Subject Code	LGT6531
Subject Title	DISP Thesis II
Credit Value	16
Level	6
Normal Duration	3 consecutive semesters
Pre- requisite/ Co- requisite/ Exclusion	D.ISP Thesis I
Objectives	This subject contributes to the following Intended Learning Outcomes for the doctoral programme: Doctor of International Shipping and Port (D.ISP): #4 Applied Research and Create Knowledge in International Shipping and Port Administration
Intended Learning Outcomes	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: A. Analyze a topic of interest critically and logically, including the research objectives, questions, and problems, within their selected field. B. Cultivate enhanced self and social consciousness by acknowledging their dual roles as a researcher and manager. C. Execute a research-based thesis on a topic that is significant and contributes to real-world applications. D. Exhibit an in-depth understanding of the relevant literature related to their chosen topic. E. Formulate a research model, framework, and hypotheses that are pertinent and appropriate for the research thesis. F. Gather and scrutinize research data systematically, adhering to professional standards. G. Contextualize the topic within a broader framework, sustain a logical argument, and present conclusions and contributions relevant to both academic and practical realms.
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	This is one of the most important components of D.ISP study programme. In preparing their theses, participants will have an opportunity to draw upon the particular themes of the programme. In addition, it is also important that they illustrate the extent to which they have been able to integrate what has been some of the dominant themes and interest areas into their programme. Participants are expected to apply state-of-the-art research methodologies to study some important issues arising from their real-world management experience. This is necessary as the quality of their thesis makes an important contribution and/or provides innovative insights into the practice of their profession. The thesis should normally be around 50,000 words.
Teaching/Learning Methodology	There are four stages in the preparation of the thesis: (i) approval of the topic by the supervisor; (ii) approval of the outline of the proposed research plan; (iii) approval of the completed draft; and (iv) completion and submission. Thesis II represents the third and fourth stages of the thesis process.

After the approval of the research proposal, participants monitor their own progress throughout the preparation of the thesis. They will seek advice from thesis supervisors whenever necessary.

Continuous monitoring is made on participants' performance during tutorials such as: verbal presentation and discussion of assigned readings; quality of submitted written assignments such as literature review, annotated bibliographies, comprehension of the task in hand, planning, initiative, and thoroughness of investigation.

Oral Examination

Two external examiners together with the supervisor(s) and a chairman of the Board of Examiners will hold the viva voce examination. The main purpose of the oral examination is to satisfy the panel of examiners that the participant's work is his/her own and of high professional quality. During these oral presentations, participants will be required to answer questions related to the thesis and identify applications and future directions.

The Thesis

In assessing the thesis, the examiners will pay attention to whether it is potentially publishable by considering:

a. the extent to which the participant has been able to meet the broad criteria laid down in the aims and objectives of thesis;
b. the degree of originality;
c. the significance of the findings to theory and practice;
d. the way in which the participant has drawn upon and integrated theories and techniques;
e. the overall quality of the written presentation.

Each examiner will provide a separate written report on the thesis prior to the oral examination.

Assessment

The Panel, following the oral examination will decide whether:
a. the student be awarded the degree of D.ISP; or
b. the student be awarded the degree of D.ISP subject to amendments/corrections be made to the thesis. The amendments/ corrections have to be submitted to the supervisor(s) or chairman of the BoE and supervisor(s)/ viva panel; or
c. the student should revise and re-submit the thesis for re-examination for the degree of D.ISP. The thesis should be reviewed and agreed by supervisor(s), and the Programme Director/Deputy Programme Director, and then finally submitted for viva panel members' approval before another session of viva is arranged; or
d. the student cannot be awarded the degree of D.ISP, and no re-submission will be permitted.

	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)						
			a	b	c	d	e	f	g
	Continuous Assessment*	**100%**							
	Oral examination	30%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Thesis	70%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Total	100 %							

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

* Weighting of assessment methods/ tasks in continuous assessment may be different, based on each subject lecturer's preference.

Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:

The thesis defense will be assessed by a Board of Examiners formed by the supervisor, the Chairman from PolyU FB, and two external examiners who are university professors outside PolyU and are experts in the area of the student's thesis topic. They jointly assess the quality of the student's thesis to determine if it is up to the standard of a doctoral thesis.

To pass this subject, students are required to obtain Pass in the Continuous Assessment components.

Student Study Effort Expected	Class contact:	
	● Dissertation	30 Hrs.
	Other student study effort:	
	● Preparation for dissertation/presentation	690 Hrs.
	Total student study effort	720 Hrs.
Reading List and References	Mishra, S. B., & Alok, S. (2022). Handbook of research methodology. Leong, F. T., & Austin, J. T. (Eds.). (2023). The psychology research handbook: A guide for graduate students and research assistants. SAGE publications. Pyrczak, F. (2021). Completing Your Thesis or Dissertation: Professors Share Their Techniques & Strategies. Routledge. Remenyi, D., & Bannister, F. (2022). Writing up your research for a dissertation or thesis. UJ Press. Perry, J. A., Zambo, D., & Crow, R. (2020). The improvement science dissertation in practice: A guide for faculty, committee members, and their students. Myers Education Press. Terrell, S. R. (2022). Writing a proposal for your dissertation: Guidelines and examples. Guilford Publications. Phillips, E., & Johnson, C. (2022). Ebook: How to Get a PhD: A Handbook for Students and Their Supervisors 7e. McGraw-Hill Education (UK). Mewburn, I. (2020). How to tame your PhD. Thesiswhisperer Books.	