

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

TITLE	Dissertation
SI MODULE CODE	44-7938-00C/L/N/S
CREDITS	45
LEVEL	7
JACS CODE	N300
SUBJECT GROUP	Finance and Banking - SBS
DEPARTMENT	Finance, Accounting and Business Systems
MODULE LEADER	Dora Chan

MODULE STUDY HOURS (based on 10 hours per credit)*			
Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities	Placement (if applicable)	Independent Guided Study	Total Number of Study Hours
200		300	500

MODULE AIM

The aim of this module is to develop capability in undertaking independent research projects by conducting a research study using the appropriate research methodology and methods in such a way as to demonstrate development of the self as reflective practitioner with the potential for continuing personal and professional development.

MODULE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By engaging successfully with this module a student will be able to

1. take responsibility for a project or study, (in the fields of business process management, accounting, banking, finance and risk management), that involves research which has clear goals and objectives and demonstrates ability to reflect on the contingencies that affect those goals and objectives;
2. consider alternative approaches to investigating and analysing the issue from a variety of perspectives by critically evaluating a range of research methods;
3. undertake an thorough critical review of academic and other literature relevant to the research and apply it effectively within the project or study;
4. undertake research and evaluate the implications and limitations of the project or study through recognition of the significance of the research findings and data analysis in relation to relevant theory, concepts, other published findings and review of the academic literature;
5. communicate clearly the aims, methods and results of research in a way that is appropriately structured, and observes scholarly conventions of referencing and presentation without loss of creativity.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

There is no taught content in relation to the students' dissertation which is the result of an independent research study. However, in terms of the content of the dissertation it is likely that the dissertation will include all or most of the following distinct elements:

- Research design
- Literature review
- Research methodology
- Data analysis and evaluation
- Report writing
- Reflective learning and self evaluation
- Referencing

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT - STRATEGY AND METHODS

Students will be supported in their learning, to achieve the above outcomes, in the following ways

The learning philosophy adopted is based on an enquiry based approach to learning and is designed to encourage students to take an independent and critical approach towards the anticipated learning outcomes. To achieve this, the students will:

- be supported throughout the period of research by a personal academic supervisor;
- communicate with the appointed academic supervisor on a regular basis, either through direct meetings or by e-mail, to discuss the research, seek advice on methodological issues and background reading, and as necessary, on the appropriate method of presentation;
- work independently to review the relevant literature and obtain other information relevant to the successful completion of the research study;
- be encouraged to reflect upon the process of research by the academic supervisor.

ASSESSMENT TASK INFORMATION

Task No.*	Short Description of Task	SI Code EX/CW/PR	Task Weighting %	Word Count or Exam Duration**	In-module retrieval available
1	Supervision records	CW	Pass/Fail	N/A	N
2	Dissertation	CW	100%	15,000	N

FEEDBACK

Students will receive feedback on their performance in the following ways

The supervisor will give feedback during the supervision meetings and written feedback will be given at the assessment stage of the dissertation.

LEARNING RESOURCES FOR THIS MODULE (INCLUDING READING LISTS)

The relevant content, reading and resources are those specified in the modules, including Methods of Enquiry: Research and Consultancy in Finance and Research Methods, studied within the course prior to the commencement of the dissertation. Other reading and resources will be specific to each dissertation and cannot be specified in advance. The expectation is that students will utilise the full range of on-line and other information sources available in undertaking their research.

If the module adopts an enquiry based approach to supporting the development of learner autonomy then students will find many of their own resources – in this circumstance an indication of the type of resources that may be used by students should be indicated.

SECTION 2 MODULE INFORMATION FOR STAFF ONLY

MODULE DELIVERY AND ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

MODULE STATUS - INDICATE IF ANY CHANGES BEING MADE

NEW MODULE	N
EXISTING MODULE - NO CHANGE	Y
Title Change	N
Level Change	N
Credit Change	N
Assessment Pattern Change	N
Change to Delivery Pattern	N
Date the changes (or new module) will be implemented	N/A

MODULE DELIVERY PATTERN - Give details of the start and end dates for each module. If the course has more than one intake, for example, September and January, please give details of the module start and end dates for each intake.

	Module Begins	Module Ends
Course Intake 1	02/06/2014	30/01/2015
Course Intake 2	26/01/2015	11/05/2015
Course Intake 3	DD/MM/YYYY	DD/MM/YYYY

Is timetabled contact time required for this module?	N
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Are any staff teaching on this module non-SHU employees?	N
If yes, please give details of the employer institution(s) below	
What proportion of the module is taught by these non-SHU staff, expressed as a percentage?	

MODULE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Indicate how the module will be marked	
*Overall PERCENTAGE Mark of 40%	Y
*Overall PASS / FAIL Grade	N

*Choose one only – module cannot include both percentage mark and pass/fail graded tasks

SUB-TASKS

Will any sub-tasks (activities) be used as part of the assessment strategy for this module?	N
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If sub-tasks / activities are to be used this must be approved within the Faculty prior to approval. Sub-task / activity marks will be recorded locally and extenuating circumstances, extensions, referrals and deferrals will not apply to sub-tasks / activities.

FINAL TASK

According to the Assessment Information shown in the Module Descriptor, which task will be the LAST TASK to be taken or handed-in? (Give task number as shown in the Assessment Information Grid in Section 1 of the Descriptor)	Task No. 1
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NON-STANDARD ASSESSMENT PATTERNS

MARK 'X' IN BOX IF MODULE ASSESSMENT PATTERN IS NON STANDARD, eg MODEL B, ALL TASKS MUST BE PASSED AT 40%.	
NB: Non-standard assessment patterns are subject to faculty agreement and approval by Registry Services - see guidance. notes.	