



Subject:	Research (RE) - Elective
Subject Outline	The aim of this subject is to develop student 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 in a university environment.
Objectives	On successful completion of this subject, students will be able to: <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)
Graduate Attributes (GA)	On completion of the Foundation Program, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicate effectively in English in a variety of contexts, circumstances and modes 2. Demonstrate relevant, practical and theoretical knowledge in a subject area 3. Apply relevant academic literacy skills in a subject area 4. Apply relevant numeric literacy skills in a subject area 5. Apply critical, analytical thinking, and problem solving skills for academic contexts 6. Work independently and collaboratively in a cross-cultural context 7. Demonstrate academic integrity
Contact Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Standard Students – Four (4) hours per week including one (1) hour tutorial ➤ Express Students – Five (5) hours per week
Attendance	Students are expected to attend all classes and tutorials. Attendance is highly valued and contributes directly to the academic success of the student. Attendance is monitored as described in the Attendance Policy.
Tutorials	Standard students receive assistance from tutors, which involves clarifying concepts discussed in teacher classes, helping students to comprehend and solve questions/problems and providing direction for students about current assessment activities. Express students while not having tutorials, do have less structured student led sessions as part of their program, which encourage students to actively participate in class.
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Moodle Site • Databases
Content and Skills	Students select a topic are of interest then focus on designing, implementing and reviewing the research process. Within this process, students develop their critical thinking skills through 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 of working autonomously and enhancing time management skills.



Students are assessed through the following assessment activities:

Assessment Activity	Description	Semester Standard	Trimester Express	Weighting
Minor Research Assignment	Students examine an issue chosen from a set of provided topics. Students apply critical thinking skills by analysing assigned sources, evaluating different points of view, and presenting a final position on the relevant issue. <i>Approximately 800 words.</i>	Semester 1	Trimester 1	10%
Reflections	Students write two reflections (<i>700 words each</i>) based on discussions with their classmates. Students choose the focus of their research, and design the discussion questions required to gather relevant information. After evaluating the ideas collected, and reflecting on their personal point of view, students conclude by stating a position on their selected issue.			10%
Major Research Assignment Plan	Students prepare a plan identifying the focus, required resources, and outcomes of the research process. This will be followed when completing the Major Research Assignment.		Trimester 2	15%
Major Research Assignment Portfolio	Students document and reflect on the research process conducted as they prepare the Major Research Assignment. This includes challenges encountered, changes in research focus, drafts, and consultations with Teacher and Tutor. Students will ultimately be provided with an opportunity to participate in a poster presentation where they can exhibit their research and findings.	Semester 2	Trimester 3	15%
Major Research Assignment	Students prepare an extended assignment (<i>4000 words</i>) on their chosen topic. Students design relevant research questions to investigate a central issue. Based on analysis and evaluation of the arguments and evidence collected from primary and secondary sources, they present a justified final position on their topic.			50%