

IS6000: RESEARCH METHODS FOR THE IS MANAGER

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Research Methods for the IS Manager

Subject Code

IS - Information Systems

Course Number

6000

Academic Unit

Information Systems (IS)

College/School

College of Business (CB)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

MGT6901 Research Methods for Managers

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to equip Taught Masters Students in Information Systems with the necessary foundations and skills to evaluate and perform business-related research at the Masters level.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Explain and communicate the nature and application of current IS research in the organisational context.	25	x	x	x
2	Apply appropriate research methodologies to solve organisational IS research problems.	25	x	x	x
3	Undertake a small-scale and organisationally relevant IS research project.	25	x	x	x
4	Draw original supportable conclusions from the conduct of an IS research project in an organisational context.	25	x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Seminar	Students will learn the research and research methods applied in organisational IS research. Students will study selected qualitative and quantitative methods in detail through the medium of research papers published in IS research and practitioner journals. Students will learn the entire process of designing, conducting, writing up and presenting organisationally relevant research.	1, 2, 3, 4

2	Field Work	Students will need to undertake an investigative project into the use of IS in an organisational context. Through this investigation, students will be expected to develop insights and draw supportable conclusions that they can communicate through a written report as well as an in-class presentation.	1, 2, 3, 4	
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Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?	
1	Discussion and Participation Students will be required to attend at least 70% of classes (9 classes). Failure to do so will result in failure of the course as a whole. Individual discussion and participation will be assessed both inside and outside each class, and an aggregate score calculated for the entire semester. Discussion opportunities will include focus group discussions, online self-reflection, student presentations of the research project, and whiteboard-based discussions.	1, 2, 3, 4	40	-	No

2	Group Project Students will be required to undertake a group project in which they design, undertake and present a small-scale research investigation that is organisationally contextualised and relevant.	1, 2, 3, 4	60	GenAI may be used to generate ideas during preparation, but you are not allowed to copy and paste its output directly into your final submission.	Yes
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Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

50

Additional Information for ATs

Note: Students must attend at least 70% (9) of classes in order to pass this course.

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

AT1. Discussion and Participation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to explain and communicate the nature of current IS research in the organisational context.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

Marginal

(D) Basic

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

AT1. Discussion and Participation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to describe how current IS research is applied in organisational contexts.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

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(D) Basic

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Assessment Task

AT1. Discussion and Participation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Capability to apply appropriate research methodologies to solve organisational IS research problems.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

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Assessment Task

AT1. Discussion and Participation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Capability to undertake a small-scale and organisationally relevant IS research project.

Excellent

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Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

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AT1. Discussion and Participation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to Draw original supportable conclusions from the conduct of an IS research project in an organisational context.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

Marginal

(D) Basic

Failure

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Assessment Task

AT2. Group Project (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to explain and communicate the nature of current IS research in the organisational context.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

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Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Introduction to behavioural IS research: research designs and the roles of qualitative and quantitative methods; the evolution and status of IS research methods; the nature and characteristics of IS research; areas of current IS research; characteristics of good research.

Conducting IS research: identifying a research problem; theory identification or building; research design and method(s) identification (whether quantitative, qualitative or a combination); data collection and analysis issues; instrument and protocol design; referencing standards.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Saunders, M.N.K., Lewis, P. and Thornhill, A. (2019) Research Methods for Business Students, Eighth Edition, Pearson Education

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Students will also be assigned readings from academic and practitioner journals.