

ISN403 Research Methods

Unit Description

Research Methods introduces students to quantitative advanced research methods including: ANCOVA, MANOVA, discriminant function analysis, regressions and structural equation modelling, and data reduction via factor analysis. Qualitative research methodologies such as grounded theory and discourse analysis will be taught. Students will demonstrate the ability to use established data sets to complete various quantitative and qualitative analyses, along with a mixed method analysis and a report integrating both data sets. Critical decision making and understanding the issues within statistics and design is required to ensure completion of appropriate qualitative and quantitative analyses.

Required Materials

IBM SPSS Statistics Grad Pack Premium edition

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 Helen Nasser	N/A

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	Total workload hours per week
4 (1x2 hour lecture; 1x1 hour face-face tutorial and 1x1 hour online activities)	6	10

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Learning outcomes for Unit
I. Understand quantitative advanced research methods including: ANCOVA; MANOVA; discriminant function analysis; regressions; and data reduction [factor analysis]
II. Understand qualitative research methodologies
III. Demonstrate the ability to use established data sets to complete various quantitative and qualitative analysis
IV. Demonstrate the ability to complete a mixed method analysis and complete a report integrating both data sets
V. Understand issues of statistics and design and demonstrate critical decision making to ensure completion of appropriate qualitative and quantitative analyses on data sets

Overview of Assessment Tasks

Assessment tasks		
Type	When assessed	Weighting (% of total marks)
Class participation (10%). Students are expected to actively engage in asking and answering relevant questions during online tutorials.	Weeks 2-13	10%
Online tasks (10%). Students are expected to complete tasks assigned during online tutorials	Weeks 2-13	10%
Data analysis assessment (40%) Students are expected to answer short answer questions/analyses covered during the semester	Week 11	40%
Examination (40%). Closed book exam including 50 multiple choice questions and five short answer topics. Students are required to answer two of the five topics	During exam period	40%

Delivery mode

Face to face on site with E-learning (online) components; Full-time or Part-time study

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

None

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.*

