**BIOL5124M Commercialisation of Biopharmaceutical Products**

**Reflective Essay**

**Individual Assignment Outline**

This assignment is designed to develop your understanding of leadership and team roles within a commercial setting by critically reflecting on the activities undertaken as part of this module. Throughout the module, you will be expected to keep weekly logs; commenting reflectively on your module activities as well as the tests and activities hosted within the VLE. You can discuss working in your team, progress of your project or anything else that shows evidence of skill or knowledge development. In addition to the VLE activities, you will be provided with some prompt questions at the end of each workshop session.

You will be given a personal area on the VLE in which you can write (there is no word count for this element of the assessment). You will receive formative feedback on the quality of your writing by Dr Richard Tunstall. These logs will then provide the evidence base for your final reflective essay.

At the end of the module, you will need to write a summative essay (2,500 words – including the executive summary) that uses the weekly logs as evidence of knowledge, skill and attitude development.

Hints and Tips:

Keep a notebook where you record all thoughts and information about the module during sessions which you can then use as prompts for your on-line journal.

If you do anything for the module make sure you make a note – including thinking.

The 2500 word assessment draws on the blog for evidence of what you have experienced and learned.  You should refer to the log by entry date when making your points.

The word limit is rather short (especially as you are summarising a 3 month experience) – designed to help you focus thinking.

If you do not complete your log soon after each session, you will find it very difficult to reflect in a way that gets you a good mark.

Students who do well in this assignment will draw together theory and practice in reflecting on their own experience.

Writing Reflectively

Understanding what is needed in reflective writing can be difficult. The fundamental questions for every occasion are:

What do I know now that I didn’t know yesterday / last week?

What can I do better / more efficiently / with more confidence, than yesterday / last week?

What are my next steps?

**Assessment criteria**

The reflective essay will be assessed on the basis of:

* Evidence of structure & planning, including introduction and conclusion (30%)
* Accuracy & understanding of the subject; focus of reflection (not description) (20%)
* Depth of the analysis of the weekly logs (30%)
* Use of relevant material, inclusion of self-assessment activities on the VLE, wider research & examples from journal (20%)
* Presentation and written quality of the report, including accuracy in spelling, grammar and use of appropriate referencing system (10%)

**References**

What is available at the University of Leeds for reflective essays:

* McMillan, K. and Jonathan, W. D.B. (2013). *How to improve your critical thinking & reflective skills.* Harlow: Prentice Hall  [available online via the library]
* University of Leeds: Reflective writing [Reflective writing | Library | University of Leeds](https://library.leeds.ac.uk/info/14011/writing/113/reflective_writing)

Useful Websites

* Reflective Writing: very detailed [Reflective Writing | Help & Advice | University of Portsmouth](https://www.port.ac.uk/student-life/help-and-advice/study-skills/written-assignments/reflective-writing-introduction)
* Practice-based and reflective learning [Reflective thinking - Practice-based and reflective learning - LibGuides at University of Reading](https://libguides.reading.ac.uk/reflective/thinking)
* Reflective writing [Reflective Writing - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QoI67VeE3ds)
* Reflective Practice Toolkit - [Reflective writing - Reflective Practice Toolkit - LibGuides at University of Cambridge Subject Libraries](https://libguides.cam.ac.uk/reflectivepracticetoolkit/reflectivewriting)
* General tips for academic reflections - [General tips for academic reflections | The University of Edinburgh](https://www.ed.ac.uk/reflection/reflectors-toolkit/producing-reflections/academic-reflections/general-tips)

Excellent Book

Bolton, G. and Delderfield, R. (2018) *Reflective Practice. Writing and Professional Development*. Sage