

ISN404 Research Thesis 1

Unit Description

In conjunction with a thesis supervisor, students in Research Thesis 1 will develop a research question and embed this research question within the current literature, develop testable hypotheses and propose an appropriate methodology (including participants, measures and procedures). Students will develop adequate statistical justification for complete data analysis of the thesis project, describe all possible ethical issues associated with psychological research and determine which ones apply to their thesis and how they will satisfy ethical requirements. Students must complete appropriate documentation for ethics and achieve ethical clearance of proposed research. Students will practice effective verbal and written communication of concepts and research in psychology.

Required Textbooks and Readings

Punch, K. (2006). Developing effective research proposals (2nd Ed.). London: Sage

American Psychological Association (2010). Publication manual (6th Ed.). Washington DC: APA.

Sternberg, R. (2010). The psychologist's companion: A guide to scientific writing (5th Ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Administrative Details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Core or Elective	Level	Unit Coordinator	Other Teaching Staff
Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours)	One semester	Core	Fourth year, Semester 1	Dr Kelly Asao	TBA

Unit weighting as a percentage of the year

Unit credit points	Total course credit points
12.5	100

Student workload

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Minimum Total workload hours per week
1 (1x1 hour tutorial workshop)	6	10

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Learning outcomes for Unit
I. Develop a research question and embed this question within the current literature.
II. Analyse and critique theory and research within psychology.
III. Develop testable hypotheses with a clear rationale/s.
IV. Propose an appropriate methodology to test hypotheses.
V. Develop adequate statistical justification for complete data analysis of the thesis project.

Learning outcomes for Unit

VI. Understand all possible ethical issues associated with the thesis project and complete appropriate documentation to achieve ethical clearance of the proposed project

VII. Practice communication of psychological topics and research in oral and written form.

Overview of Assessment Tasks

Assessment tasks		
Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Attendance & Participation (Hurdle Requirement) Students are expected to attend workshops and actively engage with the material.	End of each workshop	
Verbal Thesis Proposal (30%) In conjunction with the thesis supervisor, students are expected to demonstrate effective verbal communication of their proposed thesis projects and receive feedback.	12th – 13th April	30%
Ethical Hurdle Requirement In conjunction with the thesis supervisor, students are expected to complete appropriate documentation for ethics and achieve ethical clearance of proposed research	30th April	

Assessment tasks		
Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Written Thesis Proposal (70%) In conjunction with the thesis supervisor, students are expected to demonstrate effective written communication of their proposed thesis projects and incorporate feedback from presentation assessment.	11:59pm, 25th May (upload via Turnitin)	70%

Delivery mode

Face to face on site; Full-time or Part-time study

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

Pass grade or higher in all Year 1, 2 and 3 units.

Other Resource and Requirements

None.

**Unit outlines may be subject to change. The most up-to-date outlines will be provided to students once the semester commences*