COURSE OUTLINE

HLT112 Introduction to Health Science Research Methods

School: School of Health - Public Health

2027 | Trimester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast UniSC Moreton Bay	BLENDED LEARNING	Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.
Online	ONLINE	You can do this course without coming onto campus, unless your program has specified a mandatory onsite requirement.

Please go to unisc.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

In this introductory course, you will develop foundational knowledge and skills in health science research. You will explore key research paradigms and approaches, learn to source and evaluate literature, and apply principles of responsible research. You will develop research questions and hypotheses, identify data sources and sampling techniques, and apply basic qualitative and quantitative analysis methods. You will also apply your knowledge and skills to health topics relevant to your health science discipline.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Workshop on campus	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
Learning materials – Independent structured learning materials	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
ONLINE			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Workshop online	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
Learning materials – Independent structured learning materials	2hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

- Introduction to research and research process in the health science
- Research paradigms, approaches, designs, methodologies
- Research rigour, quality and ethical considerations
- Research questions and hypotheses
- Sourcing, synthesising and appraising literature
- Research data sources and sampling techniques
- Quantitative data collection and analysis methods
- Qualitative data collection and analysis methods
- Research translation

2. What level is this course?

100 Level (Introductory)

Engaging with discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Limited or no prerequisites. Normally, associated with the first full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...		GRADUATE QUALITIES Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1	Explain key health science research paradigms, approaches, and processes.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker
2	Formulate research questions, and source and evaluate appropriate literature to inform practice and the design of health science research.	Creative and critical thinker Empowered
3	Apply principles of responsible conduct in health science research.	Ethical
4	Analyse, summarise and evaluate basic qualitative and quantitative data and communicate findings for a professional audience.	Empowered

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

Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

SCI110 Science Research Methods

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

Not applicable

5.5. Microcredential Information

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

Formative feedback will be provided for each assessment task as outlined under submission format.

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	25%	600 Words	Week 4	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Artefact - Technical and Scientific	Individual	35%	Up to 800 Words	Week 8	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check and in class
All	3	Oral and Written Piece	Group	40%	Visual artefact and 5 minute response to questions	Week 12	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check and in class

All - Assessment Task 1: Literature review summary

GOAL:	To demonstrate your knowledge and skills to formulate a research question and basic database search strategy to locate relevant articles for a health topic and summarise and communicate the findings. This assessment task will provide fundamental skills in research best practice approaches that you will extend on in future courses to ultimately conduct your own rigorous research.
PRODUCT:	Literature Review (or component)
ASSURED LEARNING:	No
PROGRAM ASSESSMENT:	Assessment Task
FORMAT:	Written. You will investigate a health topic relevant to your discipline. Formative feedback will be provided in weeks 2 and 3. You will complete a template to be submitted online. Further details will be provided on Canvas.
CRITERIA:	**No.** — **Learning Outcome assessed** 1 Formulate a research question and apply a search strategy to source relevant peer reviewed articles on a health topic relevant to your discipline. — 2 2 Analyse the literature sourced to identify key findings. — 1 3 Summarise the literature to construct a narrative of your discipline topic. — 1 2 4 Communicate findings using appropriate language with appropriate integration of evidence. — 1 2
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 2: Research appraisal report

GOAL:	To demonstrate skills in the appraisal of discipline-specific research based on ethics, integrity & appropriateness of the research approach and design. This assessment task will provide fundamental skills in critical appraisal of academic literature that you will build on in future courses.
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Technical and Scientific
ASSURED LEARNING:	Yes
PROGRAM ASSESSMENT:	Assessment Task
FORMAT:	Written. You will be provided with a case example relevant to your health discipline. Formative feedback will be provided in weeks 6 and 7. You will complete a template in class which will be submitted online. Further details will be provided on Canvas.
CRITERIA:	

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Analyse a discipline-specific research case example using principles of ethics, integrity and sound research design.	3
2	Apply principles of ethics, integrity and sound research to inform a practice recommendation.	1 2 3
3	Communicate in written form using academic language with appropriate integration of evidence.	1 3

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 3: Visual summary of data and oral justification

GOAL:	To apply knowledge and skills of health science research to analyse qualitative and quantitative discipline-specific data sets and communicate findings to a professional audience. This assessment task will develop skills in analysing and presenting data that will be extended on in future courses.
PRODUCT:	Oral and Written Piece
ASSURED LEARNING:	No
PROGRAM ASSESSMENT:	Assessment Task
FORMAT:	Visual summary of data and oral justification supported with evidence of working and an authorship statement. Formative feedback will be provided in workshops in weeks 8, 10 and 11. Further details will be provided on Canvas.
CRITERIA:	

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Analyse a qualitative and quantitative data set in your discipline area.	4
2	Summarise and communicate findings of the data analysis appropriate for the audience.	1 4
3	Justify research contributions through oral discussion in a professional presentation setting.	1 4

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Applying technologies

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

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

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

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. 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

10.5. 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.

10.6. General Enquiries

For course-specific questions, contact your teaching staff or Course Coordinator.

For other enquiries or to access support, please contact Student Central:

- UniSC Student Central
- UniSC Adelaide Student Central