

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	LGT5201
Subject Title	Dissertation
Credit Value	9
Level	5
Normal Duration	1 academic year (two 13-week semesters and one 7-week summer term)*
Exclusion	LGT5202 Project
Role and Purposes	<p>The objectives for the whole dissertation subject are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To examine critically and in-depth a focused topic of interest arising, ideally, from the work done within the programme and/or in the student's employment and to make integrative linkages between classroom learning and work experience; ▪ To demonstrate the use of relevant scientific and analytical methods and practical skills, including those acquired during the programme, in the treatment of the chosen topic; ▪ To demonstrate an understanding of relevant research literature in the dissertation topic-area; ▪ To demonstrate an ability to set the chosen topic in its wider context, to sustain an argument, and to present conclusions related to policies or practices. <p>The subject includes a research methodology class to equip students with the basic skills and techniques for conducting research for a higher degree.</p>
Subject Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify a research problem in real world and write research proposals. b. Conduct literature review on issues related to the problem areas. c. Apply appropriate research methodologies with sound academic rigor in data collection, analysis and interpretation of the research findings. d. Deduce the solutions to the identified problems scientifically and understand the limitations. e. Communicate the research results effectively.
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	<p>Why do research? What is good research? Scientific thinking – styles of thinking, the thought process, the scientific attitude; What makes an investigation scientific? What can empirical research do? The necessity of knowing the purpose of research; The ethics of research; Qualitative and quantitative approaches; Variable, Parameter, Assumption, Theory, Model, Hypothesis, Ideal causal-study design; Case-study descriptive research; Classification research; Measurement and estimation; Comparison; Research trying to find relationships; Investigating cause and effect; Mapping structures;</p>

	Evaluation research; Questionnaire design; Interview; Survey; Sampling methods; Some principles of measurement – reliability and validity; Data analysis and interpretation; Writing Scientific Reports: Research report components and structure; Presentation of statistics; Plagiarism.																																																						
Teaching/Learning Methodology	<p>Guided study programme on research methodology equivalent to 1 credit value.</p> <p>Student-centred activities in the form of investigational/research work, literature review, data collection, data analysis and interpretation according to the requirements specified in the Guidelines for Dissertation (LGT5201)/Project (LGT5202) for MScISTL. The effort of these activities should be equivalent to 8 credit values.</p>																																																						
Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	<table border="1" data-bbox="534 712 1481 1328"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="534 712 869 913" rowspan="2">Specific assessment methods/tasks</th> <th data-bbox="869 712 1013 913" rowspan="2">% weighting</th> <th colspan="6" data-bbox="1013 712 1481 846">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="1013 846 1093 913">a</th> <th data-bbox="1093 846 1173 913">b</th> <th data-bbox="1173 846 1252 913">c</th> <th data-bbox="1252 846 1332 913">d</th> <th data-bbox="1332 846 1412 913">e</th> <th data-bbox="1412 846 1481 913"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="534 913 869 981">Coursework</td> <td data-bbox="869 913 1013 981"></td> <td data-bbox="1013 913 1093 981"></td> <td data-bbox="1093 913 1173 981"></td> <td data-bbox="1173 913 1252 981"></td> <td data-bbox="1252 913 1332 981"></td> <td data-bbox="1332 913 1412 981"></td> <td data-bbox="1412 913 1481 981"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="534 981 869 1081">Dissertation assessed by supervisor</td> <td data-bbox="869 981 1013 1081">45%</td> <td data-bbox="1013 981 1093 1081">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1093 981 1173 1081">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1173 981 1252 1081">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1252 981 1332 1081">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1332 981 1412 1081">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1412 981 1481 1081"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="534 1081 869 1182">Dissertation assessed by moderator</td> <td data-bbox="869 1081 1013 1182">35%</td> <td data-bbox="1013 1081 1093 1182">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1093 1081 1173 1182">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1173 1081 1252 1182">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1252 1081 1332 1182">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1332 1081 1412 1182">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1412 1081 1481 1182"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="534 1182 869 1261">Viva voce</td> <td data-bbox="869 1182 1013 1261">20%</td> <td data-bbox="1013 1182 1093 1261">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1093 1182 1173 1261">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1173 1182 1252 1261">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1252 1182 1332 1261">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1332 1182 1412 1261">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1412 1182 1481 1261"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="534 1261 869 1328">Total</td> <td data-bbox="869 1261 1013 1328">100 %</td> <td colspan="6" data-bbox="1013 1261 1481 1328"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="534 1346 1481 1413"><i>[This new % weighting will be effective for students newly registered on this subject starting from Semester 2 of 2011/12.]</i></p> <p data-bbox="534 1480 1481 1547">Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:</p> <p data-bbox="534 1581 1481 1715">In order to have objective and comprehensive assessment on the student's research work in the form of dissertation, the Final Dissertation will be assessed by the supervisor and by a moderator who is appointed by the Dissertation/ Project Co-ordinator.</p> <p data-bbox="534 1749 1481 1883">In addition to these two assessments, students pursuing a Dissertation will also be appraised at the Oral Presentation (Viva Voce) by a selected panel consisting of the supervisor, the moderator and a 3rd panel member, who is also appointed by the Dissertation/ Project Co-ordinator.</p> <p data-bbox="534 1917 1481 1984">All the assessment criteria are set out in the Guidelines for Dissertation (LGT5201)/Project (LGT5202) for MScISTL.</p> <p data-bbox="534 2018 1481 2085">Finally, all these marks are combined and the final grade for the Subject LGT5201 Dissertation is to be determined by the Dissertation Co-ordinator</p>	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)						a	b	c	d	e		Coursework								Dissertation assessed by supervisor	45%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Dissertation assessed by moderator	35%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Viva voce	20%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Total	100 %						
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Student Study Effort Expected	Class contact:	
	▪ Meeting and Discussion with Supervisor	28 Hrs.
	▪	Hrs.
	Other student study effort:	
	▪ Research work	400 Hrs.
	▪	Hrs.
	Total student study effort	400 Hrs.
Reading List and References	<p>Remenyi, D., Field methods for academic research : interviews, focus groups and questionnaires in business and management studies , Academic Publishing International , 2011.</p> <p>Grigoroudis, Evangelos. Customer satisfaction evaluation methods for measuring and implementing service quality , SpringerLink e-books, Springer , 2010.</p> <p>Stokes, Peter, Key concepts in business and management research methods, Palgrave Macmillan , 2011.</p> <p>Remenyi, D., Field methods for academic research : interviews, focus groups and questionnaires in business and management studies , Academic Publishing International , 2011.</p> <p>Bryman, Alan. Business research methods , Oxford University Press , 2011 , 3rd Edition.</p> <p>Crowther, David. <u>Research methods</u> : a concise introduction to <u>research</u> in management and <u>business</u> consultancy , Butterworth-Heinemann , 2009 , 2nd Edition.</p> <p>Eriksson, Päivi, <u>Qualitative methods in business research</u> , SAGE Publications , 2008.</p>	