



PPMP20016 Project Management Research

Term 1 - 2018

Profile information current as at 02/05/2024 06:20 am

All details in this unit profile for PPMP20016 have been officially approved by CQU University and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

Project Management Research is a final year research project. In this unit you will complete an investigative study. Continuing with the proposal you commenced in the Project Management Project Proposal unit, you will analyse and critique an area of your professional practice. You will also be required to incorporate critical reflection. This project will enable you to contribute to the body of knowledge for your discipline. You will present your project in a dissertation.

Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 9*

Credit Points: *12*

Student Contribution Band: *10*

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.25*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Prerequisites: BUSN20016 and PPMP20015 GPA of 5.75

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 1 - 2018

- Brisbane
- Distance
- Melbourne
- Sydney

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 12-credit Postgraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 25 hours of study per week, making a total of 300 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Presentation**

Weighting: 20%

2. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 80%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Teaching team

Feedback

Many students struggled to apply project management knowledge and skills in executing their research project.

Recommendation

Review resources and extend the level of guidance on the application of project management within a research context.

Feedback from Teaching team

Feedback

The available time to conduct the research is very short.

Recommendation

Review course structure to enable students to conduct their research over two terms.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Apply identified research methodologies to project management problems
2. Apply in-depth project management knowledge and technical proficiency to a research study area
3. Critically analyse the impact of a completed research project upon the project management industry and profession
4. Prepare reports and dissertations based on research projects
5. Critically reflect on self-performance, focusing on quality and accountability, to ensure continuous professional development and life-long learning.

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- computer lab

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Samer Skaik Unit Coordinator
s.skaik@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1: Kick off your research project - 05 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Refine/amend your proposal submitted in PPMP20015 as per your Supervisor's advice.	Read the unit profile, assessment tasks and familiarize yourself with the Moodle site. Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week.	Kick off meeting with the Supervisor (Mandatory)

Week 2: Apply for Ethics clearance - 12 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Finalize the data collection instrument (i.e. questionnaire) and prepare necessary documentation for Ethics clearance.	Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.	Milestone: Submission of Ethics application (if the project involves human participants)

Week 3: Update your literature review - 19 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Conduct focused background reading and literature review drawing upon the preliminary literature review conducted in PPMP20015 and refine/update research questions and objectives if necessary.	Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.	Progress meeting with the Supervisor (mandatory) Milestone: Literature review section complete

Week 4: Continue with your literature review - 26 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Continue with your focused background reading and literature review and refine/update research questions and objectives if necessary.	Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.	

Week 5: Proceed with Pilot Study - 02 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Finalize the sampling plan and identify your potential participants for pilot study and main survey. Proceed with pilot study then update/refine your data collection instrument.	Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.	Progress meeting with the Supervisor (mandatory) Milestone: Ethics clearance granted

Vacation Week: Love yourself! - 09 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
You have done a good progress and you would need a well deserved break. Love yourself and enjoy every moment in your break.		

Week 6: Proceed with data collection - 16 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Proceed with data collection as planned	Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.	

Week 7: Continue with data collection - 23 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Continue with data collection. Write your methodology section.	Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.	Progress meeting with the Supervisor (mandatory) Milestone: Research methodology section complete.

Week 8: Analyse and interpret collected data - 30 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Analyse and interpret collected data	Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.	

Week 9: Continue with Analyzing and interpreting collected data - 07 May 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Continue with Analyzing and interpreting collected data. Write your results and analysis section.	Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.	Milestone: Results and analysis section complete.

Week 10: Discuss your results - 14 May 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Discuss findings, drawing out main achievements and explaining results. Make links between objectives, findings and literature. Identify any gap where extra work or reading is necessary.	Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.	Progress meeting with the Supervisor (mandatory)

Week 11: Present your findings - 21 May 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Disseminate your preliminary results by preparing your oral presentation slides and speaker's notes	Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.	Milestone: Assignment 1 is due: Oral presentations (submission). Milestone: Discussion section complete. Oral Presentation Due: Week 11 Friday (25 May 2018) 10:59 am AEST

Week 12: Finalize your research paper - 28 May 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Consider the feedback received during presentation in improving your research. Finalize your abstract, introduction and conclusion sections. Your conclusion should summarize major findings, present limitations and implications and suggest directions for future research

Review the online resources within the relevant section of this week in Moodle site.

Closing meeting with the Supervisor (**mandatory**)
Milestone: Assignment 1 is due: Oral presentations (seminar).

Week 13: Submit your research paper - 04 Jun 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Finalize the formatting of your research paper together with all appendices as per the requirements. Go through the given checklist and ensure you tick all boxes before submission.		Milestone: Assignment 2 is due: Research paper

Exam Week - 11 Jun 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Term Specific Information

Every student enrolled in this unit will have their work overseen by a supervisor who is an academic member of staff. The student will work with the supervisor for the duration of the research project. The Supervisor is the person with whom the student should work closely. The onus is on the student to make contact with the Supervisor, and to arrange and adhere to a programme of regular meetings thereafter.

