Unit Outline

HUMN4000 Humanities Honours Dissertation 1
Semester 2, 2015

Unit study package code: HUMN4000
Mode of study: Fully Online
Credit Value: 50.0
Pre-requisite units: Nil
Co-requisite units: Nil
Anti-requisite units: Nil
Result type: Grade/Mark
Approved incidental fees: Information about approved incidental fees can be obtained from our website. Visit fees.curtin.edu.au/incidental_fees.cfm for details.

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Acknowledgement of Country

We respectfully acknowledge the Indigenous Elders, custodians, their descendants and kin of this land past and present.

Syllabus

This unit extends skills acquired during a relevant Bachelor of Arts Degree. Students will acquire new knowledge and develop a research approach through the development of a project. Through independent research and guided supervision students will produce work for review and examination at the end of semester.

Introduction

Humanities Honours Dissertation 1 is a unit in which students work on independent research in consultation with an allocated supervisor or, in some cases, co-supervisors, in order to work through the first stage of a research project. There are a range of options for how supervision can be delivered, dependent on study mode, preference or necessity. Some students will meet with supervisors on campus, others will connect via email, Skype, phone etc. Appointments might be weekly, fortnightly, or monthly depending on the stage of the research or the preference of the student-supervisor team. Whatever the method, be sure to agree on the method and frequency of consulting with your supervisor from the outset of your relationship.

This unit is the preparatory phase of producing a completed research dissertation, and functions as a means of introducing students to the responsibilities of a major research undertaking.

Unit Learning Outcomes

All graduates of Curtin University achieve a set of nine graduate attributes during their course of study. These tell an employer that, through your studies, you have acquired discipline knowledge and a range of other skills and attributes which employers say would be useful in a professional setting. Each unit in your course addresses the graduate attributes through a clearly identified set of learning outcomes. They form a vital part in the process referred to as assurance of learning. The learning outcomes tell you what you are expected to know, understand or be able to do in order to be successful in this unit. Each assessment for this unit is carefully designed to test your achievement of one or more of the unit learning outcomes. On successfully completing all of the assessments you will have achieved all of these learning outcomes.

Your course has been designed so that on graduating we can say you will have achieved all of Curtin’s Graduate Attributes through the assurance of learning process in each unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>On successful completion of this unit students can:</th>
<th>Graduate Attributes addressed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Explain the conceptual basis underpinning and informing own research</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Identify and analyse the relationship between an individual research approach and appropriate theoretical perspectives</td>
<td>![Checkmark] ![Checkmark]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Evaluate strengths and weaknesses within own research endeavours</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Assess and refine research methods relevant to the successful completion of a research project</td>
<td>![Checkmark] ![Checkmark] ![Checkmark]</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Curtin’s Graduate Attributes

- **Apply discipline knowledge**
- **Thinking skills** (use analytical skills to solve problems)
- **Information skills** (confidence to investigate new ideas)
- **Communication skills**
- **Technology skills**
- **Learning how to learn** (apply principles learnt to new situations)
- **International perspective** (value the perspectives of others)
- **Cultural understanding** (value the perspectives of others)
- **Professional Skills** (work independently and as a team) (plan own work)

Find out more about Curtin’s Graduate attributes at the Office of Teaching & Learning website: [ctl.curtin.edu.au](http://ctl.curtin.edu.au)
Learning Activities

An Honours qualification provides evidence of independent thinking and the capacity to develop and utilise research skills in sustained and purposeful ways. Much of the learning undertaken in the unit Theories and Methods for Honours Research will feed directly into Humanities Honours Dissertation 1, including articulating the research question, literature search/e/s and research planning, refining research methodologies, ethics application review/preparation etc. This learning and associated practice will form the basis of the first semester research preparation, with individual supervision facilitating increased depth and interrogation of research choices. Each student will work differently, negotiating tuition patterns and contact means with their supervisor/s to suit varying learning styles and study modes.

