



Subject:	Research
Subject Outline	<p>The aim of this subject is to develop the capacity to plan and conduct research projects while developing critical thinking skills. The focus on information collection, analysis and evaluation is designed to prepare students for the requirements of studying effectively and efficiently in a university environment.</p> <p>Students select a topic of interest then focus on the design, implementation and review of the research process. Through this process, students develop their critical thinking skills by analysing information and sources, synthesising and evaluating perspectives, and justifying a final position. Emphasis is placed on students actively consulting with teachers and tutors while also developing the capability to work autonomously and enhance time management skills.</p>
Online Subject Delivery	<p>Students in Research complete blocks of learning, which consists of four interactive lessons and checkpoint tasks. These are completed on Moodle, our state of the art online learning platform. Students will be supported in completing these blocks of learning through live classes and live question and answer sessions via Zoom web-conferencing. These live online classes are student-focused and communicative with learners being expected to contribute to group discussion. Teachers monitor student's progress and provide individualised feedback on checkpoint tasks. Students access the Research forum regularly to post questions and review discussions.</p>
Face to Face Subject Delivery	<p>Students in Research participate in a blended learning approach that includes class time supported by activities online via Moodle. Classes are student-focused and communicative with learners being expected to contribute to group discussion. Participation in online learning before class prepares students for in-class activities and maximises the value of face to face learning. Students can prepare for class, review content and skills learned as well as complete checkpoints online.</p>
Graduate Attributes (GA)	<p>On completion of the Foundation Program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Communicate effectively in English in a variety of contexts, circumstances and modes2. Demonstrate relevant, practical and theoretical knowledge in a subject area3. Apply relevant academic literacy skills in a subject area4. Apply relevant numeric literacy skills in a subject area5. Apply critical, analytical thinking, and problem solving skills for academic contexts6. Work independently and collaboratively in a cross-cultural context7. Demonstrate academic integrity



Objectives	<p>On successful completion of this subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negotiate a research topic and prepare a suitable research project plan in consultation with a nominated supervisor (GA 1, 3, 5, 6); 2. Implement a project plan and analyse outcomes, through regular consultation (GA 2, 3, 6) 3. Engage in primary and secondary data collection methodology in keeping with qualitative research methods (GA 5, 7) 4. Apply a critical thinking approach and conduct research within academic guidelines while reviewing and tracking progress of the research project (GA5, 7); 5. Demonstrate an understanding of ethics, privacy, and referencing requirements (GA2, 3, 7); 6. Produce research outcomes on time, conforming to prescribed academic format (GA 1, 3, 5, 6, 7)
Content and Skills	<p>Term One</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the Research subject and Minor Research Assignment • Analysis of sources • Harvard referencing • Synthesis • Point at Issue • Consultations • Data collection questions <p>Term Two</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trial data collection questions • Searching for and referencing stimulus material • Development and drafting of reflection tasks • Submission of reflection tasks <p>Term Three</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of research focus • Secondary sources to support investigation of research questions • Consultations with teacher • Investigation of research questions • Drafting of research questions • Annotated bibliographies • Confirmation of remaining research questions <p>Term Four</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research questions investigation and submission • Conclusion development, drafting and submission • Introduction development, drafting and submission • Reference list check and submission • Abstract development, drafting and submission



Attendance	<p>Attendance is a visa requirement. Attendance contributes directly to the academic success of the student. Attendance is monitored as described in the Attendance Policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face to face: Students are expected to attend all classes and complete all Moodle checkpoints. • Online: Students are expected to attend all live online classes and complete all Moodle checkpoints. Engagement with question and answer sessions and Moodle lessons is highly recommended.
Learning Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IES Subject Moodle site • Informit • GALE Academic OneFile Select • Issues in Society series • OpenStax textbooks

Students are assessed through the following assessment activities:

Assessment Activity	Description	Weighting
TERM 1		
Minor Research Assignment	In approximately 800 words, examine an issue chosen from a set of provided topics. Apply critical thinking skills by analysing assigned sources, evaluating different points of view, and presenting a final position on the relevant issue.	10%
TERM 2		
Reflections	Write two 700-word reflections based on discussions with classmates. Choose a research focus, and design the discussion questions required to gather relevant information. After evaluating ideas collected, and reflecting on a personal point of view, students conclude by stating a position on the selected issue.	20%
TERM 3		
Major Research Assignment Plan	Prepare a plan identifying the focus, required resources, and outcomes of the research process. This plan will then be followed when completing the Major Research Assignment.	15%
Major Research Assignment Portfolio	Document and reflect on the research process conducted in preparation for the Major Research Assignment. This includes documenting the challenges encountered, changes in the research focus, drafting, and consultations with a Teacher.	15%
TERM 4		
Major Research Assignment	Prepare an extended 4000-word assignment on a chosen and approved topic. Design relevant research questions to investigate a central issue. Based on analysis, evaluation of arguments, and evidence collected from primary and secondary sources, students will present a justified final position on their topic.	40%