



SBM1302 Major Project

UOS CODE SBM1302	UOS NAME Major Project	CREDIT POINTS 12	STATUS Advanced Elective	
SUMMARY	<p>The purpose of SBM1302 Major Project is to permit an individual or a group of students to conduct a major project which would be similar in scope to 12 credit points (approximately double that of an Advanced Elective unit of study) but conducted under supervision. Thus, the learning outcomes will relate to the actual scope of the project and the studies undertaken. In addition, the candidate will reinforce his or her research competencies, viz.</p> <p>(a) Research methods and techniques, (b) Literature review and critical appraisal techniques (c) Data modelling and evaluation techniques (d) Development and testing of hypotheses (e) Conduct of fieldwork and or experiments and validation of the results (f) Interpretation and documentation of findings (g) Other aspects of conducting research</p>			
COURSE CONVENOR ADVISORS	TBA			
ASSUMED KNOWLEDGE	Graduate Diploma			
APPROXIMATE WORKLOAD	Lectures & Workshops	Team Work	Personal Work	Total Workload
	15 hours	-	>32 hours/week	>44 hours/week
PRE-REQUISITE <i>(course name)</i>	Graduate Diploma or equivalent. Note that SBM1301 and SBM1302 are mutually exclusive.			
OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ Research methods and techniques ⊕ Literature review and critical appraisal techniques ⊕ Data modelling and evaluation techniques ⊕ Development and testing of hypotheses ⊕ Interpretation and documentation of findings ⊕ Presentation of the results ⊕ Other aspects of conducting research 			
TARGET COMPETENCIES <i>(Business and Management)</i>	<p>Target competencies in this unit of study comprise the following:</p> <p>(h) Research methods and techniques, (i) Literature review and critical appraisal techniques (j) Data modelling and evaluation techniques (k) Development and testing of hypotheses (l) Conduct of experiments and validation of the results (m) Interpretation and documentation of findings (n) Other aspects of conducting research</p>			
TARGET COMPETENCIES <i>(Personal and Socio-cultural)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generic: All competencies that are common to all professionals (including cognitive and communication abilities, problem solving and analytical mindset) • Leadership: Ability to direct, motivate & manage individuals & teams. • Commitment: Ability to dedicate to tasks & to project outcomes. • Attitude: Ability to create the right frame of mind that promotes integrity & support for achievement of project goals within a social context. • Self Direction: Ability to manage within and without guidelines & processes, and to work without supervision. • Learning: Ability to commit to continuous improvement in knowledge, skills & attitude, & to 			



	<p>creating new knowledge developing skills & approaches.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Empathy: Ability to respect for & accommodation of individual lifestyle, beliefs & norms. • Creativity & Innovation: Capacity to generate new ideas/approaches & make them happen. 																		
MODES OF DELIVERY	<p>For on-campus delivery it is face-to-face delivery supported by the unit website For online delivery, the intensive knowledge workshop is delivered face-to-face, the project phase is delivered via the online learning system</p>																		
ASSESSMENT	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Assessment Type</th> <th>When assessed</th> <th>Weighting</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Research proposal</td> <td>Week 3</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Field work and data collection</td> <td>Week 6</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Analysis and testing of hypotheses</td> <td>Week 8</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finalisation & Submission of dissertation</td> <td>Week 11</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oral presentation and viva</td> <td>Week 13</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Assessment Type	When assessed	Weighting	Research proposal	Week 3	20%	Field work and data collection	Week 6	20%	Analysis and testing of hypotheses	Week 8	20%	Finalisation & Submission of dissertation	Week 11	20%	Oral presentation and viva	Week 13	20%
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SELECTED REFERENCES	<p>Prescribed readings will relate to the actual scope and focus of the projects undertaken by students. In addition to studies related to their research context they shall master the research capabilities. The following sources can be accessed and studied on general research methods, tools and techniques:</p> <p>Hussey, J. and R. Hussey (1997) <i>Business Research: A Practical Guide for Undergraduate and Postgraduate Students</i>. London, Macmillan.</p> <p>Veal, AJ, 2005, <i>Business Research Methods: A Managerial Approach</i>, 2nd edn, Sydney, Addison Wesley Longman</p> <p>Williams, M. and T. May (1996) <i>Introduction to the Philosophy of Social Research</i>. London, UCL Press.</p> <p>Denzin, N. and Y. Lincoln (eds) (1998) <i>Strategies of Qualitative Inquiry</i>. London, Sage.</p> <p>Rose, D. and O. Sullivan (1996) <i>Introducing Data Analysis for the Social Sciences</i>. Buckingham, Open University Press.</p> <p>Healey, J. (1996) <i>Statistics: A Tool for Social Research</i>. London, Wadsworth.</p> <p>Van der Velde, M., Jansen, P., and Anderson, N. (2004). <i>Guide to Management Research Methods</i>. Wiley-Blackwell, 264 pp.</p> <p>Dr. Holton's Research Method Reading List can be viewed on: School of Human Resource Education and Workforce Development, Louisiana State University http://www.lsu.edu/hrd/Holtons%20research%20references.htm</p> <p>UTS Research Methods in Management http://www.handbook.uts.edu.au/subjects/details/21907.html</p> <p>Basic business research methods http://managementhelp.org/research/research.htm</p>																		
WEB SITES	<p>Online useful sources of references are:</p> <p>http://www.ogc.gov.uk/sdtoolkit/keyissues/index.html</p> <p>http://www.mcmullan.net/ecj/BOT.html</p> <p>http://www.spsr.ucla.edu/dup/courses/s99/289S99.html</p> <p>http://www.decisioneering.com/support/whitepaper/lorance.html</p> <p>http://epress.anu.edu.au/info_systems/mobile_devices/pt02.html Part 2. Research methods, reference theories and information systems</p>																		



