

<b>Subject Code</b>	AF6938 / LGT6938 / MM6996
<b>Subject Title</b>	DMgt Thesis I
<b>Credit Value</b>	8
<b>Level</b>	6
<b>Normal Duration</b>	2 consecutive semesters
<b>Pre-requisite/ <del>Co-requisite</del>/ Exclusion</b>	Completion of at least 6 of the required taught subjects (including 3 compulsory subjects) ----- DMgt Thesis I (AF6938 / LGT6938 / MM6996)
<b>Objective</b>	This subject contributes to the achievement of the DMgt outcome by sharpening students' ability to conduct original applied research and ethical awareness in business administration (Outcome 3).
<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: a. examine critically and in depth a topic of interest arising from their chosen area of study; b. deepen their self- and social-awareness by becoming sensitised to their dual role as researcher and manager; c. pursue a research-based topic of local interest and importance in the field of business or management; d. demonstrate an understanding of relevant literature in the selected topic area; e. prepare an extended research proposal appropriate for the DMgt Thesis.
<b>Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus</b>	This is among the most important learning activities of the DMgt programme. In preparing their theses, participants have an opportunity to draw upon particular themes of the programme showing the extent to which they have been able to integrate what, for them, have been some of the dominant themes and interest areas in their programme. Participants are expected to apply state-of-the-art research methodologies to study some important issues arising from the management of business. It is a requirement that the thesis will make important contributions and/or provide innovative insights to the practice of the profession. The thesis proposal should normally be around 10,000-15,000 words.
<b>Teaching/Learning Methodology</b>	The participant with the supervisor on a one to one basis in the preparation of the research proposal.  <b>Assessment</b> The research proposal will be assessed by a panel of three to four academics. The participants will have to defend the proposal in front of the panel during the second residential workshop. After the defense, the panel will decide that the proposal :  a. may proceed with the research as proposed; or

- b. needs to make revisions within a 3-month period and these must be approved by
  - i) the supervisor(s) before the student begins conducting the research, OR
  - ii) the academic review panel before the student begins conducting the research, OR
- c. needs to revise and re-submit the proposal within a 3 to 6 month period for re-presentation consideration. The thesis proposal should be reviewed and agreed by supervisor(s), and the Programme Director/Deputy Programme Director first, and then finally submitted for panel members' approval before another session of thesis proposal presentation is arranged. If they do not approve the student's thesis proposal for a re-presentation, the student will fail in the 2-credit MM6921 "DMgt Residential 2" and will need to withdraw from the 8-credit AF6938/LGT6938/MM6996 "Thesis I". The student need to re-enroll MM6921 and AF6938/LGT6938/MM6996 and pay the relevant fees later.

If they approve the student's thesis proposal for a re-presentation and re-presentation is carried out, there will be two outcomes: be graded "Pass" for both MM6921 and AF6938/LGT6938/MM6996 or be graded "Fail" in both MM6921 and AF6938/LGT6938/MM6996. In the latter case, the student will be asked to withdraw from the programme.

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 I represents the first two stages of the thesis process.

### **Research Proposal**

In consultation with the thesis supervisor, the participant works out a proposed research plan which must show evidence of sound background research and state in the following specific terms:

- a. aims and objectives;
- b. review of literature and definition of the theoretical concepts to be used;
- c. the basis for the research problem with reference to other such research;
- d. the conceptual framework for the research;
- e. the methodology of the study, i.e. the ways in which data are to be collected, analysed and reported;
- f. the research schedule;
- g. references.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)				
			a.	b.	c.	d.	e.
	<b>Continuous Assessment*</b>	<b>100%</b>					
	1. Research thesis proposal	50%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	2. Presentation	30%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	3. Revision of thesis proposal after presentation	20%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100 %</b>					
<p><i>*Weighting of assessment methods/tasks in continuous assessment may be different, subject to each subject lecturer.</i></p> <p>Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:</p> <p>The thesis proposal will be assessed by a Board of Examiners formed by the supervisor with two Faculty of Business (FB) colleagues who are experts in the area of the student's thesis topic. One of the two FB colleagues will also serve as the panel reviewer in charge. The three review panel members will jointly assess the quality and the feasibility of the student's research proposal.</p>							
<b>Student Study Effort Expected</b>	Class contact:						
	▪ Dissertation		30 Hrs.				
	Other student study effort:						
	▪ Preparation for dissertation		330 Hrs.				
	Total student study effort		360 Hrs.				
<b>Reading List and References</b>	<p>Thomas Kuhn, <i>The Structure of Scientific Revolutions</i>, University of Chicago Press, 2012.</p> <p>Chicago Manual of Style: for authors, editors and copywriters, 13th Edition, Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1982.</p> <p>Madsen, D., <i>Successful Dissertations and Theses</i>, San Francisco, Jossey-Bass, 1983.</p>						

*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 3rd Edition, Washington, American Psychological Association, 1983.

Turabian, K.L., *A Manual for Writers on Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 6th Edition, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1996.

Winkler, A.C. & McCuen, J.R., *Writing the Research Paper: A Handbook*, New York, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1979.