



Unit Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School:	Institute of Health and Wellbeing
Unit Title:	RESEARCH METHODS AND ETHICAL PRACTICE
Unit ID:	HEASC4001
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(General entry into the Honours course)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	019901

Description of the Unit:

This unit is specifically designed to aid new research students in the development and management of a research project. The unit will focus in particular on the conduct of ethical research, quantitative and qualitative research methods, the issues of occupational health and safety in relation to planning and conducting laboratory research and/or field or work-based research in health sciences.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Work Experience:

No work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry.

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: No

Supplementary assessment is not available to students who gain a fail in this Unit.

Course Level:

Level of Unit in Course	AQF Level of Course					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intermediate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advanced	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Learning Outcomes:**Knowledge:**

- K1.** Describe the Occupation Health and Safety (OH & S) and ethical responsibilities and their relevance to effective research outcomes.
- K2.** Define characteristics of effective research hypotheses, objectives, methodologies and literature review appropriate to discipline.
- K3.** Investigate the knowledge of published research that provides background to the research project.
- K4.** Determine the qualities of effective communication of research through text, oral presentations and visual media.
- K5.** Examine the principles of different qualitative and quantitative approaches to data analysis.

Skills:

- S1.** Translate information needs into research and problem solving strategies that are appropriate for the research topic and field undertaken.
- S2.** Analyse the necessary qualities of a productive research project.
- S3.** Critically analyse research from journal articles, books and seminars.
- S4.** Summarise published research from journal articles, books and seminars.
- S5.** Deliver clear and professional written and oral communication of research to colleagues, collaborators and lay audiences.

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Formulate a Research Proposal, incorporating OH&S, ethics and risk assessment documentation as required.
- A2.** Propose and develop appropriate research aims and project design for an independent research project.
- A3.** Prepare professional standard review of literature for research project.
- A4.** Demonstrate the ability to critically analyse published research.
- A5.** Prepare and deliver written and oral reports to an audience of peers and staff.

Unit Content:

Topics may include:

- This unit is designed to aid students in the development and management of a research project. The coursework will focus on addressing the challenges faced by early career researchers, including the regulatory responsibilities that are part of effective research. This includes Occupation Health and Safety (OH&S) and Ethical issue; the design and planning of effective and productive research (e.g., developing Research Hypotheses, Problem Statements, Experimental planning; Research Questions, Literature Review); the analysis of research (including the statistical analysis of data); and effective communication of research (text, oral, visual).

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, S1, A1	The purpose of the online quiz is to determine your knowledge of ethical practice and OH&S to help you undertake an ethics application (if required) for your thesis project. The quiz may consist of multiple choice or short response questions. The online quiz is divided into two parts - Part A (assessment of Weeks 1-4) and Part B (assessment of Weeks 5-9).	Online Research Ethics Quiz	10-30%
K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, S2, S3, S4, A2, A4, A5	The purpose of the seminar presentation is to provide experience with presenting a research proposal and understand the research process related to conducting research. The seminar will be a 10-minute oral presentation of the scientific background, research design and methodology of the project. The seminar will be delivered to peers, supervisors and colleagues.	Seminar Presentation	20-40%
K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, A1, A2, A3, A4	The purpose of the written proposal is to develop an understanding about the scientific rigor necessary in writing a research proposal.	Written Research Proposal	20-40%
K1, S1, A1	The purpose of this task is to develop understanding of the following research integrity concepts; (i) the responsible conduct of research, (ii) when things go wrong: Breaches of the Code, and (iii) responsible conduct of human participants research.	Online Modules	S or U

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

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