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| **Course Title** | Dissertation | | | | | | |
| **Course Code** | TMBA - 200 | | | | | | |
| **Course Type** | This course is a Requirement | | | | | | |
| **Level** | Master (2nd Cycle) | | | | | | |
| **Year / Semester** | Year 1, C’ and D’ Semester | | | | | | |
| **Teacher’s Name** | Dr Michael Anastasiou / Dr Dao Truong | | | | | | |
| **ECTS** | 30 | **Lectures / week** | I | | **Laboratories / week** | |  |
| **Course Purpose and Objectives** | **Course Purpose:**  The dissertation course provides students with the opportunity to apply their knowledge, personal reflection and critical thinking in research. Students will use analytical and conceptual tools and research skills to undertake independent research on a business management topic. Students commence this course in the second semester once they have successfully completed TMBA-180 Applied Research in Business and will formally register for the course that runs through the last two semesters and constitutes the final and concluding task in the MBA program. Every student will be allocated a dissertation supervisor, under whose guidance the student will do the research and complete the dissertation write - up (8,000 - 10,000 words). The course requires self - motivation and good organizational skills. Students should select, undertake and execute a topic of study through research. The course offers students the opportunity to further develop research skills by developing a research agenda, formulating appropriate research questions, conducting a literature review, planning and executing the research, collecting and analyzing data, and communicating the findings within a fixed deadline.  Students are expected to:   * Participate in suitable research planning at a post-graduate level (i.e. build the ability to design and perform high quality, publishable research); * Apply a well - structured research process to produce a dissertation on a specific research topic related to business management; * Develop a deeper knowledge of the present research literature in the chosen research area; * Critically evaluate major schools of thought within relevant management theory to fit with business practice; * Familiarize themselves with the task of structuring a research idea in a logical order: i.e. progression of ideas from initial research questions, through methods used to obtain answers, to presentation of results and discussion and interpretation of findings; * Undertake empirical research and draw conclusions about the implications of the results for managerial, in particular strategic, decision - making. | | | | | | |
| **Learning Outcomes** | Upon completion of this course students will be able to:   1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, as well as insight into latest research and development work; 2. Reflect and systematically integrate knowledge, critically analyze, assess and deal with complex business and management phenomena, issues and situations; 3. Formulate research questions at a level appropriate for a Master’s degree program; 4. Critically review the relevant literature / business environment information; 5. Select the most appropriate methods for the collection of data, justifying that choice; 6. Apply methods to collect data; 7. Select a method of analysis appropriate to their research question, within the context of what is commensurate to Master’s level; 8. Present the results clearly and comprehensively; 9. Draw conclusions about the results; 10. Perform advanced tasks within strict deadlines, and to contribute to the creation of new knowledge as well as the ability to evaluate this work; 11. Demonstrate the ability in speech and writing, to report clearly and discuss research findings, conclusions and implications; 12. Evaluate the scientific, social and ethical research aspects and backgrounds; 13. Reflect on the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the business field 14. Produce a scholarly dissertation, appropriate to the level of study. 15. Identify personal needs for further knowledge and research in the field and take personal responsibility for lifelong learning and professional development. | | | | | | |
| **Prerequisites** | TMBA-180 Applied Research in Business | | | **Required** | | MBA | |
| **Course Content** | 1. Introduction to dissertation / dissertation requirements / academic writing tips; 2. Specific research topic selected by student  * Defining a topic and formulating a problem statement;  1. Problem and purpose statement; 2. Statement of research question; 3. Literature review / background business research  * Selecting and reviewing relevant literature;  1. Justification of methodology for collection of data  * Designing an empirical study * Performing an empirical study;  1. Justification for method of analysis  * Data collection and analysis;  1. Analysis  * Analyzing the empirical data;  1. Presentation of data / results; 2. Discussion  * Making theoretical conclusions * Writing and presenting the topic;  1. Assessment criteria for the dissertation; 2. Preparing the dissertation; 3. Dissertation structure; 4. Submission requirement and structure. | | | | | | |
| **Teaching Methodology** | The Dissertation builds on the Research Methods course. Students will be assigned a personal tutor with whom they will be expected to have a minimum of three one –to - one tutorials, the outcome of which will be fully documented.  A Dissertation handbook will be available for all students that will include details of:   * Regulations and attendance requirements * Role of supervisor * Timing and planning * Topic selection * Presentation * Referencing * Assessment | | | | | | |
| **Mode of delivery** | Face to face | | | | | | |
| **Bibliography** | **Required** | | | | | | |
| Saunders, M., Thornhill, A. and Lewis, P. (2018) Research Methods for Business Students*;* 8th Edition; Harlow: Pearson  Yin. R. (2018) Case Study Research and Applications: Design and Methods (Applied Social Research Methods);6th Edition; SAGE Publications, Inc; ISBN-10: 1506336167. | | | | | | |
| **Recommended** | | | | | | |
| Creswell, W. J., and Creswell, D. J. (2018). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches. SAGE Publications, Inc; 5th Edition; ISBN-10: 1506386768.  Bell, E., Bryman, A. and Harley, B. (2018). Business Research Methods. OUP Oxford; 5th Edition; ISBN-10: 0198809875.  Edlund, E. J., and Nichols, L., A. (2019). Advanced Research Methods for the Social and Behavioral Sciences. Cambridge University Press; ISBN-10: 1108441912.  Dawson, C. (2019). Introduction to Research Methods 5th Edition: A Practical Guide for Anyone Undertaking a Research Project. Robinson; ISBN-10: 1408711052 | | | | | | |
| **Assessment** | The following assessment methods are employed to assess this course:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 30 – 50 % | Final Exam | | 20 – 40 % | Mid –Term / Tests / Quizzes | | 10 – 30 % | Assignments / Projects | | 0 – 10 % | Class Attendance & Participation | | | | | | | |
| **Language** | English | | | | | | |