Learning Resources

Other resources


Note: Other readings and resources will be listed/provided throughout the semester.
Assessment

Assessment schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Value %</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>Unit Learning Outcome(s) Assessed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Ongoing research and presentation        | 100     | Week: Ongoing throughout the semester  
|                                           |         | Day: To be negotiated with supervisor  
|                                           |         | Time: NA                   | 1,2,3,4                          |

Detailed information on assessment tasks

1. Through regular consultation with supervisors across the semester, students will be provided with regular feedback on the development of their respective research projects, with recommendations at the end of semester for progress through to the subsequent unit, Humanities Honours Dissertation 2.

Pass requirements

This unit will be recorded as Ongoing Assessment (OA) at the end of the first semester of study. When the examination result for Humanities Honours Dissertation 2 becomes available, your result for Humanities Dissertation 1 will be updated to the same mark. For example, if your Dissertation receives a result of 78%, both Humanities Honours Dissertation 1 and 2 will have a recorded mark of 78%.

Fair assessment through moderation

Moderation describes a quality assurance process to ensure that assessments are appropriate to the learning outcomes, and that student work is evaluated consistently by assessors. Minimum standards for the moderation of assessment are described in the Assessment and Student Progression Manual, available from policies.curtin.edu.au/policies/teachingandlearning.cfm

Late assessment policy

This ensures that the requirements for submission of assignments and other work to be assessed are fair, transparent, equitable, and that penalties are consistently applied.

1. All assessments students are required to submit will have a due date and time specified on this Unit Outline.
2. Students will be penalised by a deduction of ten percent per calendar day for a late assessment submission (eg a mark equivalent to 10% of the total allocated for the assessment will be deducted from the marked value for every day that the assessment is late). This means that an assessment worth 20 marks will have two marks deducted per calendar day late. Hence if it was handed in three calendar days late and given a mark of 16/20, the student would receive 10/20. An assessment more than seven calendar days overdue will not be marked and will receive a mark of 0.

Assessment extension

A student unable to complete an assessment task by/on the original published date/time (eg examinations, tests) or due date/time (eg assignments) must apply for an assessment extension using the Assessment Extension form (available from students.curtin.edu.au/administration/) as prescribed by the Academic Registrar. It is the responsibility of the student to demonstrate and provide evidence for exceptional circumstances beyond the student’s control that prevent them from completing/submitting the assessment task.

The student will be expected to lodge the form and supporting documentation with the unit coordinator before the assessment date/time or due date/time. An application may be accepted up to five working days after the date or due date of the assessment task where the student is able to provide an acceptable explanation as to why he or she was not able to submit the application prior to the assessment date. An application for an assessment extension will not be accepted after the date of the Board of Examiners’ meeting.

Deferred assessments

If your results show that you have been granted a deferred assessment you should immediately check your OASIS email for details.
Supplementary assessments
Supplementary assessments are not available in this unit.

Referencing style
The referencing style for this unit is is: Supervisors to advise referencing style relevant to specific discipline areas. Chicago Referencing Style to be used if no specific discipline style required.

More information on this referencing style can be obtained at http://curtin.v1.libguides.com/content.php?pid=141214

Academic Integrity (including plagiarism and cheating)
Any conduct by a student that is dishonest or unfair in connection with any academic work is considered to be academic misconduct. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offences that will be investigated and may result in penalties such as reduced or zero grades, annulled units or even termination from the course.

Plagiarism occurs when work or property of another person is presented as one’s own, without appropriate acknowledgement or referencing. Submitting work which has been produced by someone else (e.g. allowing or contracting another person to do the work for which you claim authorship) is also plagiarism. Submitted work is subjected to a plagiarism detection process, which may include the use of text matching systems or interviews with students to determine authorship.

Cheating includes (but is not limited to) asking or paying someone to complete an assessment task for you or any use of unauthorised materials or assistance during an examination or test.

