

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: DISSERTATION
Status: Definitive
Code: **6512BEDA** (118733)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Built Environment
Teaching School/Faculty: Built Environment

| Team | Leader |
|----------------|--------|
| Matthew Tucker | Y |

Academic Level: FHEQ6
Credit Value: 24.00
Total Delivered Hours: 25.00
Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 215

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

| Component | Contact Hours |
|-----------|---------------|
| Online | 24.000 |
| Seminar | 1.000 |

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

| Category | Short Description | Description | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| Dissertation | AS1 | | 100.0 | |

Aims

To enable students to complete a substantial piece of individual work and build on their expertise in a selected area of study.

To develop students research, time management, presentation and written communication skills.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Identify a research question, problem or hypothesis and establish aims and objectives to support the investigation.
- 2 Collate, and appraise existing knowledge in the chosen field and present a critical evaluation in the form of a literature review.
- 3 Develop and refine a research and data collection strategy appropriate to the research question/problem posed.
- 4 Source, collect, and analyse relevant and original qualitative and/or quantitative data.
- 5 Synthesise, analyse and critically evaluate the research findings using reasoned and logical arguments within a structured written framework

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

DISSERTATION 1 2 3 4 5

Outline Syllabus

1. Introduction to the Dissertation

- The selection of a Research Topic and formulation of a research question.
- Establishing a research aim and setting / tailoring objectives to fulfil that goal
- The structure and purpose of a dissertation

2. Research Approaches and Strategies

- The Inductive versus Deductive Approach
- Qualitative and Quantitative Research
- Data Collection Strategies (Interviews, Field Tests, Lab Tests, Surveys, Questionnaires, Case Studies)
- The Knowledge Database. Effective Literature Searching and Literature Reviews

3. Data Collection and Analysis

- Data Collection Tools including Bristol on-line surveys
- Qualitative and Quantitative Data Analysis
- Data Analysis tools including SPSS and NVivo

Learning Activities

Individual study and investigation, supported by nominated Supervisor; lectures; workshops.

References

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|------------------------|------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Naoum,S.G. |

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|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Publishing Year | 2007 |
| Title | 'Dissertation Research and Writing for Construction Students' |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | 2nd |
| Publisher | Butterworth Heinemann |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Fellows, R. & Liu, A. |
| Publishing Year | 2008 |
| Title | 'Research Methods for Construction' |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | 3rd |
| Publisher | Wiley-Blackwell |
| ISBN | 9781405177900 |

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|------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Saunders, M. |
| Publishing Year | 2009 |
| Title | 'Research Methods for Business Students' |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | 5th |
| Publisher | Prentice Hall |
| ISBN | 9780273716860 |

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|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Bryman, A. & Bell, E. |
| Publishing Year | 2007 |
| Title | 'Business Research Methods' |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | 2nd |
| Publisher | Oxford University Press |
| ISBN | 9780199284986 |

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|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Bell, J. |
| Publishing Year | 2005 |
| Title | 'Doing your Research Project: A Guide for First Time Researchers in Education and Social Science' |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | 5th |
| Publisher | Oxford University Press |
| ISBN | 9780335235827 |

Notes

The dissertation enables students to personally select, and complete an in-depth study on, a topic related to their chosen discipline. The module develops students' practical research skills and enhances their knowledge and expertise in the selected subject area. As the completion of a dissertation is principally student-led the module offers the opportunity to further develop time management, presentation and communication skills.