Software	N.A.
Contents and Structure	<p>SBM1301 and SBM1302 are both research and dissertation units focused on a problem or opportunity to research a particular aspect of the bodies of knowledge applied in practice, or education and enculturation of practitioners, or industry and government approaches etc. related to projects, programs, portfolios and organisation units. These can include detailed and systemic case studies with a view to shedding new insights and or examining innovative ideas etc. Students electing to complete these units should focus on the topics that are within the domain of the Graduate Program in Business and Project Management. The topic can be either an extension of the assignment completed for a particular unit of study, or a research topic assigned by the supervisor or suggested by student and agreed to by the assigned supervisors. Both SBM1301 and 1302 are semester based and need to be completed within the allocated 14 weeks of study unless there are special circumstances that demand extension of the duration to 2 semesters (only applies to SBM1302).</p> <p>Both SBM1301 and SBM1302 shall be completed in 4 phases:</p> <p>Phase 1: Orientation and proposal Phase 2: Field work and data collection Phase 3: Analysis and dissertation/project report Phase 4: Examination</p> <p>Students work on approved topics under the supervision of assigned academic staff. Note that the scope of SBM1302 shall be double that of SBM1301 and this should be clearly demonstrated in the research plan/proposal developed in Phase 1.</p> <p>Phase 1 focuses on exploration of the literature on the topic chosen, selection of the appropriate theories for the study of the topic and development of a research methodology. Students work either individually or in teams of 2 to 3 under close supervision to develop a research proposal. This is presented to the supervisor and after feedback it is finalised by the team.</p> <p>Phase 2 concerns the fieldwork, i.e. conduct of the actual research activities planned and gathering and consolidation of the data collected.</p> <p>Phase 3 focuses on the analysis of the data, compilation of results and testing of the respective hypotheses, conclusion, and writing of the draft project report, submission to the supervisor for comment and feedback, followed by the final submission of the finished project report.</p> <p>Phase 4 is the formal assessment of the written dissertation, as well as oral examination of individual students by the supervisor as well as moderation of the same by a member of the faculty to ensure consistency and thoroughness.</p>
Learning Process and Program	<p>During an intensive 2-day workshop students enrolled in SBM1301 and 1302 will be tutored in research methods and techniques, literature review and critical appraisal techniques, data modelling and evaluation techniques, development and testing of hypotheses; interpretation and documentation of findings and other aspects of conducting research/investigation.</p> <p>They then develop their own study plan in the first week of their research. The study plan is submitted to the supervisor for comment. They then proceed to prepare their research plan/proposal. This phase involves delineation or development of the appropriate hypotheses and or precepts/theories that can underpin their research methodology. After receiving feedback and guidance from the supervisor on their proposals students proceed to conduct the field investigation and collect the necessary data. They then analyse the data, test their hypotheses and draw appropriate conclusions. These are presented to and discussed closely with their supervisors who will give student green light to proceed to the compilation and preparation of their dissertation for examination.</p>