

Subject Name:

Research Proposal and Ethics

Subject Code:

RESE511

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Award/s:	Total course credit points:	Level:	
Bachelor of Health Science (Acupuncture) (Honours)	32	Core	5 th Year
Bachelor of Health Science (Myotherapy) (Honours)	32	Core	4 th Year
Bachelor of Health Science (Naturopathy) (Honours)	32	Core	5 th Year
Bachelor of Health Science (Nutritional and Dietetic Medicine) (Honours)	32	Core	4 th Year
Duration: 1 Semester			
Subject Coordinator: Helene Diezel (Brisbane Campus)			
Subject is: Core	Subject Credit Points: 4		

Student Workload:

No. timetabled hours per week:	No. personal study hours per week:	Total hours per week:
6	4	10

Delivery Mode:

E-Learning	Details:	Interactive online content delivery Asynchronous and synchronous tutor-moderated discussion forum and activities Student handouts, web-based resources
Full Time		
Part Time		

Pre-requisites: Entry to Honours Program

Co-requisites: Nil

SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC DETAILS

Subject Rationale

This subject will ensure that students have the necessary knowledge and skills to complete a research study in their chosen area. In this subject, students will learn how to develop a research proposal for the purpose of conducting research as part of their Honours degree. Students will develop skill in demonstrating each of the following: the problem is significant enough to warrant investigation, the chosen methodology is suitable and practical, the results are likely to be successful and the research project will make an original contribution. Students will also develop an understanding of the rationale, justification, background and methods for their research project (thesis). Students will have the opportunity to prepare and submit an application for approval to the relevant ethics committees and present their research proposal to staff and students. This research proposal will form the basis of research subsequently undertaken in the Honours Research Project. This subject lays the foundation for the development and completion of a Research Project in the following semester.

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the research process, from the development of a research question, through to writing and submitting a research proposal.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of ethics in research and its applicability to the research proposal.
3. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the structure, organisation and writing style of a research proposal and research ethics application.
4. Evaluate the implications arising from the proposal of a research project.

Assessment Tasks				
Type	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Sessions Content Delivered	Due	Weighting
Oral Presentation (20 minutes)	1,4	1-8	Session 10	15%
Oral presentation of Research Proposal (20 minutes + 10 minutes question time)	1-4	1-20	Session 22	25%
Research proposal and ethics application (3000 words)	1-4	1-24	Session 26	60%
All written assessments and online quizzes are due at 17:00PM AEST and submitted through the LMS				

Prescribed readings:

- Jacobsen, K. (2012). *Introduction to health research methods: a practical guide* (Vol. 1). Sudbury, Massachusetts: Jones & Bartlett Learning.
- Specific peer-reviewed journal articles related to methodologies, research topic and modality suggested each session.

Recommended readings:

- Creswell, J. (2014). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches* (Vol. 4): SAGE Publications.
- Walter, M. (2013). *Social Research Methods* (Vol. 3). South Melbourne, VIC: Oxford University Press.

Subject Content		
Week	Lecture	Tutorial/Facilitated workshop
1.	Session 1 Introduction to research activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building a research career Introduction to the research proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure, audience, purpose 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 2 Scoping a research project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility Stakeholder identification and networking Significance and innovation Building a research team 	Workshop and online discussion
2.	Session 3 The importance of planning a research project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning a research project Working with other researchers 	Workshop and online discussion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project management • Project checklists • Managing scope 	
	Session 4 Timelines and time management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timelines of the research proposal • Timeline of the research project • Staying on course 	Workshop and online discussion
3.	Session 5 Sampling recruitment and stakeholder engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sampling recruitment • Stakeholder engagement and collaboration 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 6 Limitations of research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The limitations of research and the research proposal • Responding to challenges 	Workshop and online discussion
4.	Session 7 Formulating and selecting the research question/s <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The research problem • Aims, objectives and research questions • Defining the research topic • Hypothesis generation • PICO 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 8 Introduction of a research proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing the introduction of a research proposal 	Workshop and online discussion
5.	Session 9 Background of a research proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing the background section of a research proposal 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 10 Rationale of a research proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing the rationale of a research proposal 	Synchronous online workshop for <i>oral presentation</i>
6.	Session 11 Aims and objectives of a research proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing the aims and objectives of a research proposal 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 12 Methodology section of a research proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing the methodology section of a research proposal • Choosing appropriate methods 	Workshop and online discussion
7.	Session 13 Significance and Innovation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of the project • The innovation of the research project 	Workshop and online discussion

	Session 14 Ethics in research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethical considerations Ethics applications Ethics committees 	Workshop and online discussion
8.	Session 15 Ethics in research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informed consent Academic fraud, integrity, plagiarism, misrepresentation of results 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 16 The ethics application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ethics application Ethics policies HREA 	Workshop and online discussion
9.	Session 17 The ethics application (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HREA 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 18 Budget and funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning a research budget Costing a research budget 	Workshop and online discussion
10.	Session 19 Grants and Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding categories NHMRC, ARC and other major funding bodies 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 20 Building a research profile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Google Scholar, ORCID ID, Research Gate Community involvement and contribution Academic positions 	Workshop and online discussion
11.	Session 21 Building a research profile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication profile and impact Self-promotion Planning a research career 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 22 Virtual Thesis-writing Bootcamp	Synchronous online session Synchronous session for <i>Oral Presentations of Research Proposals</i>
12.	Session 23 Writing a thesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thesis and exegesis Publishing your thesis findings Building a thesis from published works Traditional thesis structure 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 24	Workshop and online discussion

	Writing a thesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of the introduction • Presenting the literature review • Reporting the methodology 	
13.	Session 25 Writing a thesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting the results • Discussing the results 	Workshop and online discussion
	Session 26 Submitting a thesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission guidelines • Examination process • Final publication of thesis 	Workshop and online discussion
14.	Practical Examination Week 1 Note that make-up classes may be scheduled in this week.	
15.	Practical Examination Week 2 Note that make-up classes may be scheduled in this week.	
16.	Final Examination Week 1 There is no final examination in this subject.	
17.	Final Examination Week 2 There is no final examination in this subject.	