

## Module Specification

### Module Summary Information

<b>1</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	Research Skills and Dissertation/Project
<b>2</b>	<b>Module Credits</b>	60
<b>3</b>	<b>Module Level</b>	7
<b>4</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	ACC7031

<b>5 Module Overview</b>	
This is an integrative module which is the culmination of your studies and it is designed to be developmental in nature. It enables you to develop a deeper understanding of methodological paradigms to enable you to develop a robust proposal and enable the successful completion of the dissertation/project.	
<p>This module aims to enable you to develop a critical appreciation of the contributions of accounting and finance academic literature to the emergence of current best practices in the disciplines in particular, and to the overall success of organisations in general, recognising also the importance of integration of their functions within the wider business strategy. The research skills element will enable you to develop a critical understanding of the different research philosophies, designs and processes and the development of research proposals. The elements relating to qualitative and quantitative skills will provide you with basic level knowledge of quantitative data analysis to enable you to develop basic regression models and the use of an appropriate statistical software.</p>	
<p>On completion of the proposal, you will work under the guidance of a supervisor to carry out independent research that will equip you with a range of cognitive, technical, intellectual and transferrable skills, including practical problem-solving and independent research competencies, necessary to operate effectively and efficiently as you progress through your professional practice, other chosen career paths, or further study at doctoral level. Through undertaking literature review and applied research you will acquire a critical conscientiousness in the review and evaluation of your own work and those of peers and professional colleagues. This module will encourage you to take responsibility for your own personal development and lifelong learning, including reflective self-evaluation and self-management.</p>	
<p>You will build on your proposal under the guidance of your supervisor who will provide direction and critical feedback as you progress through your research. You are expected to meet your supervisor in person or through skype (if located overseas) or using equivalent medium at least on six occasions. It is expected that you will regularly hold supervisory meetings for feedback.</p>	
<p>You are required to submit a proposal by the end of week 6, prior to entering into the research phase and then a final dissertation/project. A final copy of your dissertation/project should be submitted through the university Moodle site. The assessment for the module is 20% for the proposal and 80% from the final dissertation/project. You are also required to make a formal statement that it is your own work and no element has been plagiarised.</p>	

<b>6</b>	<b>Indicative Content</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formulating and clarifying research topic</li> <li>• Review of literature</li> <li>• Underpinning research philosophies: qualitative and quantitative methods</li> <li>• Introduction to quantitative analysis: classical linear regression</li> <li>• Statistical Inference &amp; hypothesis testing</li> <li>• Simple regression and multiple regression analysis</li> <li>• Questionnaire data analysis</li> <li>• Parametric and non-parametric testing</li> </ul>

<b>7</b>	<b>Module Learning Outcomes</b>
<b>On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:</b>	
	<b>1</b> Demonstrate a competent understanding of research methods, methodological and philosophical understandings applicable to research and applied projects, within the broad field of Accounting and Finance.
	<b>2</b> Formulate a research study with clearly defined aims, objectives, research problem/questions and its underlying challenges and limitations.
	<b>3</b> Critically review existing literature on the topic, identify gap and formulate testable research proposition(s).
	<b>4</b> Robustly analyse data using appropriate qualitative and/or quantitative research methods to evaluate the stated research propositions and produce a well-written dissertation/project that can stand the test of academic rigour.

<b>8</b>	<b>Module Assessment</b>		
<b>Learning Outcome</b>			
<b>1-4</b>	<b>Coursework</b>	<b>Exam</b>	<b>In-Person</b>

<b>9</b>	<b>Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities</b>
<b>Learning Activities</b>	<b>Hours</b>
<b>Scheduled Learning (SL)</b> includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	48
<b>Directed Learning (DL)</b> includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	72
<b>Private Study (PS)</b> includes preparation for exams	480
<b>Total Study Hours:</b>	600