Imperial College London

Module Specification (Curriculum Review)

Basic details

UID		Cohorts covered	Earliest cohort: 2025-26; Latest cohort:
Long title	MSc Extended Research Literature Review		
New code	PHYS70056	New short title	

Brief description of module *(approx. 600 chars.)*:

A project plan and literature review on a state-of-the-art problem in physics relating to the student's MSc Extended Research Project, which runs concurrently. The project can be either laboratory-based practical, computational, observational or theoretical, either within one of our research groups or with an external partner and under the guidance of research-active staff. Students will be able to choose from a range of topics based on their interests and the background they have developed through their prior studies on the MSc.

535 characters

Available as a standalone module/ short course? N

Statutory details

	ECTS	CATS	Non-credit
Credit value	15	30	N

FHEQ level: Level 7

HECOS codes:

Allocation of study hours

	Hours	
Lectures	0	
Group teaching	0	*Incl. seminars, tutorials, problem classes.*
Lab/ practical	0	
Other scheduled	5	*Incl. project supervision, fieldwork, external visits.*
Independent study	370	*Incl. wider reading/ practice, follow-up work, completion of assessments, revisions.*
Placement	0	*Incl. work-based learning and study that occurs overseas.*
Total hours	375	
ECTS ratio	25.00	

Project/placement activity

Is placement activity allowed? Yes

Module delivery

Delivery mode	Taught/ Campus	Other	
Delivery term	Term 1	Other	

Ownership

Primary department	Physics
Additional teaching departments	Projects in other departments or with external institutions/companies are possible.
Delivery campus	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		Stephen	Warren

Learning and teaching

Module description

Learning outcomes	On successful completion of this module the students will be able to: - design a research plan for addressing a research problem - critically assess techiniques appropriate to meeting the aims of a research project - critically review, evaluate and discuss core literature associated with a research topic - communicate effectively their findings in writing
Module content	A literature review and project plan in a specific research area of physics.
Learning and Teaching Approach	The students will work individually or in pairs with a high degree of independence. Initial topic choice is decided through discussion between the student(s) and supervisor. Students will be directed to appropirate initial literature relevant to their topic and are expected to use this as a starting point for further investigation of the literature. Students will write a report that will include a literature review covering the background and state-of-the-art literuature pertaining to their topic, an outline of the aims and objectives of the work they intend to pursue for their MSc Extended Research Project and a brief plan of work.
Assessment Strategy	The module is assessed by a written report that is marked by a supervisor (50% weighting) and an independent assessor (50% weighting). The report will be due at the start of spring term. If there is a discrepancy between the two markers that is greater than that permitted by College regulations, the markers will be asked to confer and agree a mark. If the markers are unable to agree a mark, then the Programme Director (or their nominee) will act as the independent adjudicating assessor to determine the final mark.
Feedback	Informal feedback will be provided to the students from their project supervisor(s) continually through the duration of the project. Formative feedback is provided on the written report that students can use to help them with their MSc research projects.
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	
Date of this approval	
Module leader	Stephen Warren

Office use only

QA Lead	
Department staff	
Date of collection	
Date exported	
Date imported	

Notes/ comments	

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