



**Gisma University**  
of Applied Sciences

## **Reassessment Brief**

### **M506 Research Methods and Scientific Work**

September, 2023

## Part I: General Information

Module	M506 Research Methods and Scientific Work
Term	Retake SS0723
Primary Assignment Title	Mini Research Paper
Weighting	70%
Distributed on:	W/C 11 September, 2023
To be submitted on:	06 October, 2023, 18:00 Berlin Time
Submission Method	<p>The Research Paper must be submitted electronically to the submission folder indicated on Canvas.</p> <p>You must submit your work accompanied by an Assessment Submission Form, which must be completed in full. The assignment will not be accepted by the Registry unless the form is completed correctly.</p>
Length	The submitted essay should have 3,000 words with +/- 10%
Additional Assessment Components	<p>GISMA University reward a) in class attendance and b) engagement with asynchronous content together at a rate of 30% per module.</p> <p>a) Students attending <math>\geq 80\%</math> (factoring on possible extenuating circumstances) of their synchronous classes as per their due mode of delivery, will gain 15% towards their final module mark. This implies that grades of student who do not achieve at least 80% attendance will be capped at 85%.</p> <p>b) Students successfully completing all summative assessments in the asynchronous environment (Online Quizzes Week 3 –5 Week 8), can additionally gain up to 15% towards their final module mark.</p> <p>The online quizzes must be completed by the end of each week (for each week until Sundays 11:59 pm). Do note that all tasks must be completed by the indicated deadline to count into the final grade.</p> <p>Each student has five attempts to complete each quiz. The average grade of the attempts taken will count into the overall module grade with a weight of 15%.</p>

## Part II: Assessment Details

Assessment Topic	<p>Students need to submit a Mini Research Paper which is a research paper in the academic tradition, but in miniature i.e., smaller in scope, a more specific topic, fewer words (max. 3,000 +/- 10%), therefore fewer pages.</p> <p><b>Overview:</b></p> <p>For this assignment, you will conduct an <b>individual mini research study (proposal)</b> on a topic of your choice related to your field of study. You will be required to submit a research paper that outlines the research question, methodology, findings (if any), and implications of your study.</p> <p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <p>To develop skills in research design and methodology To gain experience in conducting a mini research study To communicate research findings in a clear and concise manner</p> <p><b>Requirements:</b></p> <p><b>Select a topic:</b> Choose a topic that is of interest to you and is relevant to your field of study. The topic should be narrow enough to allow for a mini research study, but broad enough to provide opportunities for exploration and analysis.</p> <p><b>Conduct a literature review:</b> Conduct a thorough review of relevant literature on your chosen topic. This should clearly highlight the past research on the research topic to help you develop a conceptual model for your research.</p> <p><b>Develop a research question:</b> Based on your literature review, develop a research question that addresses a gap or limitation in the current research on your topic.</p> <p><b>Design a mini research study:</b> Design a mini research study that addresses your research question. Your study should include a clear description of your methodology, including your sample, data collection methods, and data analysis techniques.</p> <p>Conduct your study: Collect and analyze your data using the methodology outlined in your research design. (Analysing the data</p>
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	<p>will give you the opportunity to score the better grad, and it's not mandatory)</p> <p><b>And should contain the following sections (Once creating the assessment, students are required to adhere to the following format):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cover letter</b></li> <li>• <b>Table of contents</b></li> <li>• <b>Section 1. Introduction chapter.</b> The introduction chapter should clearly highlight the research topic, background, rationale, problem statement, research questions, objectives and hypothesis of your research, Conceptual framework.</li> <li>• <b>Section 2. Literature review chapter.</b> The literature review chapter should clearly highlight the past research on the research topic to help you develop a conceptual model for your research.</li> <li>• <b>Section 3. Methodology chapter.</b> The methodology chapter should clearly highlight the research approach and the research method that is relevant for answering your research questions. It should contain a comprehensive plan for data collection and data analysis.</li> <li>• <b>Section 4. Expected results</b> You need to provide a summary of the anticipated outcome (Expected results) of your research.</li> </ul> <p><b>NT; Analysing the data &amp; REPRESENTING THE RESULTS will give you the opportunity to score the better grad, and it's not mandatory!</b></p>
Assessment Guidelines	<p>Students should draw from the knowledge gain in the lectures and content from the module and other <i>academic sources</i> (in Perlego, EBSCO, Google Scholar etc.) and your own research from the internet to prepare the mini research paper.</p> <p>Use Harvard reference system to cite and reference your work. This should be an original piece of work and ensure that you do not plagiaries other's work.</p>
Links to module	The assignment relates to the following intended learning outcomes for the module:

