

Module Title Dissertation (MSc)	Reference BSM313 SCQF SCQF Level 11 SCQF Points 60 ECTS Points 30 Created May 2002 Approved August 2013 Amended August 2013 Version No. 5
Keywords Independent research, Research Methodology, Analysis, Critical Evaluation	

This Version is No Longer Current

The latest version of this module is available [here](#)

Prerequisites for Module

Completion of appropriate Postgraduate Diploma or equivalent.

This is the completion of a piece of independent work supported by an academic supervisor.

Corequisite Modules

None.

Indicative Student Workload

<i>Contact Hours</i>	Full Time	Distance Learning
Lectures	18	0
Tutorials	15	0
Assessment	2	2

Precluded Modules

None.

Directed Study

Directed Study	40	73
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Aims of Module

To provide the student with the opportunity to integrate knowledge and skills at Masters level by undertaking a supervised, independent piece of research on an approved topic in a degree related discipline.

Private Study

Private Study	525	525
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Mode of Delivery

Taught Mode (T)

The module is delivered in taught mode by lectures, interactive group work, tutorials during a series of research workshops and directed

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

1. Produce a research topic and proposal in preparation for the Dissertation.
2. Investigate and critically review relevant literature on a chosen research topic to establish the need for further research in this area.
3. Carry out the methodology, analyse and synthesise the results obtained. (Normally from both primary and secondary research)
4. Derive conclusions from the research conducted and formulate recommendations to industry and/or future researchers.
5. Synthesise and apply in a practical context, the knowledge, understanding and skills developed in the taught elements of the programme.

Indicative Module Content

The module is delivered in two phases.

Phase 1: Research methodology. This includes: philosophy and practice of research;; qualitative research techniques; surveys and sampling; information retrieval

self-study.

Distance Learning Mode (DL)

The module is delivered in Distance Learning Mode by self directed learning from web-based learning materials, supported by on-line tutorial support

Assessment Plan

	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Component 1	1,2,3,4,5

Assessment is based on the submission of a Research Dissertation which will normally be 15,000 words.

Indicative Bibliography

1. JOYNER, R.L., 2013. *Writing the winning thesis or dissertation. A step by step guide*. 3rd ed. California: Corwin a Sage company.
2. ROZAKIS, R., 2007. *Schaum's quick guide to writing great research papers*. 2nd ed. London: McGraw-Hill. *ebook*
3. SAUNDERS, M., LEWIS, P. and THORNHILL, A., 2012. *Research methods for business students*. 6th ed. London: FT Prentice Hall.
4. SEKARAN, U., 2010. *Research methods for business*. 5th ed. New York: John Wiley.

sampling, information retrieval
and reviewing literature;
preparing a feasible research
proposal; project management;
questionnaire design;
quantitative techniques; data
analysis, case study method.

This phase is completed with the
submission of a research topic
and a research proposal.

Phase 2: Dissertation.

5. VAN DEN BRINK-BUDGEN,
R., 2010. *Critical thinking for
students*. 4th ed. Oxford: How To
books.