

KOL7010BS: THE POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH PROJECT (MSC)

1. MODULE SUMMARY

Aims and Summary

In this module, students will carry out a substantive piece of individual research into a business issue relevant to the course of study discipline(s) and apply their independent learning skills to research this area in depth. Students will draw upon their knowledge, understanding and ability to critically analyse a specialist area of interest.

The module includes two routes, and students will be given the opportunity to select their preferred route, although the project route and title must be approved by the project supervisor in advance of commencing the project. The research can take the form of an individual research-based dissertation or a work-based project. The work-based project can take place within a host organisation or within the student's own organisation.

To equip students with the additional research skills required to successfully execute the research, they will be supported by a series of workshops on research methods and writing a dissertation.

Module Size and credits

Module level	7
Credits	60
ECTS credits	30
Total student study hours	600
Total study weeks	12
Pre-requisites and co-requisites	None

2. TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

Intended Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, the learner should be able to:

1. Identify and justify a complex research question or business issue of relevance to the student's programme of study
2. Critically evaluate the key concepts involved in the research project and identify and apply appropriate theories to form a coherent research proposal including structured and focused research objectives appropriate for study at Postgraduate level

3. Critically analyse, review and synthesise the relevant literature
4. Critically evaluate and utilise appropriate research methodologies and methods, and demonstrate the principles of effective and ethical research design
5. Conduct research, analyse, interpret and critically evaluate the data or information obtained and present the analysis and findings of the research demonstrating a deep knowledge of the specialist subject area
6. Formulate realistic and appropriate conclusions and recommendations including identifying recommendations for future policy and practice

Indicative Content

- Introduction to undertaking postgraduate business and management research
- Time management and professional skills
- How to structure an extended writing project
- Identifying literature and appropriate academic sources, and undertaking a literature review
- Research methodology and methods of enquiry
- Research ethics
- Keeping up to date with recent industry developments
- Academic writing and scholarship skills

Teaching and Learning

A flexible mode of delivery will be used to match the needs of students at the various stages within their research. Workshops are scheduled in both Semester 1 and 2 and a research proposal template is used as a guide. Teaching will involve the use of a VLE and learning will be student centered and activity-based, using a combination of case studies, practical examples and guided study. Workshops and “speed-dating” sessions with module leaders and subject matter experts will be arranged to aid students with the refinement of research questions and objectives.

Ethical approval must be obtained prior to undertaking any research. The Ethical Approval Form can be found in VLE (Canvas) in the module KOLMXXX. The Ethical Approval Form must be submitted to the supervisor.

Assessment Components

Component	Component Type (Core (P/F) / Applied Core (%))	Credits for this component	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Number of attempts allowed up to final deadline (Core Components only)
Dissertation	Applied Core	60	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	

Details of Assessment Tasks

Research-based dissertation or work-based project: 12,000 (+/- 10%) words

Composition of module mark:	100% Dissertation
Pass requirements:	Dissertation must be at least 40% and module mark must be at least 40%.

Method of Reassessment

Reassessment as appropriate.

3. MODULE RESOURCES

Essential Reading List

Bryman, A. (2022). *Business Research Methods*. (6th ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Recommended Reading List

Recommended reading will be updated and detailed by the module leader.

An annually updated reading list including a list of other recourses such as contemporary Journal articles, reports and blogs will be provided.

In addition, students will be expected to carry out independent research to explore topics within contemporary publications in order to broaden their knowledge and understanding beyond the core content delivered in lectures.

Required Equipment

No special equipment needed.

Date of Approval

NOV 2022