The Supervisor should not have to chase students in order to check on their work progress. The Supervisor should advise on the structure and suitability of the paper, comment on draft work submitted, be of support throughout, and warn the student if the work is not thought to be of a satisfactory standard. You should maintain contact with your Supervisor throughout the preparation of your paper. A common pitfall is to go long periods of time without making any contact with the supervisor. You must attend the **six mandatory meetings** with your supervisor as scheduled in the unit profile.

Assessment Tasks

1 Oral Presentation

Assessment Type

Presentation

Task Description

Students enrolled in this unit must give an oral presentation about their research work at a seminar to their fellow students and a panel of two assessors. This would require that the main sections of the research paper are substantially completed so you can properly feed your presentation slides. The seminar will be scheduled in Week 12 of the semester which is one week prior to the finalization of the research paper. This is deliberately planned in order for students to consider the given feedback in improving their research prior to final submission. All students must attend the oral presentations on the day from start to finish to maximize their learning and knowledge in different research topics relating to project management as presented by other students. Advice on date/time and location will be provided at least one week before the seminar session. Presentations should be 30 minutes, of which 20 minutes will be the student presentation, allowing 5-10 minutes for questions and swapping time. Exceeding the time limits for presentation may encounter mark deductions, therefore, students are encouraged to have adequate rehearsal in advance. Students are requested to submit the slide presentation file by the end of week 11. The proposed flow of the slides is suggested to be as follows:

- Rationale
- Research question and objectives
- Key arguments/concepts from literature review
- Research gap/problem statement

- Research design and method
- Results and analysis
- Discussion
- Conclusion and implication
- Reference list

Students must submit their presentation file as powerpoint slides (PPT) including the speaker's notes to supplement the content of each slide.

Assessment Due Date

Week 11 Friday (25 May 2018) 10:59 am AEST

Submission of slides

Return Date to Students

Week 12 Friday (1 June 2018)

Feedback on your slides and oral presentation

Weighting

20%

Assessment Criteria

Assessment Criteria	Weight
<p>Technical Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent Knowledge and understanding of the presentation topic and relevant issues • Soundness and rigorousness of the selected methodology and analysis • Obtained results are credible, focused and fully aligned with the research question and objectives. 	40%
<p>Delivery of presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of presentation is confident and clear • Material is well organised • Logical ordering of the content of the presentation • Appropriate style of communication for academic audience • Ability to construct and present an argument • Integration of evidence and argument • Ability to engage audience interest to a good level • Ability to accept criticism • Time management • Use of visual aids 	40%
<p>Handling of Questions and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to interpret and answer questions in a way that provides additional insights into the presentation topic • Originality and sharpness of thinking in answering questions • Ability to stimulate discussion 	20%

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Apply identified research methodologies to project management problems
- Apply in-depth project management knowledge and technical proficiency to a research study area
- Critically analyse the impact of a completed research project upon the project management industry and profession
- Critically reflect on self-performance, focusing on quality and accountability, to ensure continuous professional development and life-long learning.

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication

- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Self-management
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

2 Research Paper

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

This assignment requires you to report your findings via a research paper format of 10,000 to 12,000 words in length excluding appendices. This should demonstrate that you have the ability to conduct a piece of rigorous research in your chosen field, and involves critical thinking and reasoning. It is not sufficient for a research paper to be about description, summarising and measuring. These activities simply provide a framework for the thinking and reasoning. The sections/components of the research paper should appear in the following order:

- Cover page
- Abstract
- Introduction/background/Rationale including research questions.
- Literature review
- Research Methodology
- Results and analysis including tables and figures.
- Discussion
- Conclusion, implication and limitation
- References
- Appendices (Ethics application, data collection instrument, research data, supplementary information, etc.)

Moodle site includes full details and guidelines to help you prepare each section. Samples are also provided to better understand the requirements and expectations. Details of the research paper formatting and submission checklist are provided in Moodle site.

Assessment Due Date

Return Date to Students

Weighting

80%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

Grade	Criteria
HD	As in the D category, but in addition, displaying a very high ability to comprehend the subject matter within the wider context and demonstrating considerable originality. The highest level of structure and presentation.
D	An extremely thorough, distinction level piece of research. Thorough understanding of the subject and issues. Demonstrates a high degree of critical appraisal analysis, clear ability to formulate/construct hypotheses and excellent understanding and application of research methods. Conclusions are well supported by the content. Very well structured and presented.
C	A good understanding of the subject and issues. Demonstrates a clear ability to ask the right questions and formulate/construct hypotheses to address the issues. Good understanding and application of research methods. Critical appraisal is demonstrated and conclusions and recommendations are supported. Fairly structured and presented over and above the basic standard.

P

A reasonable understanding of the subject and issues, which asks questions and addresses potential answers, supported by a reasonable degree of analysis and critique. Acceptable consideration of research methods. Conclusions are reasonably formed and recommendations are generally supported by the work undertaken. Basic structure and presentation.

F

Does not meet academic standards for a scholarly paper. A basic piece of work which demonstrates limited knowledge/effort and understanding, supported by only little analysis and minimal review. Poor or non-existent consideration of research methods. Inadequate discussion with very poorly or unsupported conclusions. Poorly structured and presented.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Apply identified research methodologies to project management problems
- Apply in-depth project management knowledge and technical proficiency to a research study area
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Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Self-management
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem