



MBA905 Research Principles and Methodologies T324 Brief

All information in the Subject Outline is correct at the time of approval. KOI reserves the right to make changes to the Subject Outline if they become necessary. Any changes require the approval of the KOI Academic Board and will be formally advised to those students who may be affected by email and via Moodle. Information contained within this Subject Outline applies to students enrolled in the trimester as indicated.

1. General Information

1.1 Administrative Details

Associated HE Award(s)	Duration	Level	Subject Coordinator
MBA	1 trimester	Postgraduate	Dr Fariha A Hira fariha.hira@koi.edu.au L: Level 1, 545 Kent St. Consultation: via Moodle or by appointment

1.2 Core / Elective

This is a core subject for the above courses.

1.3 Subject Weighting

Indicated below is the weighting of this subject and the total course points.

Subject Credit Points	Total Course Credit Points
4	MBA: 48 Credit Points

1.4 Student Workload

Indicated below is the expected student workload per week for this subject

No. Timetabled Hours/Week*	No. Personal Study Hours/Week**	Total Workload Hours/Week***
3 hours/week plus supplementary online material	7 hours/week	10 hours/week

* Total time spent per week at lectures and tutorials

** Total time students are expected to spend per week studying, completing assignments, etc.

*** Combination of timetable hours and personal study.

1.5 Mode of Delivery: Face-to-face on-site unless otherwise notified (please check Moodle). Note – since T322, KOI is in transition, and most classes will be returning to face-to-face delivery. However, there are a range of issues remaining because of COVID-19. For example, some students may have trouble travelling to Australia. Because of this, some classes may still be online. This affects whether the final exam for a subject will be open-book or closed-book. After enrolment, KOI will be able to make a determination, and notification will be provided on Moodle before Week 7.

1.6 Pre-requisites Nil



1.7 General Study and Resource Requirements

- Students are expected to attend classes with the weekly worksheets and subject support material provided in Moodle. Students should read this material before coming to class to improve their ability to participate in the weekly activities.
- Students will require access to the internet and their KOI email and should have basic skills in word processing software such as MS Word, spreadsheet software such as MS Excel and visual presentation software such as MS PowerPoint.
- Computers and WIFI facilities are extensively available for student use throughout KOI. Students are encouraged to make use of the campus Library for reference materials.

Resource requirements specific to this subject: Specific resources will be identified in discussions with your lecturer. Prescribed readings and research examples will be posted to Moodle for additional guidance, and recommended readings listed in section 2.9 will provide useful background reading.

1.8 Academic Advising

Academic advising is available to students throughout teaching periods including the exam weeks. As well as requesting help during scheduled class times, students have the following options:

- Consultation times: A list of consultation hours is provided on the homepage of Moodle where appointments can be booked.
- Subject coordinator: Subject coordinators are available for contact via email. The email address of the subject coordinator is provided at the top of this subject outline.
- Academic staff: Lecturers and Tutors provide their contact details in Moodle for the specific subject. In most cases, this will be via email. Some subjects may also provide a discussion forum where questions can be raised.
- Head of Program: The Head of Program is available to all students in the program if they need advice about their studies and KOI procedures.
- Vice President (Academic): The Vice President (Academic) will assist students to resolve complex issues (but may refer students to the relevant lecturers for detailed academic advice).

2 Academic Details

2.1 Overview of the Subject

MBA905, titled Research Principles and Methodologies, is a comprehensive course that provides an essential introduction to the foundational elements of professional and academic research methodologies, as well as data analysis techniques. This course is meticulously designed to equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge, ensuring they are well-prepared to excel in the demanding research-oriented tasks prevalent in 21st-century enterprises and academic settings.

2.2 Graduate Attributes for Postgraduate Courses

Graduates of Postgraduate courses from King's Own Institute will achieve the graduate attributes expected from successful completion of a Master's degree under the Australian Qualifications Framework (2nd edition, January 2013). Graduates at this level will be able to apply an advanced body of knowledge from their major area of study in a range of contexts for professional practice or scholarship and as a pathway for further learning.

