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Refer to guidance notes for completion of each section of the specification.

Module Code:	BUS7B22
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Module Title:	Dissertation
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Level:	7	Credit Value:	60
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Cost Centre(s):	GABP	JACS3 code:	N000/100079
		HECoS code:	

Faculty	Faculty of Social & Life Sciences	Module Leader:	David Mwaura
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Scheduled learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Supervised learning eg practical classes, workshops	180 hrs
Total contact hours	210 hrs
Guided independent study	390 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	600 hrs

Programme(s) in which to be offered (not including exit awards)	Core	Option
MBA (top up)	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>

Pre-requisites
None

Office use only

Initial approval: 24/04/2020

Version no: 1

With effect from: 24/04/2020

Date and details of revision:

Version no:

Module Aims

The module aims to:-

1. Provide students with the opportunity to review and reflect upon the general principles of research methods, research objectives, and research contexts; and to demonstrate;-
 - (a) their full comprehension of these, and:-
 - (b) their ability to put these into practice, through the planning, development, and execution to completion, of a significant body of independent research undertaken under supervision
2. Create a platform and framework for the student in which they may demonstrate their ability to analyse and synthesise the theories, knowledge and skills which they have developed throughout the programme, and, through the use of appropriate research and interpretive methodologies, use these to examine a defined field and topic of enquiry and to work independently in an area of specific interest.
3. Provide students with the experience of carrying through and completing a significant body of research, which will require them to:-
 - (i) draw on the theory, knowledge and skills gained throughout the programme, and:-
 - (ii) Demonstrate their intellectual and practical capacities to both potential employers and/or to the development of a future post graduate academic career or to private professional practice.
4. Enable students to integrate knowledge developed from their study areas and their emerging areas of professional practice within a significant and sustained piece of research
5. Provide students with a research framework which allows them to demonstrate their intellectual capacities in analysis, synthesis, evaluation, interpretation, the formation of informed judgments, and the presentation of conclusions.
 - Provide direct learning opportunities for the development of higher cognitive skills
 - Enable the students to improve their abilities of independent working, skills of original and critical thinking and methods of research design, data collection, analysis and presentation.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to

1	Identify and undertake, from initiation to completion, an advanced body of independently conceived and significant research in an appropriate field of business studies, business management, or congruent/related areas and demonstrate their expertise, breadth and detailed knowledge of the specialist field and topic area chosen for study.
2	Critically analyse theories, concepts and problems, evidence and data, from a variety of sources and contexts and demonstrate appropriate knowledge and understanding of research methodology and relevant methods of data collection while assessing and integrating the ethical dimensions of conducting research in a study.
3	Critically evaluate research findings and develop a coherent and structured argument and draw conclusions within a theoretical and contextual framework which is based on critical insights, informed judgments, and a personal critique
4	Be capable of reflection on outcomes, processes and personal experience and where appropriate challenge received opinion and develop their own criteria and judgments.
5	Critical reflection on the engagement of research process and effective implementation of the research and personal learnings and development gained from the process.

Employability Skills The Wrexham Glyndŵr Graduate	I = included in module content A = included in module assessment N/A = not applicable
<i>Guidance: complete the matrix to indicate which of the following are included in the module content and/or assessment in alignment with the matrix provided in the programme specification.</i>	
CORE ATTRIBUTES	
Engaged	
Creative	
Enterprising	
Ethical	
KEY ATTITUDES	
Commitment	
Curiosity	
Resilient	
Confidence	
Adaptability	
PRACTICAL SKILLSETS	
Digital fluency	
Organisation	
Leadership and team working	
Critical thinking	
Emotional intelligence	
Communication	
Derogations	
None	

Assessment:			
Indicative Assessment Tasks: <i>Guidance: please ensure you add indicative word count and durations within the narrative body of this section</i>			
Research reflection report – 2000-3000 words Dissertation – 10000-12000 words			
Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	LO5	Report	20
2	LO1, LO2,LO3, LO4,	Dissertation	80

Learning and Teaching Strategies:
Teaching is through supervisory meetings which will introduce the requirements of the module, and consider dissertation proposals, the theoretical framework and monitor progress

with the dissertation (usually 10 hours for group meetings and 20 hours individual sessions). In addition practical workshops support the collection and analysis of data (up to 180 hours).

Syllabus outline:

Application of a research design framework from the research design module

Design, critically reflect upon, and application of a research methodology to achieve discussion, synthesis, conclusion and outcomes from the completed enquiry into a specific research question which will involve desk research, field research, appropriate tests for validity together with archival research, all of which to meet with University protocols for writing the MBA dissertation for which University guidance notes are available.

Students are required to identify a field and topic for study and research. The topic must be related to their ability to demonstrate a detailed knowledge of a field and topic area relevant to their study and to business /organisational objectives as appropriate

The Fields and topics may be chosen from the following thematic categories/typology;-

a) Theoretical

A Dissertation which critically develops in depth an aspect of one of the taught elements of the Programme and/or a field-topic relating to the taught elements of the Programme.

b) Theoretical – Enterprise

A Dissertation based on a prognostic case study(s) methodology, which is grounded in theory, and which sets out to analyse and evaluate a real world problem and which forms appropriate conclusions.

c) Theoretical – Retrospective

A Dissertation which analyses appropriate retrospective case study(s), using a methodology which is grounded in theory, and following analysis and evaluation articulates appropriate conclusions

Criteria for selection and approval of the topic

The full outline criteria for the approval of the Field and Topic area for the Dissertation: The Field and topic proposals must:-

1. Be of relevance to the Programme and module aims and objectives, in terms of subject matter and theoretical stance.
2. Be sufficiently challenging, so as to challenge the learner and enable him or her to reveal their capacity for research and their critical powers of analysis, synthesis, evaluation and reasoning.
3. Be feasible, in that the information required for the Dissertation may be obtained without incurring too high a cost either from published sources or from personal research commitment or from other sources.

Contain some original and/or emerging scholarship and/or material, either by way of analysis, information, argument, evaluation, judgments, insight, creativity, or by way of presentation of the arguments or the researched topic/field.

Indicative Bibliography:**Essential reading**

Horn, R. (2012) *Researching and Writing A Dissertation: An essential guide for business students* 2nd edn. CIPD, Kogan Page
Saunders, M, Lewis, P and Thornhill , A (2018). *Research Method for Business Students*, 7th edn, Pearson

Other indicative reading

- Bell, J and Waters, S (2018), *Doing Your Research Project*, 7th edn. Amacom
- Bell, E. and Bryman, A. (2015) *Business Research Methods* , 4th edn. Open University Press. Oxford
- Gray, D (2019). *Doing Research in Business World*, Sage Publications Ltd
- Schutt, R.K. (2014) *Investigating the Social World*, 8th edn. Sage Publications.
- Evans D, Gruba P (2014) *How to write a better thesis*, Springer
- Leedy, P. D., & Ormrod, J. E. (2013). *Practical research: Planning and design* (10th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson.
- Orcher, L. T. (2014). *Conducting research: Social and behavioral methods* (2nd ed.). Glendale, CA: Pyczak Publishing.
- Yin, R. K. (2014). *Case study research: Design and methods* (5th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE.
- Babbie, E. (2016), *The Practice of Social Research*, 14h edn. Cengage brain