



Course Outline

ITECH4311 RESEARCH PROJECT & THESIS

Title: RESEARCH PROJECT & THESIS

Code: ITECH4311

School / Portfolio: School of Science, Information Technology and Engineering

Level: Advanced

Pre-requisites: (General entry to the Honours program)

Co-requisites: Nil

Exclusions: (CP837)

Progress Units: 30

ASCED Code: 029999

Objectives:

- Develop a critical understanding of their major research directions, literature searching methodologies, information sources and multi-disciplinary research approaches influencing research in the field of computing and information technology.
- Develop skills in assimilating information at the research level through wide reading and through participation in seminars.
- Apply and reflect on a range of research strategies and independent research skills to locate, retrieve, store, critically analyse, evaluate, and use information effectively for research.
- Communicate the results of research in an appropriate scholarly manner

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

Knowledge:

- Explain how information is structured and communicated in the field of computing and information technology.
- Explain the nature and purpose of the literature review.
- Understand how to communicate results in an appropriate academic manner.

Skills:

- Identify personal information needs and translate these into research and problem solving strategies that are appropriate for the particular piece of research.
- Assess the accuracy, reliability and relevance of knowledge claims and arguments - by applying the processes associated with: critical reading, interpretation, analysis and evaluation of information sources.
- Devise strategies of current awareness to keep informed, and manage research.
- Prepare and present written and oral reports to an audience.
- Apply appropriate referencing conventions in the presentation of academic work.
- Write a supporting paper on a topic related to their research project.
- Produce a formatted, well written, technical report on research results.



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Values:

- Pursue and value knowledge.
- Value scholarship and creativity.
- Acquire new ideas.
- Explore and critically reflect on personal learning.
- Value the contribution and application of computing knowledge within the wider community.

Content:

Information will be provided on the writing of papers, on preparation of projects and theses, and on giving seminars. Students will also be guided on use of the library and other information sources.

Students will complete a research project and give at least one presentation related to this. Much of this work will be of an independent nature, although regular meetings with the supervisor are required. Participation in regular seminars to exchange ideas is also part of the nature of this course.

Learning Tasks & Assessment:

Meetings with supervisor, seminar attendance, seminar preparation, independent research and project report preparation.

Learning Task	Assessment	Weighting
Give a seminar presentation explaining the proposed project		10%
Give a seminar presentation explaining the results of the research		10%
Research project report and software		80%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Presentation of Academic Work:

<http://www.ballarat.edu.au/generalguide>