King's Own Institute's generic graduate attributes for a master's level degree are summarised below:

	KOI Master Degree Graduate Attributes	Detailed Description
	Knowledge	Current, comprehensive and coherent knowledge, including recent developments and applied research methods



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	Critical Thinking	Critical thinking skills to identify and analyse current theories and developments and emerging trends in professional practice
	Communication	Communication and technical skills to analyse and theorise, contribute to professional practice or scholarship, and present ideas to a variety of audiences
	Research and Information Literacy	Cognitive and technical skills to access and evaluate information resources, justify research approaches and interpret theoretical propositions
	Creative Problem Solving Skills	Cognitive, technical and creative skills to investigate, analyse and synthesise complex information, concepts and theories, solve complex problems and apply established theories to situations in professional practice
	Ethical and Cultural Sensitivity	Appreciation and accountability for ethical principles, cultural sensitivity and social responsibility, both personally and professionally
	Leadership and Strategy	Initiative, leadership skills and ability to work professionally and collaboratively to achieve team objectives across a range of team roles Expertise in strategic thinking, developing and implementing business plans and decision making under uncertainty
	Professional Skills	High level personal autonomy, judgement, decision-making and accountability required to begin professional practice

2.3 Subject Learning Outcomes

Listed below, are key knowledge and skills students are expected to attain by successfully completing this subject:

Subject Learning Outcomes	Contribution to Graduate Attributes
a) Appraise and compare major research paradigms and the research process.	    
B) Apply skills in data collection and analysis using quantitative and qualitative research methods and supported with software tools such as SPSS and NVivo.	    
C) Appraise the ethical considerations and processes in research.	    
D) Apply skills in accessing and sourcing quality research literature relevant for a research project.	    
E) Prepare a , and plan, execute and present the .	    

2.4 Subject Content and Structure

Below are details of the subject content and how it is structured, including specific topics covered in lectures and tutorials. Reading refers to the text unless otherwise indicated.



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Weekly Planner:

Week (beginning)	Topic Covered in Each Week's Lecture	Reading(s)	Expected work as listed in Moodle
1 28 Oct	Introduction to the Research: Definition of Research, its Aims, Objectives, and Goals. Research Paradigms/ Philosophies.	Chapter 1 (Aityan , 2022)	Readings review questions /discussion Tutorial 1
2 04 Nov	Types of Research: Basic (Fundamental), Applied, Quantitative, Qualitative, Mixed, Descriptive, Analytical, Exploratory, Explanatory, Action research.	Chapter 1 (Aityan , 2022)	Readings review questions /discussion Tutorial 2
3 11 Nov	Steps in Research: a) Identify Problem(s); b) Review Literature; c) Formulate Hypothesis; d) Design Study; e) Collect Data; f) Analyze Data; g) Interpret Results; h) Report Findings	Chapter 6 (Aityan , 2022)	Readings review questions /discussion Tutorial 3
4 18 Nov	Interviews and Focus Groups: a) Understanding Focus Groups; b) Planning Interviews; c) Crafting Questions; d) Leading Discussions; e) Gathering & Analysing Data	Chapter 8 and 9 (Dubey and Kothary, 2022)	Readings review questions /discussion Tutorial 4
5 25 Nov	Thematic and content analysis: Analysing qualitative data. Software for qualitative data analysis. Presenting the findings of qualitative research using appropriate software.	Chapter 10 (Dubey and Kothary, 2022)	Readings review questions /discussion Tutorial 5
6 02 Dec	Surveys: population, samples, survey questionnaires; survey tools; collecting data, analysing data and interpret findings. Visual representation of data.	Chapter 16 (Aityan , 2022)	Readings review questions /discussion Tutorial 6
7 09 Dec	Statistics in research a) Descriptive statistics: Mean, median, mode, range, variance, standard deviation. b) Inferential statistics: Hypothesis testing, confidence intervals, p-values. c) Probability distributions: Normal, binomial, Poisson. d) Correlation and regression analysis. e) Sampling methods. f) Significance testing (t-tests, chi-square tests). g) Data visualisation: Graphs, charts, histograms. h) Experimental design.	Chapter 12 (Aityan , 2022)	Readings review questions /discussion Tutorial 7



