**Promising practice**

**University:** Queen's University Belfast

**Academic discipline:** Business

**Course title:** Business Analysis

**Course description:**

The module's broad aim is to develop students’ skills and abilities to investigate, understand and interpret performance and issues in business and management. The module has two specific objectives. First, it aims to introduce students to the philosophical and ethical underpinnings of business and management research, as well as to a range of quantitative and qualitative techniques used therein. Second, it seeks to help students apply these analysis skills to real-life case problems. In sum, the module aims to bring together students’ accumulated knowledge and understanding of planning and apply it in a real-life situation for an external client.

**Learning outcomes:**

- Detailed knowledge and understanding of the philosophical underpinnings of research design and particular research methodologies and techniques which can be applied in different settings.
- Intellectual and thinking skills in planning, conducting and critically analysing research.
- Transferable skills in terms of effective communication, teamwork, critical thinking and problem solving and competent use of technologies.

**How students’ learning is assessed:**

Coursework consisting of a Poster presentation (10%) and Report for the organisation (40%) as well as a final examination (50%).

**How students learn with civil society organisations through this course:**

Students (in groups) choose from a list of research questions which have been collaboratively developed by CSOs and the Science Shop. Students meet with the organisations and are briefed about research question, but they are also expected to bring their skills and subject specific knowledge to the process. They come to better understand the skills and knowledge base in CSOs as well as learning from the CSO in a project specific way.
How students learn about dimensions of RRI through this course:

Projects involve engaged research processes from the outset and students understand that the results will be made public. Students are required to submit forms for ethical approval and are guided by their lecturer on this. They also are encouraged to consider the role they play in the process in the context of being objective (which deals with issues such as gender). Many of the projects focus on sustainability as a topic, either environmental sustainability or financial. Social justice and good governance is also underpins many of the projects.

RRI keys integrated in the course:

Public engagement/ societal engagement; Open access; Gender and diversity; Ethics; Science education and outreach from higher education; Governance; Sustainability; Social justice

RRI process requirements integrated in the course:

Anticipation; Reflexivity; Inclusion; Responsiveness

Contact information:

Emma McKenna, Science Shop, Queen’s University Belfast
e.mckenna@qub.ac.uk