

Basic details

UID	<input type="text"/>	Cohorts covered	Earliest cohort <input type="text" value="2025-26"/>
Long title	<input type="text" value="Self-study project"/>		
New code	<input type="text" value="PHYS70028"/>	New short title	<input type="text"/>
Brief description of module (approx. 600 chars.)	<input type="text" value="This module lets you develop your ability to distil information from the scientific literature. You will develop skills for analysing and methods appropriate to the chosen topic. You will produce a report outlining the background to the chosen topic in its development from conception through to the current state-of-the-art. Typical chosen will be a research area or technique."/>		
Available as a standalone module/ short course?	<input type="text" value="N"/>		

Statutory details

	ECTS	CATS	Non-credit	HECOS codes
Credit value	<input type="text" value="5"/>	<input type="text" value="10"/>	<input type="text" value="N"/>	
FHEQ level	<input type="text" value="Level 7"/>			

Allocation of study hours

	Hours	
Lectures	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Group teaching	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<i>Incl. seminars, tutorials, problem classes.</i>
Lab/ practical	<input type="text"/>	
Other scheduled	<input type="text" value="12"/>	<i>Incl. project supervision, fieldwork, external visits.</i>
Independent study	<input type="text" value="113"/>	<i>Incl. wider reading/ practice, follow-up work, completion of assess</i>
Placement	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<i>Incl. work-based learning and study that occurs overseas.</i>
Total hours	<input type="text" value="125"/>	
ECTS ratio	<input type="text" value="25.00"/>	

Project/placement activity

Is placement activity allowed?	<input type="text" value="No"/>
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Module delivery

Delivery mode	<input type="text" value="Taught/ Campus"/>	Other	<input type="text"/>
Delivery term	<input type="text" value="Term 2"/>	Other	<input type="text"/>

Ownership

Primary department	<input type="text" value="Physics"/>
Additional teaching departments	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Delivery campus	<input type="text" value="South Kensington"/>

Collaborative delivery

Collaborative delivery?

N

External institution

N/A

External department

N/A

External campus

N/A

Associated staff

Role	CID	Given name	Surname
Module Leader		Christopher	Dunsby

Learning and teaching

Module description

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module you will be able to:

- appraise and interpret the scientific literature to extract information on a particular topic
- critically review material extracted from the scientific literature and be able to explain the topic to the current state-of-the-art
- produce a written report on the literature review and give an associated oral presentation

Module content

An independent literature review of a research topic or technique in optics and photonics. literature students develop an understanding of the basic principles behind their selected research and/or development that has been applied around that topic to bring it to its current state.

Learning and Teaching Approach

The students will work individually on a literature review with a high degree of independence through discussion between the student and self-study supervisor or from a list of project potential supervisors. Work on this module is spread across Term 2. During this period students will have weekly meetings with the supervisor giving students an opportunity to discuss progress and any difficulties. Meetings with supervisors may be in groups with other students sharing the same or similar topic.

Assessment Strategy

The module is assessed by a written report that contributes 80% of the total mark. The student will also give a 10 minute presentation followed by 5 minutes of questions that has a weight of 20%.

Feedback

Informal feedback will be provided to the student by their supervisor(s) continuously throughout the work.

Students will receive feedback from the supervisor on the structure of their thesis and on any other issues that they wish to consult their supervisor on.

Reading list

A set of initial reading appropriate to the particular project will be provided by the supervisor.

Quality assurance

Date of first approval	
Date of last revision	July 2025
Date of this approval	

Module leader	Christopher Dunsby
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Notes/ comments

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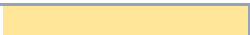
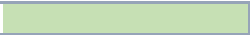
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QA Lead	
Department staff	
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Latest cohort



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