



COURSE OUTLINE

BUS513

The Literature Review

School: School of Business and Creative Industries

2026 | Trimester 1

Online

ONLINE

You can do this course without coming onto campus, unless your program has specified a mandatory onsite requirement.

Please go to usc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

This course develops your skills in planning and producing a high-quality literature review in the Business discipline. You will learn to locate, evaluate, organize, and critically analyze relevant sources to create a comprehensive review that effectively supports your own research. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on the ethical and responsible use of AI, ensuring you can integrate emerging technologies thoughtfully while maintaining academic integrity and producing work that meets rigorous scholarly standards.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ONLINE			
Learning materials – Interactive online learning activities.	1hr	Week 1	11 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Scheduled online workshops (Recorded).	2hrs	Week 1	10 times

1.3. Course Topics

The Big Picture

Finding the Literature

Reading and Managing Literature

Evaluating and Critiquing Literature

Analysis and Synthesis

Structuring the literature review

Writing Journal Articles

2. What level is this course?

500 Level (Advanced)

Engaging with new discipline knowledge and skills at an advanced level or deepening existing knowledge and skills within a discipline. Independent application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business
① Design, collect and reflect on research and data in order to support the development of a research question.	Engaged	PC1.1, PC3
② Analyse and synthesise current literature to identify gaps.	Creative and critical thinker	PC1.1, PC3
③ Identify both the strengths and weaknesses of specific research methodologies and how they relate to views of knowledge and research.	Creative and critical thinker Engaged	PC1.1, PC3

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
ASSOCIATION TO ADVANCE COLLEGIATE SCHOOLS OF BUSINESS	
PC1.1	Written Communication
PC3	Creative and Critical Thinking

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Enrolled in any honours program or postgraduate coursework program

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Early feedback will be received in the workshops through active engagement and discussion of your research topic.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Literature Review (or component)	Individual	10%	500 words	Week 5	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Oral and Written Piece	Individual	40%	15 minute presentation and a 500 words summary	Week 8	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Literature Review (or component)	Individual	50%	3,000 words	Week 12	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Draft plan of literature review

GOAL:	The purpose of creating the draft literature review is for you to provide a foundation for your research; this is a short and concise document that creates a template for your larger literature review (Task 3). This task requires the identification and analysis of the parent and immediate disciplines, identification of the relevant journals articles and a coherent outline of the topics chosen for inclusion in the literature review.		
PRODUCT:	Literature Review (or component)		
FORMAT:	You will submit a short essay outlining your topic and rationale, research question or key themes, supported by 5–10 recently published papers from relevant high-quality journals, and concluding with the next steps for developing your full literature review.		
CRITERIA:	<p>No.</p> <p>1 Identification and categorisation of relevant research</p> <p>2 Professional communication</p> <p>3 Appropriate referencing to your discipline</p>		
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Information literacy		

All - Assessment Task 2: Critique a journal article

GOAL:	This task has two parts: a presentation (or recorded video) and a written summary. You will critically evaluate a peer-reviewed journal article relevant to your research interests, identifying its strengths, weaknesses, and the relevant parent and immediate disciplines. The 15-minute presentation or video is worth 30% of the course mark, and the 500-word written summary is worth 10%. Further details about the task and submission requirements will be provided on the Canvas site, and measures will be taken to ensure the presentation is authentically delivered by you.	
PRODUCT:	Oral and Written Piece	
FORMAT:	Presentation and an essay	
CRITERIA:	No. 1 Analysis and synthesis of relevant research 2 Professional communication and presentation 3 Appropriate referencing to your discipline	Learning Outcome assessed 1 3 2 3 1 2
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Organisation, Information literacy	

All - Assessment Task 3: Literature review

GOAL:	You are required to write a clear and concise literature review based on your research question, using skills gained in the course. This task involves a comprehensive and critical analysis of key journal articles highlighting the gaps in the literature. Furthermore, attention to the development of a logical and flowing argument and the concise and accurate communication and presentation of the literature review are necessary.	
PRODUCT:	Literature Review (or component)	
FORMAT:	Discipline format	
CRITERIA:	No. 1 Analysis and synthesis of relevant research 2 Identification and categorisation of relevant research 3 Organisation and logic of the literature review 4 Professional communication and referencing	Learning Outcome assessed 2 3 1 3 3 1 3
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Organisation	

6.4. Assessment to competency mapping

PROGRAMME DELIVERY MODE	ASSESSMENT TYPE	TITLE	COMPETENCY	TEACHING METHODS
2020 UNISC BUSINESS SCHOOL STANDARDS UNDERGRADUATE				
All delivery modes	Literature Review (or component)	Draft plan of literature review	PC1.1	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
		Literature review	PC1.1	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
	Oral and Written Piece		PC1.3	Practiced, Assessed
		Critique a journal article	PC1.1	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
			PC1.2	Assessed

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site— Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Required	Ridley, D	2012	The Literature Review, A Step-by-Step Guide for Students	2nd Ed.	Sage.

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- (a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
- (b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

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- The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%
- The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale
- You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:

- (a) One day: deduct 5%;
- (b) Two days: deduct 10%;
- (c) Three days: deduct 20%;
- (d) Four days: deduct 40%;
- (e) Five days: deduct 60%;
- (f) Six days: deduct 80%;
- (g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:

Less than 15 minutes: No penalty

From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty

More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.10.General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au