Module Title          | CPD Dissertation
Module Code/s         | *See pathway leader
Module Level*         | 6
Word Limit /Exam Duration | 10,000 words
Assessment Type(s)    | Dissertation

Marking Criteria
Guidelines should be read in conjunction with the marking criteria guidance for the module level* noted above: http://www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/student-intranet/exam-assess/markgrid/

Confidentiality
It is a breach of confidentiality to disclose any personal information about a patient, service user, colleague, staff or any other person or place that could in principle enable them to be identified. For further guidance please refer to the departmental policy on Confidentiality at the following link: www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/student-intranet/exam-assess/conduct/confidentiality/

Assessment Timing
The deadline for correctly presenting a submission is 4.30pm on the published submission date.
The submission deadline is published on the Programme Assessment Schedule available on the following link: http://www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/student-intranet/timetables/assessment-schedules/

Referencing
You must reference your work in accordance with departmental referencing guidelines which you can access via the following link: http://www.york.ac.uk/integrity/harvard.html

Assessment Guidance

Part One (Formative): Write a proposal for dissertation (250 – 350 words) using the proforma provided. You are required to pose a question, and set out the background and rationale for your topic/focus, making it clear why your ‘question’ is worthy of answering. You should identify 3 section aims within your proposal. You should also set out timescales for completion of the dissertation, and identify key sources of information that will help you to do this. This must normally be agreed by your personal supervisor, within the identified timescale, before you can progress to Part Two.

Part Two (Summative): Complete the dissertation. You are required to conduct and produce a review of the literature on a negotiated topic, which answers the question set in your proposal. You should not attempt to undertake primary research, or audit of any kind.

Learning Outcomes
Within the context of your chosen topic, you must demonstrate ability to:

1. Critically review the literature related to the topic of study;
2. Critically evaluate a range of perspectives (e.g. clinical, political ethical) to provide the context for the study;
3. Integrate relevant theoretical concepts with reflections upon practice;
4. Critically reflect on the application of the findings of the review to practice in your chosen area of study;
5. Think critically and synthesise knowledge from a range of appraised sources.

The dissertation should be presented in chapters, using the following format:

1. Title page: Should contain your examination candidate number, dissertation title, course title, module code, date of submission, and name of personal supervisor;
2. Table of contents: Sets out the order of your review;
3. List of Abbreviations: Not compulsory, but can be used to clarify the meaning of any that are used;
4. Acknowledgements: An opportunity to anonymously thank key people who helped you in completing the review;
5. Abstract: Giving a brief summary of the purpose of your review;
6. Introduction: Should include the background and rationale for the dissertation. This will include a short description of the order in which you address topics & here you cite your three section aims;
7. Search Strategy: Make explicit how literature was found for the review. This may include search terms used, the databases searched, ‘limits’ placed on searches, inclusion/exclusion criteria, quality screening, and how themes for discussion were identified, for example;
8. Main body: Written in 3 sections which respond to your identified section aims in your introduction. Covers the themes identified from the body of literature reviewed;
9. Conclusion: Summarise the key points covered in the main body of the dissertation, and acknowledge any limitations;
10. Recommendations: Outline key recommendations for practice;
11. References
12. Appendices: Your anonymised proposal MUST be appended to your dissertation. Include others, as appropriate to your discussion.

The dissertation will be marked against the specific aims set out in the introduction and the Departmental theoretical marking criteria for Level 6.

* A copy of your anonymised proposal MUST be appended to your dissertation. Failure to append a copy of your proposal will result in a ‘fail’ grade being awarded. The maximum mark available in this circumstance will be 39%.*