

Course Outline

School / Portfolio: Faculty of Education and Arts

Course Title: RESEARCH DESIGN FOR ORGANISATIONS AND COMMUNITIES

Course ID: APCGC5787

Credit Points: 30.00

Prerequisite(s): (30cr pts in level 8 study in cognate discipline)

Co-requisite(s): (30cr pts in level 8 study in cognate discipline)

Exclusion(s): (30cr pts in level 8 study in cognate discipline)

ASCED Code: 090599

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	✓	■
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Demonstrate depth of understanding about recent developments in research design for organisations, communities and human services.
- K2.** Research methodological issues and theoretical debates relating to research in organisations, communities, and human services.
- K3.** Critically appraise appropriate research design for organisations, communities and human services.

Skills:

- S1.** Reflect critically on philosophical and theoretical issues relating to research design for organisations in the community and human services sectors.
- S2.** Identify and evaluate the advantages and constraints of qualitative and quantitative methodologies.
- S3.** Present a proposal for a comprehensive research design.
- S4.** Evaluate appropriate research methodologies for complex organisational, community and human service contexts.
- S5.** Analyse ethical issues confronting research in complex organisational, community and/or human service contexts.

Application of knowledge and skills:

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- A1.** Critique methodological theory relevant to the design of research in organisational, community and human services
- A2.** Design a comprehensive, viable research project for a particular organisational, community or human services context
- A3.** Apply creativity and initiative to selecting and designing research strategies for complex organisational, community and human service contexts
- A4.** Competently attend to ethical compliance issues when designing a research project for a particular organisational, community or human service context.

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Research in Organisations, Communities and Human Services.
- The Importance of context.
- Identifying and involving key-stakeholders and promoting participatory approaches.
- Addressing ethical issues and dimensions.
- Defining and selecting researchable topics, problems and questions.
- Preparing a literature review.
- Designing comprehensive and realistic research projects.
- Theoretical dimensions, including epistemology and ontology, the influences and implications of postmodern and post qualitative approaches in practice-focussed social research.
- Research purposes, types and approaches in organisations, communities and human services.
- Managing ethical, practice-focussed research projects.
- Selecting appropriate methods for organisational, community and human services research.
- Evaluation and monitoring as research.
- Innovation and creativity in organisational, community and human service research.

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

- V1.** Respect for and commitment to ethical principles and codes of conduct in research involving people and communities.
- V2.** Appreciation of scholarly, rigorous, systematic and theoretically informed research for organisational, community and human service contexts
- V3.** Valuing engagement in independent scholarly activity
- V4.** Commitment to scholarly engagement in the pursuit of social justice.

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1; K2; S4; S5; A1; A2	Critical analysis of methodological, theoretical, ethical and contextual issues in planning a research project.	Essay	40 - 50%
K3; S2; S3; S4; A2; A3; A4	Comprehensive design for an appropriate research project incorporating presentation of a research poster.	Assignment	30 - 40%
S1; S5; A1; A2; K1; K2	Class participation involving critical appraisal of key concepts in research design.	On-line contributions to discussion forum topics	10 - 20%

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Adopted Reference Style:

APA