

Nottingham Trent University

Module Specification

	Basic module information	
1	Module Title:	Dissertation (BA Joint Hons)
2	Module Code:	MCLT34000
3	Credit Points:	40
4	Duration:	Year Long
5	School:	Arts and Humanities
6	Campus:	Clifton
7	Date this version first approved to run:	September 2017

8 Pre, post and co-requisites:

These are modules that you must have studied previously in order to take this module, or modules that you must study simultaneously or in a subsequent academic session

<u>Pre, Co, Post</u>	<u>Module Code</u>	<u>Module Title</u>
Pre	MCLT20112	Theorising Media and Culture

9 Courses containing the module

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
6	Option	FT		BA Joint Honours Humanities
6	Option	PT		BA Joint Honours Humanities

10 Overview and aims

This module enables you to undertake a sustained, single piece of independently researched work on a topic of your choice, under the supervision of a tutor. It allows you to build on, consolidate and develop interests and work from the subject as a whole. The principal aims of the module are as follows:

- To enable you to undertake a sustained, single piece of independently researched work.

- To enable you to develop work on a particular topic or theme in some depth.
- To encourage you to think critically and confidently in theoretical terms.
- To further develop your analytical and critical thinking.
- To encourage you to further develop their capacity for *independent* thought, critical reflexivity and the ability to draw effectively on ideas and theories introduced throughout the BA Media programme.
- To reflect critically on the research process

A synoptic assessment is also contained within the dissertation module. It will require you to reflect on the entirety of your degree at NTU, including both subjects as part of a Joint Honours award. The synoptic assessment allows you to combine learning in relation to your employability from a range of activities and experiences.

11 **Module content**

In a series of tutorials, you will negotiate and reflect critically on your topic with your supervisor. In most cases tutorials will be one-to-one, though group tutorials may also be used. The approach, sources and appropriate skills will be identified, developed and refined. Learning will be supported through a series of dissertation taught workshops introducing key aspects of doing research including the dissertation process, doing analysis and library research skills.

Synoptic Assessment: A reflection across the whole of your degree at NTU in relation to your employability

12 **Indicative reading**

- Ann Gray, *Research Practice for Cultural Studies*, Sage, 2002
- M. Pickering et al, *Research Methods for Cultural Studies*, Edinburgh University Press, 2008
- D. Deacon et al, *Researching Communications*, Arnold, 2007
- M. Messenger Davies, *Practical research Methods for Media and Cultural Studies*, University of Georgia Press, 2006
- I. Bertrand, *Media Research Methods*, Palgrave, 2005
- N.S. Walliman, *Your Undergraduate Dissertation*, Sage, 2004
- K.E. Rudestam, *Surviving Your Dissertation*, Sage, 2007
- Warburton, N., *Thinking from A – Z* (London: Routledge, 1996).
- Williams, Alma (1984) *Projects: skills and strategies* London: Pitman.
- Richie, Jane and Lewis, Jane (2003) *Qualitative Research Practice*, London: Sage.
- Bechhofer, F. (2000) *Principles of Research design in the Social Sciences*, London: Routledge.
- Denzin, N. (2000) *Handbook of Qualitative Research*, London: Sage.
- Ezzy, Douglas (2002) *Qualitative Analysis*, London: Routledge.

13 **Learning outcomes**

Learning outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of the module

Knowledge and understanding. After studying this module, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to design, carry out and write up a research project in an appropriately scholarly form
- Show evidence of confidence in understanding and applying theoretical concepts
- Display an advanced understanding of some key ideas within the academic field
- Demonstrate a reflexive understanding of the research process
- Articulate the overall NTU experience as preparation for future careers or further study.

Skills, qualities and attributes. After studying this module you should be able to:

Show evidence of ability and confidence in the following areas, consolidated to an advanced level:

- The ability to formulate logical and coherent arguments.
- Advanced analytical skills and research capability which demonstrate understanding of the increasing complex resources and forms available.
- Effective communication skills which may be demonstrated through a range of forms appropriate to the dissertation you present.
- A grasp of the processes of discrimination and synthesis essential to successful interdisciplinary study.
- Resourcefulness, self-motivation and time-management
- The ability to use a learning journal to identify problems and reflect critically on the learning process

14 **Teaching and learning**

Range of modes of direct contact

This indicates the range of direct contact teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. lectures, seminars

Programme of tutorial supervision. Interaction with tutor (and possibly other students) through taught dissertation workshops focusing on key aspects of doing a dissertation.

Total contact hours: (taught workshops 12 plus seminars 6) = 18

Range of other learning methods

This indicates the range of other teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. directed reading, research

Students carry out an extensive programme of reading combined with other forms of research as appropriate. The synoptic assessment encourages students to reflect on their learning journey and suitability for graduate employment

Total non-contact hours:

382

15 **Assessment methods**

This indicates the type and weighting of assessment elements and sub-elements in the module

<u>Element number</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description (include any sub-elements)</u>
1	20%	Synoptic Assessment	To evidence progress and achievements of the Joint Honour student journey throughout their degree culminating in the final year Dissertation module (1500 words)
2	80%	Dissertation	A Dissertation of 10,000 words.

Diagnostic/formative assessment

This indicates if there are any assessments that do not contribute directly to the final module mark

Students will receive indicative feedback on one full draft of the Dissertation. This constitutes a formative assessment for the module.

Further information on assessment

This section provides further information on the module's assessment where appropriate

The synoptic assessment will enable the student to reflect on how their joint subject have prepared them for their future career and suitability for graduate-level employment.

Document management

16	Module Title:	Dissertation (BA Joint Hons)
17	Module Code:	MCLT34000
18	Subject (JACS) Code:	P300
19	Cost Centre:	145
20	School:	AAH
21	Academic Team:	EMC
22	Campus:	Clifton
23	Other institutions providing teaching:	<i>Please complete in box 23 a-d - if applicable</i>

	Institution	%
23a	Other UK Higher Education or Further Education Institution- Please name Percentage not taught by NTU	
23b	Other public organisation in the UK- Percentage not taught by NTU	
23c	Other private organisation in the UK - Percentage not taught by NTU	
23d	Any other Non-UK organisation - Percentage not taught by NTU	
24	Date this version was formally approved by the School Academic Standards and Quality Committee (SASQC) or Development Approval Group (DAG):	January 2017