intended learning outcomes	<p><b>LO.1:</b> Critically analyse research-based concepts and methods relating to business and related disciplines</p> <p><b>LO.2:</b> Specify problem areas that are relevant to organisations and develop a meaningful problem statement and research proposal.</p> <p><b>LO.3:</b> Demonstrate ability to compose a research design and apply research skills in order to evaluate, inform and advance business management</p> <p><b>LO.4:</b> Deploy techniques of analysis and enquiry in order to critically evaluate research strategies and findings</p> <p><b>LO.5:</b> Produce a research proposal, and plan and execute a piece of independent research using primary and/or secondary data sources</p>
Special Instructions	<p>The timely and consistent participation throughout this module with the asynchronous and synchronous tasks is essential for the successful completion of this module, due to the project-driven approach to teaching and learning in this module (“flipped classroom”).</p> <p>Submission Guide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your assessment should be submitted as a single Word (MS Word) or PDF file. For more information, please see the GISMA assignment guide.</li> <li>• You must ensure that the submitted assignment is your own work and that all sources used are correctly attributed.</li> <li>• Submit your work on the GISMA portal within the submission deadline.</li> </ul> <p>Your work will not be graded and you will receive a zero grade if you submit your assignment after the submission deadline, case of academic unfair practice is found or your work is not submitted in MS word or PDF file.</p> <p>Your mini research paper will be assessed based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Clarity and coherence of writing</b></li> <li>• <b>Relevance and significance of research question</b></li> <li>• <b>Appropriateness of research design and methodology</b></li> <li>• <b>Quality of research</b></li> <li>• <b>Appropriateness of conclusions and implications</b></li> </ul>

Additional Assessment Components	<p>GISMA University rewards in class attendance, and engagement with asynchronous content, at a rate of 30% per module.</p> <p>Students attending <math>\geq 80\%</math> (factoring on possible extenuating circumstances) of their synchronous classes as per their due mode of delivery, will gain 15% towards their final module mark.</p> <p>Students successfully engaging with asynchronous material on the gamification/microlearning path and completing all summative assessments in the asynchronous environment, will equally gain 15% towards their final module mark.</p> <p>The above also entail that, students falling below 80% of attendance, although they will be still allowed to submit, they will have their final mark capped at 85/100. Equally, if they fail to engage with the asynchronous material and complete the short summative assessments included in specific checkpoints during each term (usually 4), their module mark, irrespective of their engagement and participation in synchronous delivery, will drop by a maximum rate of 15%.</p>
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## Part III: Marking Criteria / Assessment Criteria

Mark Weight	Fail (0 - 49%)	Sufficient (50 – 59%)	Satisfactory (60 – 74%)	Good (75-89%)	Very Good (90-100%)
100%	5,0	4,0 - 3,7	2,7-3,3	1,7-2,3	1,0-1,3
Marking Criteria	Does not fulfil the requirements of the assessment.	Demonstrates acceptable knowledge and understanding of the subject-matter and achievement of learning outcomes at low to average level of performance.	Demonstrates substantial knowledge and understanding of the subject-matter and achievement of learning outcomes at average to above average performance levels.	Demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the subject-matter and achievement of learning outcomes at well above average levels of performance.	Demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the subject-matter and achievement of learning outcomes at high (highest) levels of performance.

Assessment Criteria	<p>Your written essay will be assessed based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depth of analysis and description of issue or problem to be researched (20%).</li> <li>• The quality of your literature review and development of the appropriate conceptual model for the research (25%)</li> <li>• Clear outline of the research approach and method relevant for answering your research questions (25%).</li> </ul>
Notes about Marking	Marking will be based on the originality of the individual work submitted

## Part IV: Tips for Successfully Engaging with this Assessment

Answer the Question	It may seem obvious, but make sure you are answering the question you have been set, not the question you would prefer to answer. If the brief has a number of tasks or parts, answer all of them. Parts that involve evaluation or analysis are usually longer and worth more marks than parts that ask for description or explanation. Keep the brief in front of you and check it regularly.
How to use Assessment Criteria	The assessment criteria document is not usually a guide to the structure of your assignment. Each section of the criteria is not a separate paragraph in your assignment, but qualities that you need to demonstrate throughout. Treat the assessment criteria as a checklist at the end not as a plan at the beginning. Also, the criteria document often tells you what to demonstrate (e.g., critical analysis) but not

	<p>necessarily how to do it. For how to do it, look back at the skills and activities you have covered in the rest of the module.</p> <p>Above all, remember this is not a test of how much you know or how much you have read about the topic. It is a test of how well you can use your knowledge to answer the specific question set.</p>
Planning and Preparation	<p>Make sure you attend the lectures where we will be 'unpacking' this assignment in greater detail.</p> <p>Start thinking about your assignment and prepare early. Do clarify any doubt you have with your tutor.</p> <p>We recommend that you spend approximately 40 hours researching, writing, proofing and editing this assignment.</p>
Referencing	<p>GISMA Business School requires that students use Harvard Referencing.</p>
Plagiarism and Cheating	<p>Your attention is drawn to the University's stated position on plagiarism. THE WORK OF OTHERS THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE ASSIGNMENT MUST BE ATTRIBUTED TO ITS SOURCE (a list of references and bibliography must be submitted).</p> <p>Please note that this is intended to be an individual piece of work. Ensure that you read through your work prior to submission. Action will be taken where a student is suspected of having cheated or engaged in any dishonest practice. Students are referred to the University regulations on plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct. Students must not copy or collude with one another or present any information that they themselves have not generated.</p> <p>For more information on Plagiarism, please see the relevant section in your Program Handbook.</p>