Built Environment

MUPS0007
Research for Evidence-Based Policy

Sue Holliday
Disclaimer
This abbreviated course outline is indicative of the outcomes, delivery and assessment. While Course Learning Outcomes will remain constant, other details may be subject to change. The full and most accurate course outline will be available in Moodle.

1. COURSE STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Convenor</th>
<th>Sue Holliday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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2. COURSE DETAILS

Credit Points: 6 UoC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Activity</th>
<th>Hours Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Studio</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Lab</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Online learning activity</td>
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Description
What does a great research design plan and process include? How can research projects best be managed? What are 'evidence based' policy decisions actually based on? How do design-thinkers use research? This course is offered to all Built Environment post-professional and higher research degree students as a fundamental research course. Specialised tutorials and assessment tasks are tailored specifically to student cohorts. It covers research design, methodology, quantitative and qualitative methods and analysis, as well as research management skills.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

This course addresses the following MUPS Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate an advanced and integrated understanding of urban policy and strategy
2. Critically analyse, reflect on and synthesise complex information, problems, concepts and theories and apply established theories to practice
3. Apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, expert judgement, adaptability and responsibility as a practitioner
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the field of urban policy and strategy in its interdisciplinary context, and the ability to manage complex interdisciplinary problems
5. Demonstrate the qualities of an ethical practitioner
6. Demonstrate leadership through the capacity for entrepreneurship and innovation, and the capacity to initiate and embrace change
7. Demonstrate cultural awareness, environmental and social responsibility, and a respect for diversity
Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

At the successful conclusion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Critically analyse problems, reflect on research approaches and theories and then design research processes to extend and redefine existing knowledge or professional practice.
2. Develop and apply research methods that are used in professional practice to understand urban socio-cultural, economic, and sustainability indicators.
3. Interpret and transmit knowledge, data and ideas to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
4. Apply research knowledge and skills which demonstrate autonomy, authoritative judgment, adaptability and responsibility as an expert and leading practitioner.

3. ASSESSMENT

1 Research Brief
Report (40%)

The major outcome of the course is a professional research brief, which identifies an urban problem, analyses existing data and work needed to find potential solutions to the problem. A research/consultancy brief is written and costed as if it were going out to tender a research process.

- Critically analyse problems, reflect on research approaches and theories and then design research processes to extend and redefine existing knowledge or professional practice.
- Develop and apply research methods that are used in professional practice to understand urban socio-cultural, economic, and sustainability indicators.
- Interpret and transmit knowledge, data and ideas to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- Apply research knowledge and skills which demonstrate autonomy, authoritative judgment, adaptability and responsibility as an expert and leading practitioner.

2 Issues Interviews
Report (25%)

Student must complete a university ethics application in order to conduct two interviews with local individuals related to the issue being studied. A summary of each interview is presented in response to the Issues Paper. [Ethics Application and Written Report]
Lecturer feedback

- Develop and apply research methods that are used in professional practice to understand urban socio-cultural, economic, and sustainability indicators.
- Interpret and transmit knowledge, data and ideas to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- Apply research knowledge and skills which demonstrate autonomy, authoritative judgment, adaptability and responsibility as an expert and leading practitioner.

3 Issues Paper
Report (35%)

Each student must identify a problem within an Australian city and gather data, positional papers, plans and policies which address that issue. Students will document the issue, analyse different data sets and identify gaps in knowledge relevant to possible strategic solutions.
Lecturer feedback
• Critically analyse problems, reflect on research approaches and theories and then design research processes to extend and redefine existing knowledge or professional practice.

• Develop and apply research methods that are used in professional practice to understand urban socio-cultural, economic, and sustainability indicators.