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8 16 Dec	Multivariate analysis and Correlational Research Designs: Characteristics of correlational research; its strengths and limitations. Multivariate Analysis and Time-series and Interrupted Time-series Designs. Interrupted, presenting and analysing time-series data.	Chapter 16 (Dubey and Kothary, 2022)	Readings review questions /discussion Tutorial 8
9 06 Jan	Research Proposal development – Part 1: Definition, importance and components of a proposal including a) Title; b) background; c) Gap identification; d) The research problem/problem statement and Research Question; e) Literature review; f) Underpinning and supporting theories	Chapter 7 (Aityan , 2022)	Readings review questions /discussion Tutorial 9
10 13 Jan	Research Proposal development – Part 2: a) Theoretical and Conceptual framework; b) Research design; research methods and methodology; including Population and sampling procedure; c) Limitation, conclusion, contribution and implication of the study; d) Recommendation for future research; e) Timeline of a research project	Chapter 7 (Aityan , 2022)	Readings review questions /discussion Tutorial 10
11 20 Jan	Proposal Defence Presentation	According to the rubric guidelines	Presentation
12 28 (Tue) Jan	Review of the course.		Presentation
13 03 Feb	Study review week and Final Exam Week		
14 10 Feb	Examinations Continuing students - enrolments for T125 open	Please see exam timetable for exam date, time and location	
15 17 Feb	Student Vacation begins New students - enrolments for T125 open		
16 24 Feb	- Results Released - Review of Grade Day for T324 – see Sections 2.6 and 3.2 below for relevant information. - Certification of Grades NOTE: More information about the dates will be provided at a later date through Moodle/KOI email.		
T125 3 Mar 2025			
1 03 Mar	Week 1 of classes for T125		

2.5 Teaching Methods/Strategies

Briefly described below are the teaching methods/strategies used in this subject:



- *Lectures* (1 hour/week) are conducted in seminar style and address the subject content, provide motivation and context and draw on the students' experience and preparatory reading.
- *Tutorials* (2 hours/week) include class discussion of case studies and research papers, practice sets and problem-solving and syndicate work on group projects. Tutorials often include group exercises and so contribute to the development of teamwork skills and cultural understanding. Tutorial participation is an essential component of the subject and contributes to the development of many of the graduate attributes (see section 2.2 above). Tutorial participation contributes towards the assessment in many subjects (see details in Section 3.1 for this subject). Supplementary tutorial material such as case studies, recommended readings, review questions etc. will be made available each week in Moodle.
- *Online* teaching resources include class materials, readings, model answers to assignments and exercises and discussion boards. All online materials for this subject as provided by KOI will be found in the Moodle page for this subject. Students should access Moodle regularly as material may be updated at any time during the trimester
- *Other contact* - academic staff may also contact students either via Moodle messaging, or via email to the email address provided to KOI on enrolment.

2.6 Student Assessment

Provided below is a schedule of formal assessment tasks and major examinations for the subject.

Assessment Type	When Assessed	Weighting	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Assessment 1 (Individual) Case Study: Demonstrate understanding regarding research ethics, including responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), citation, referencing and the importance of avoiding plagiarism in academic writing.	Week 3	0%	a and b
Assessment 2 (Individual) Systematic Literature Review: The objective is to identify a topic, search for literature, evaluate and select sources, organise the literature, write the review and cite the sources.	Week 5 2000 words	25%	a, b, c, and d
Assessment 3 (Individual) Research Methodology: Students need to prepare a report. The objective is to identify the appropriate research methodology for their research project. Using the same title as before, the report would include research objective(s) and question(s), reviewing the existing literature, evaluating the resources, assessing the data collection methods and selecting the right methodology.	Week 8 2500 words	30%	a, b, c, and d
Assessment 4 (Individual) Research proposal:	Report: Week 11 2500 words	45%	a, b, c, d, and e



