The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Research Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tr>
<td>MKT</td>
<td>3004</td>
<td>44175</td>
<td>2, 2005</td>
<td>EXT</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Toowoomba</td>
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Academic group: FOBUS
Academic org: FOB004
Student contribution band: 2
ASCED code: 080599

STAFFING

Examiner: Michael Gardiner

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: MKT3001

RATIONALE

Professional staff in both large and small organisations are required to make decisions that will assist the organization to perform more efficiently and effectively in an environment that presents an increasingly complex range of challenges. Business professionals must be able to identify and find solutions to a range of problems. This requires the skills to undertake primary research, to interpret results and communicate with other research focused staff. This course applies the skills developed in MKT3001 Market Research to a real situation.

SYNOPSIS

The course is based on participation in a major research 'real life' project. Students will be given the opportunity to apply their tourism, business and marketing skills to a particular issue which will involve identification of the problem and the conduct of both qualitative and quantitative research to collect data that will help to find solutions. This will involve definition of the research questions and hypotheses, design of the instrument, administration and data analysis. The final stage involves communicating the results through preparation of a major report and presentation of results. Please note this course will only be available to students who have completed MKT3001 Market Research.

OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. apply appropriate analytical (quantitative and qualitative) and research techniques to a tourism related issue;
2. design a research project to collect data to help solve a specific research question;
3. demonstrate an understanding of the relationships between research and other discipline areas;
4. demonstrate understanding of the need for an adequate literature review;
5. demonstrate an ability to devise creative solutions to the business needs of organisations; and
6. present verbal and written reports containing solution(s) to the research.

**TOPICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Problem identification and setting of research objectives</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Applications of research methodology to the research problems</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Selection of appropriate quantitative and qualitative analytic techniques</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Research design</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Collection and analysis of necessary secondary data and literature review</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Undertake exploratory research activities</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Undertake descriptive research activities</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Analysis of data and interpretation</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Preparation and presentation of the results</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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**TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED**

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the ‘Textbook Search’ facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click ‘Semester’, then enter your ‘Course Code’ (no spaces).

Students will draw on texts used in course MKT3001.

**REFERENCE MATERIALS**

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.


**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>70.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
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**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tr>
<td>PROPOSAL</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>01 Aug 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROGRESS REPORT</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>26 Aug 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL REPORT (WRITTEN)</td>
<td>70.00</td>
<td>70.00</td>
<td>21 Oct 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRESENTATION</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>24 Oct 2005</td>
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**IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION**

1. **Attendance requirements:**
   If you are an international student in Australia, you are advised to attend all classes at your campus. For all other students, there are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.

2. **Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:**
   To complete the assignments satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assignment with a weighting, and an acceptable effort for the formative piece of assessment.

3. **Penalties for late submission of required work:**
   Late submissions will not be accepted.

4. **Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:**
   To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must attempt all of the summative and formative assessment items and achieve at least 50% of the available weighted marks for the summative assessment items.

5. **Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:**
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

6 Examination information:
There is no examination in this course.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Not applicable.

8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6 Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm. Students should also read the Faculty of Business Guide to Policies and Procedures of the Faculty which can be found at the URL http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current/buspolproc.html.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

1 Assignments: (i) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner. (ii) If requested, students will be required to provide a copy of an assignment submitted for assessment purposes. This should be despatched to the USQ within 24 hours of receipt of a request being made. (iii) The Examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. Applications for extensions should be in writing and must include supporting documentary evidence. Extensions are only granted in unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstances. The Examiner shall consider all documentary evidence (including statement from a doctor, employer, counsellor or independent member of the community as appropriate) accompanying an application for extension and decide on the outcome. Length of extensions: Up to one week's extension (five working days) may be granted if a signed statement with supporting documentation is sent with the assignment, proving that an unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstance caused the delay, for example unusual and unpredictable work or family commitments. If the signed statement and supporting documentation does not show that unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstances were present for the days claimed, then the normal reduction in marks for a late assignment of 20% per working day will apply. (iv) Extensions beyond one week are not allowed unless express permission is obtained from the Examiner. Extensions beyond one week are only granted in extreme circumstance because model answers may be distributed after this time. If you are likely to require an extension for a longer period than one week, you must contact the Examiner for advice. In most cases, you will be required to complete an alternative make-up assignment. However, make-up assignments are only granted if you have passed all other pieces of assessment for the course. Medical extensions: In the case of an application for extension for medical reasons, the documentation should include a statement from a doctor stating: the date the medical condition began or changed; how the condition affected the student’s ability to study; when it became apparent that the student could not submit the assignment. Extensions for family/personal reasons: In the case of an application for extension for family/personal reasons, the documentation should include a statement from a doctor, counsellor or independent member of the community stating: the date the student's personal circumstances began or changed; how the circumstances affected the student's ability to complete the assignment; when it became apparent that the student could not complete the assignment. In the case of an extension for family/personal reasons you must contact the Examiner before the due
date to discuss the reason for the extension and to negotiate the length of an extension if granted. Extensions for employment-related reasons: In the case of an application for extension for employment-related reasons, the documentation should include a statement from the student's employer stating: the date the student's employment began or the conditions of employment changed; how this prevents the student from completing the assignment. In the case of an extension for employment-related reasons you must contact the Examiner before the due date to discuss the reason for the extension and to negotiate the length of an extension if granted.

2 Text Books: Please note that it is the responsibility of the student to acquire a copy of the textbook as soon as their enrolment in the course has been confirmed. Extensions will not be granted on the basis of the student not having a copy of the text, if the text is available from the USQ bookshop.

3 Word Count in Assignments: Students must put the 'word count' for their assignment on the front page of the assignment. The word count is the number of words in the body of the assignment report and does not include the title, executive summary, list of references or appendices. To grade an assignment a marker does not need to read more words than the word limit of the assignment.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 Learning Resources: Prescribed text and materials (see above); prescribed reference materials (see above); printed Introductory Book and Study Book/s; and course Website accessible via USQConnect.