

Liverpool John Moores University

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Title: DISSERTATION
Status: Definitive
Code: **7524AE** (107298)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2012

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool Business School
Teaching School/Faculty: Isle of Man International Business School

| Team | Leader |
|----------------|--------|
| Michael Franco | Y |

Academic Level: FHEQ7
Credit Value: 60.00
Total Delivered Hours: 8.00
Total Learning Hours: 600
Private Study: 592

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

| Component | Contact Hours |
|-----------|---------------|
| Seminar | 8.000 |

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

| Category | Short Description | Description | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|--------------|-------------------|---|---------------|---------------|
| Dissertation | Diss | a 20,000 word typewritten and hard-bound Masters dissertation (2 copies of paper version with disc) plus additional disc showing methodological versions throughout the period. | 100.0 | |

Aims

To enable the student to prepare a dissertation that applies managerial concepts and research techniques to a significant organisational issue or problem.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- LO1 Select, evaluate and apply critical management thinking to an organisational issue or problem.
- LO2 Critically evaluate the techniques used to investigate an important management issue or problem.
- LO3 Synthesize information to arrive at a coherent conclusion and recommendations.
- LO4 Critically evaluate the strategic implications of the recommendations made.
- LO5 Critically reflect on his or her development of knowledge, skills, techniques and methodological approaches used during the preparation of the dissertation.
- LO6 Discuss effectively the student's own learning and progression reflecting on student's methodological skills during the dissertation process.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Dissertation | LO | LO | LO | LO | LO | LO |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

Outline Syllabus

Working in conjunction with the supervising tutor the student will select the precise topic for research. Building on the Research Skills Analysis module students will develop their critical skills as a researcher, both with regard to methodological justification and subject specific issues.

Learning Activities

Students will be allocated a suitably qualified member of staff who will act as supervisor for the dissertation. Students will maintain contact with their supervisor on a regular basis. The agenda for each encounter will vary according to the specific area being studied and the needs of each student.

References

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Clough, P. & Nutbrown, C. |
| Publishing Year | 2002 |
| Title | A Student's Guide to Methodology |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Sage |
| ISBN | 0 7619 7421 0 |

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|------------------------|--|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Easterby-Smith, M, Thorpe, R & Lowe, A |
| Publishing Year | 2002 |
| Title | Management Research :an introduction |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | 2nd |
| Publisher | Sage |
| ISBN | 0 7619 7285 4 |

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|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Fowler, F J |
| Publishing Year | 1992 |
| Title | Survey Research Methods |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Sage |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Gill, J & Johnson, P |
| Publishing Year | 1997 |
| Title | Research Methods for Managers |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Chapman Publishing |
| ISBN | |

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | Hart, C. |
| Publishing Year | 2004 |
| Title | Doing your Masters Dissertation |
| Subtitle | Essential study skills |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Sage Publications |
| ISBN | |

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Course Material | Book |
| Author | White, B. |
| Publishing Year | 2003 |
| Title | Dissertation skills for business and management students |
| Subtitle | |
| Edition | |
| Publisher | Thomson Learning |
| ISBN | |

Notes

The dissertation builds on previous learning from the Research Skills Analysis and appropriate subject specific modules, with the learning outcomes being achieved through a 20,000 word dissertation that applies managerial concepts and research techniques to critically investigate an organisational issue or problem. The expectation is that for this in-depth advanced study students will be capable of operating as independent critical thinkers, although appropriate developmental support will be provided through individual contact with a designated supervisor.

Reflections upon the learning process, including methodological issues, are important throughout this module. All students will be required to submit a disc showing the different versions of their methodology chapter throughout the dissertation period.

Output:-

- a) 2 hard bound copies (20,000 words) with electronic copy.
- b) 1 'methodological' draft chapter e-version (disc