Assessment Type	When Assessed	Weighting	Learning Outcomes Assessed
The aim is to prepare a research proposal, followed by an oral presentation.	Presentation: Week 11, and 12	30% (Report) & 15% (presentation)	

Requirements to Pass the Subject:

To gain a pass or better in this subject, students must gain at least 50% of the total available subject marks.

2.7 Prescribed and Recommended Readings

In formal reference format, provided below is a list of the prescribed and recommended readings.

Prescribed Text:

Aityan, S.K., 2022. *Business research methodology: Research process and methods*. Cham: Springer Nature.

Recommended Readings:

Dubey, U.K.B. and Kothari, D.P., 2022. *Research methodology: Techniques and trends*. Chapman and Hall/CRC.

Azungah, T. 2018. Qualitative research: deductive and inductive approaches to data analysis. *Qualitative Research Journal* Vol. 18 No. 4, 2018 pp. 383-400

Bryman, A., 2016. *Social research methods*. Oxford University Press.

Cloutier, C. Ravasi, D. 2021. Using tables to enhance trustworthiness in qualitative research. *Strategic Organization*, Vol. 19(1) 113–133

Engbers, T.A. 2017. Comparative research: An approach to teaching research methods in political science and public administration. *Teaching Public Administration* 2016, Vol. 34(3) 270–283

Garrigos-Simon, F.J. Llorente, R Morant, M. Narangajavana, Y. 2016. Pervasive information gathering and data mining for efficient business administration. *Journal of Vacation Marketing*, Vol. 22(4) 295–306

Gaus, N. 2016. Selecting research approaches and research designs: a reflective essay. *Qualitative Research Journal* Vol. 17 No. 2,

Georgiou, I. 2021. The Literature Review as an Exercise in Historical Thinking. *Human Resource Development Review*, Vol. 20(2) 252–273

Greckhamer, T. Furnari, S. Fiss, P.C. Aguilera, R.V. 2018. Studying configurations with qualitative comparative analysis: Best practices in strategy and organization research. *Strategic Organization*, Vol. 16(4) 482–495

Håkansson, H. Waluszewski, A. 2016. "Methodomania"? On the methodological and theoretical challenges of IMP business research. *IMP Journal* Vol. 10 No. 3, 2016 pp. 443-463

Jarzabkowski, P. Langley, A. Nigam, A. 2021. Navigating the tensions of quality in qualitative research. *Strategic Organization*, Vol. 19(1) 70–80



Silva, V.V.M. Ribeiro, J.L.D. 2021. A discussion on using quantitative or qualitative data for assessment of individual competencies. *Personnel Review*. Vol. 50 No. 6, pp. 1460-1478

Täuscher, K. 2018. Using qualitative comparative analysis and system dynamics for theory-driven business model research. *Strategic Organization*, Vol. 16(4) 470–481

Timmermans, J. Yaghmaei, E. Stahl, B.C. Brem, A. 2017. Research and innovation processes revisited – networked responsibility in industry. *Sustainability Accounting, Management and Policy Journal* Vol. 8 No. 3, pp. 307-334

Torraco, R.J. 2016. Writing Integrative Literature Reviews: Using the Past and Present to Explore the Future. *Human Resource Development Review*, Vol. 15(4) 404–428 © 2016

Wang, J. 2016. Opening the black box and searching for smoking guns Process causality in qualitative research. *European Journal of Training and Development* Vol. 40 No. 8/9, pp. 691-718

Walliman, N., 2021. *Research methods: The basics*. Routledge.

Useful resources:

You can access to wealth of resources via the KOI library using the following link via the library site:

[Library's Online Resources](#)