

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: RESEARCH PROJECT
Status: Definitive
Code: **7088BEPG** (119563)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2013

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

Team	Leader
Ahmed Al-Shamma'a	Y
Montserrat Ortoneda Pedrola	

Academic Level: FHEQ7 **Credit Value:** 60.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 42.00
Total Learning Hours: 600 **Private Study:** 558

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	6.000
Practical	26.000
Tutorial	2.000
Workshop	8.000

Grading Basis: 50 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1	RESEARCH PROPOSAL	10.0	
Presentation	AS2	POSTER/ORAL PRESENTATION	10.0	
Dissertation	AS3	DISSERTATION	80.0	

Aims

To develop and test the students' ability to prepare a research project based on a study in appropriate depth, of a subject of some significance in relation to their own

discipline within the built environment.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Formulate a research question/problem which will lead to a novel and worthwhile piece of research work.
- 2 Devise an appropriate methodology of investigation on the chosen topic of research, demonstrating the ability to critically analyse the methodology chosen and evaluate it against alternatives.
- 3 Gather, present, analyse and interpret appropriate evidence in relation to the chosen research question/problem.
- 4 Analyse personal performance in a critical fashion and reflect on how the research is progressing.
- 5 Synthesise findings and draw conclusions around the research question/problem.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

REPORT	1		
POSTER	4		
PRESENTATION			
DISSERTATION	2	3	5

Outline Syllabus

The dissertation will normally comprise between 15,000 and 18,000 words. It is expected that the dissertation will incorporate the following:

- *A careful explanation of the research question or problem*
- *A review of the relevant literature*
- *An explanation of the research methodology or approach taken*
- *Descriptions, analysis and synthesis of carefully prepared evidence. This evidence will include both the selection and evaluation of relevant published material (e.g. books, patents, journal and conference papers), together with evidence of data gathering from primary sources.*

Students are required to undertake some original empirical research as part of the dissertation preparation process, most likely making use of laboratory facilities available within the School of Built Environment and working on topics core to the research and development work of the Built Environment and Sustainable Technologies Research Institute. Written guidance is issued to students prior to commencement of the dissertation process.

Students will be provided with a suggested list of dissertation topics by the appropriate programme team; the student will then be counselled on their chosen

topic, which may be from the provided list or may be a topic of the students own choosing provided it is deemed to fit within the scope of the student's programme of study and is practical given the available facilities. After this time, a full research proposal must be submitted and a supervisor will allocated.

Learning Activities

Practicals, tutorials, seminar presentation.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Farrell, Peter
Publishing Year	2011
Title	Writing a built environment dissertation: practical guidance and examples
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Chichester, West Sussex; Ames, Iowa: Wiley-Blackwell
ISBN	6613407062

Course Material	Book
Author	John Biggam
Publishing Year	2008
Title	Succeeding with your master's dissertation : a step-by-step handbook
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Imprint Maidenhead: Open University Press
ISBN	0335227198

Course Material	Book
Author	Bell, Judith
Publishing Year	2010
Title	Doing your research project: a guide for first-time researchers in education, health and social science
Subtitle	
Edition	5th Edition
Publisher	Maidenhead: McGraw-Hill Open University Press
ISBN	9780335239146

Course Material	Book
Author	Creswell, John W
Publishing Year	2009
Title	Research design: qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods approaches
Subtitle	

Edition	3rd Edition
Publisher	Thousand Oaks, CA; London: SAGE
ISBN	9781412965569

Course Material	Book
Author	Creswell, John W
Publishing Year	2013
Title	Qualitative inquiry & research design: choosing among five approaches
Subtitle	
Edition	3rd Edition
Publisher	Los Angeles, [Calif.]; London: SAGE
ISBN	1412995302

Course Material	Book
Author	Naoum, Shamil G
Publishing Year	2007
Title	Dissertation research and writing for construction students
Subtitle	
Edition	2nd Edition
Publisher	Oxford: Butterworth
ISBN	0750682647

Notes

Designed to develop and test the students' ability to perform academic research, drawing upon the skills developed through the programme to undertake a relevant piece of novel research. Students will be encouraged to participate in the annual Built Environment and Natural Environment (BEAN) conference to show the work that they are undertaking and to experience first-hand the expectations of academic research.