst@aecc.ac.uk

### 2. Unit aims and outline

This unit will provide you with the opportunity to undertake an in-depth and independent empirical study in a topic of interest related to physiotherapy practice. You will be expected to demonstrate originality in the development and application of knowledge and research skills. A research proposal will initially be produced that will outline the chosen focus for the research, the research question and the specific method/methodology to be adopted. No data collection will be permitted without ethics approval, which takes place after the proposal submission. Completion of the research dissertation will demonstrate your comprehensive understanding of the research process and data collection, an ability to deal with complex issues creatively and systematically and the ability to communicate information in a clear and appropriate fashion.

### 3. Intended Learning outcomes

Having completed this unit you will be able to:

- Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding in a specialised research area relating to physiotherapy practice.
- Critically locate the study in an appropriate theoretical context.
- Identify an original research topic and develop associated ethical research questions/hypotheses.
- Identify, justify and apply an appropriate research design and appropriate research methods.
- Collect and analyse data using appropriate techniques and draw conclusions from

### 3. Intended Learning outcomes

findings/results.

### 4. Indicative content

This unit will be predominantly self-directed with assigned tutor support and guidance. You will be able to discuss all aspects of your project with your supervising tutor. All research projects must receive ethical approval from the appropriate ethical authority before any data collection can begin.

### 5. Indicative summary of teaching and learning methods and activities including contact hours

The unit will be delivered predominantly through one-to-one contact with the supervising tutor for the dissertation. Some workshops will be provided to support the wider process (i.e. introduction to the process, ethics, writing the journal manuscript), and to support students who are undertaking similar types of analysis.

The following information gives an indication of how much time you are likely to spend in different types of activities during this unit.

Indicative contact hours	12
Indicative guided non-contact hours	36
Indicative self-directed learning hours	352
<i>Contact hours</i> are scheduled learning sessions and may include lectures, tutorials, seminars, and practical sessions.	
<i>Guided non-contact hours</i> may include directed reading, working through specific material on the virtual learning environment (VLE) in preparation for in-class discussions.	
<i>Non-contact hours</i> may include reading and researching, revision, preparing for and writing up coursework, practicing practical techniques (where applicable).	

### 6. Summary of assessment methods and activities

#### Formative assessment

Supervising tutors will provide feedback on a draft of the introduction, literature review, and methods sections.

#### Summative assessment

ILO (s) Assessed	Form of assessment	Percentage of overall assessment (total must be 100%)
C and D	Coursework: Oral presentation	Pass/Fail
A, B, C, D and E	Coursework: Dissertation	100%

#### Indicative assessment

The first assessment will be a 15 minute presentation of your research proposal. In this you will outline the topic of interest, the specific research question(s), and the methods to be adopted in seeking to answer the research question(s). This is a pass-fail assessment. Ethical approval will be required before the project can continue.

The second assessment will be in the form of a research journal article with a word limit of 6,000 words. Specific guidance in terms of the style and formatting of the article will be provided

#### Indicative feedback methods

You will receive on-going verbal feedback from your research project supervisor, plus written feedback on single drafts. Written summative feedback will be provided electronically.

## **7. Indicative learning resources**

### **Books**

Aveyard, H., Payne, S., & Preston, N. (2016). *A post-graduate's guide to doing a literature review*. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Biggam, J. (2015). *Succeeding with your master's dissertation: a step-by-step handbook*. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Other texts will be as appropriate, depending upon the topic selected. (see examples in other MSc Physiotherapy pre-registration units).

Web-based sources and access to electronic journals is available through the Institution's library. You will have access to library staff to support literature searches and access to electronic resources. The library provides links to all relevant databases, gateways and on-line journals.

The Institution's virtual learning environment provides you with electronic resources that support the delivery of each unit with regularly updated learning materials and interactive learning aids such as quizzes, videos, e-cases, e- lessons and other suitable tools.

### **Modification:**

Change of pass/fail coursework from written assessment to oral presentation. Approved ASQC February 2022

Correction of error: Wording of aims amended September 2022 to make clear ethics approval takes place after the proposals submission, and is not part of it.