

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC OPTIONAL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Courses in this group are optional and available to students studying within the relevant Faculty.

To reserve a place on these courses please contact your relevant Faculty Office.

Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

Masters Level Modules (REST7027)

Course Description:

The following Masters modules are OPTIONAL and open, subject to numbers, to doctoral students, at no extra charge, as part of the training programme:

- research designs
- health care management
- health policy and strategy
- research strategies
- qualitative and quantitative methods
- advanced quantitative methods
- health and social research methods

Faculty of Technology

Lego Mindstorm Workshop (REST7044)

Course Description:

The aim of this OPTIONAL course is to deliver 'hands-on' learning of:

- systems thinking
- agile development processes
- team working
- programming fundamentals
- an introduction to robotics

Researching the Information Society (REST7045)

Course Description:

The content of this OPTIONAL training course will be agreed with students and will be based on students' needs and interests.

Students will take turns preparing and organising the tutorials but will be supported by the module leader. The student responsible for the week will determine the topic and arrange and make available the preparatory reading. Students will be free to choose from a range of teaching and learning strategies which has the added advantage that students will gain teaching skills.

Indicative content of the module includes:

- Overview of different disciplines and their approach to issues of the information society. These include (but are not limited to):
 - computer sciences
 - information systems
 - philosophy
 - sociology
 - engineering
- Philosophical underpinnings of research. In order to appreciate current research and inform their own approach, students need to develop a sound understanding of the relationship of:
 - ontology
 - epistemology
 - methodology
 - ethics
- Discussion of appropriate methodologies for research questions and comparative studies of different methodologies. These will concentrate on non-quantitative methodologies typically used in research in the information society and will include:
 - qualitative research
 - grounded theory
 - participative research
 - action research
 - critical research
 - ethnomethodology
- Reading group sessions based on students' suggestions.
- Presentation of finished staff and student research projects.
- Presentation of staff and student research in progress as preparation of publication.
- Joint sessions by students / staff on areas of shared interest.
- Preparation of papers or editorships of special issues of journals in areas of shared interest.

Training courses will be scheduled for two hours, fortnightly, throughout the academic year.