For more information, including student guidelines for avoiding plagiarism, refer to the Academic Integrity tab in Blackboard or academicintegrity.curtin.edu.au.

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Expectations
Curtin students are expected to have reliable internet access in order to connect to OASIS email and learning systems such as Blackboard and Library Services.

You may also require a computer or mobile device for preparing and submitting your work.

For general ICT assistance, in the first instance please contact OASIS Student Support: oasisapps.curtin.edu.au/help/general/support.cfm

For specific assistance with any of the items listed below, please contact The Learning Centre: life.curtin.edu.au/learning-support/learning_centre.htm

- Using Blackboard, the I Drive and Back-Up files
- Introduction to PowerPoint, Word and Excel

Additional information
Enrolment
It is your responsibility to ensure that your enrolment is correct - you can check your enrolment through the eStudent option on OASIS, where you can also print an Enrolment Advice.

Student Rights and Responsibilities
It is the responsibility of every student to be aware of all relevant legislation, policies and procedures relating to their rights and responsibilities as a student. These include:

- the Student Charter
- the University’s Guiding Ethical Principles
- the University’s policy and statements on plagiarism and academic integrity
- copyright principles and responsibilities
- the University’s policies on appropriate use of software and computer facilities

Information on all these things is available through the University’s "Student Rights and Responsibilities" website at: students.curtin.edu.au/rights.
**Student Equity**

There are a number of factors that might disadvantage some students from participating in their studies or assessments to the best of their ability, under standard conditions. These factors may include a disability or medical condition (e.g. mental illness, chronic illness, physical or sensory disability, learning disability), significant family responsibilities, pregnancy, religious practices, living in a remote location or another reason. If you believe you may be unfairly disadvantaged on these or other grounds please contact Student Equity at eesj@curtin.edu.au or go to http://eesj.curtin.edu.au/student_equity/index.cfm for more information.

You can also contact Counselling and Disability services: http://www.disability.curtin.edu.au or the Multi-faith services: http://life.curtin.edu.au/health-and-wellbeing/about_multifaith_services.htm for further information.

It is important to note that the staff of the university may not be able to meet your needs if they are not informed of your individual circumstances so please get in touch with the appropriate service if you require assistance. For general wellbeing concerns or advice please contact Curtin’s Student Wellbeing Advisory Service at: http://life.curtin.edu.au/health-and-wellbeing/student_wellbeing_service.htm

**Recent unit changes**

Students are encouraged to provide unit feedback through eVALUate, Curtin’s online student feedback system. For more information about eVALUate, please refer to evaluate.curtin.edu.au/info/.

To view previous student feedback about this unit, search for the Unit Summary Report at https://evaluate.curtin.edu.au/student/unit_search.cfm. See https://evaluate.curtin.edu.au/info/dates.cfm to find out when you can eVALUate this unit.

Recent changes to this unit include:

Processes around supervision and examination have recently been reviewed.
Program calendar

There is no set/generic calendar for this unit, but a calendar of regular appointments or an agreed schedule should be negotiated early in the semester between the individual student and their allocated supervisor/s to ensure ongoing communication and engagement in this unit across the whole semester.

Program Calendar – Semester 2 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Begin Date</th>
<th>Lecture/ Seminar</th>
<th>Pre-readings</th>
<th>Tutorial/Other</th>
<th>Assessment Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>27 July</td>
<td>Orientation Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>3 August</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>10 August</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>17 August</td>
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<td>24 August</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>31 August</td>
<td>Tuition Free Week</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>7 September</td>
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<td>14 September</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>21 September</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>28 September</td>
<td>Tuition Free Week</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>5 October</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>12 October</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>19 October</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>26 October</td>
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<td>14.</td>
<td>2 November</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>9 November</td>
<td>Study Week</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>16 November</td>
<td>Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>23 November</td>
<td>Examinations</td>
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