Inquiry and Research Skills for Business | FP011

Module Summary
The module will equip students with the key inquiry and research skills required for success as an undergraduate. The aim of the module is to deliver course specific skills development, which prepares and engages students in undergraduate style research. The module utilizes Problem Based Learning approaches to enable students to develop greater independent learning skills and applying the skills to Business and Economics case studies. During the module, students develop skills in advanced searching, using databases, evaluating sources, effective group-working, reflection and learning to think critically. All students in the second half of the module undertake a research project which is modelled on university level research. Students design and carry out their own research in an area related to Business and Economics taking into account different methodologies, conduct their own literature review and report their findings through both a written report and an academic poster conference.

Module Objectives
The module will:
1. Teach students to utilise key principles in inquiry and critical thinking skills in assessing case studies in Business and Economics;
2. Enable students to effectively engage in academic debate in a UK context relating to the disciplines of Business and Economics;
3. Engage students with group learning in a cross cultural setting;
4. Equipped students with inquiry and research skills
5. Develop students’ ability to work independently.

Learning Outcomes
By the end of the module, students will have:
1. Utilised key principles in critical thinking and are able to more effectively engage in academic debate in a UK context
2. know how to actively engage with group learning and have taken part in a range of group activities
3. Actively engaged in research and will have developed a range of academic and transferable skills including time management, project planning, collaboration, data analysis as applicable to their academic subjects and relevant IT skills
4. Have developed reflective and self-management skills for ongoing personal development

Assessment Methods

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<th>Assessment Method</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reflective Writing</td>
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<td>Critical Thinking Task</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Project</td>
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Course Content

Term 1: Developing Inquiry and Research Skills

- Introduction to Problem Based Learning approaches - what skills do we need and why do it?
- Advanced Searching - using university library, searching databases, using the internet to search effectively
- Evaluating Sources - what makes a source academic?
- Asking questions about an issue
- Academic Integrity
- Teamwork
- Collaboration in an Intercultural Setting
- Using technology to enhance teamwork
- Reflection - importance of it, why do it, how to do it.
- Application of skills to Problem Based Learning Case Studies.

Term 2: Research Project

Student-led Independent Research Task

- Literature Reviews - what are they? What are they for? Identifying areas for research
- Inquiry Skills: Formulating Research Questions - different types of research and different styles of questions
- Research Skills - methodology: Primary/Secondary Research; Quantitative and Qualitative methods
- Research Skills - How to select the correct method for your research and critical evaluation of methods
- Research Skills - engaging with ontology and epistemology
- Research Skills and Critical Thinking - analysing quantitative data
- Research Skills and Critical Thinking: analysing qualitative data
- Interview based research
- Research Skills: observation based research
- Research Skills: research design and research ethics
- Critical Thinking: Drawing Conclusions
- Critical Thinking: Limitations of research
- Critical Thinking: Identifying areas for Further Research
- Academic posters
- Presenting academic posters

Find out more at:
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