

School of Information Management

**MMIM592 RESEARCH PROJECT**

Trimesters 1+2 2011, 2+3 2011, 3+1 2011/12

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Names and Contact Details**

Course Coordinator            Dr Brian Harmer  
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Programme Administrator      Tiso Ross  
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**Trimester Dates**

Trimesters 1 + 2 (F)      28 February 2011 – 11 November 2011  
 Trimesters 2 + 3 (J)      11 July 2011 – 24 February 2012  
 Trimesters 3 + 1 (K)      14 November 2011 – 6 July 2012  
 (Enrol 4 weeks prior to the trimester to allow sufficient time for supervisor allocation)

**Withdrawal from Course**

- **Withdrawal dates: Late withdrawals with Associate Dean (Students) permission.**  
 (See Section 8: Withdrawals – from the Personal Courses of Study Statute)  
<http://policy.vuw.ac.nz/Amphora!~policy.vuw.ac.nz-POLICY~000000001743.pdf>
- **Withdrawal dates: refunds:**  
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

To withdraw from a course contact the MIM Administrator to find out deadlines and how to proceed.

*The official deadlines for course changes are:*

<b>ADDING COURSES Course deadlines</b>	<b>WITHDRAWAL WITH REFUND Course deadlines</b>	<b>LATE WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT REFUND* Course deadlines</b>
Trimesters 1 + 2 (F): 11/03/11 Trimesters 2 + 3 (J): 22/07/11 Trimesters 3 + 1 (K): 25/11/11	Trimesters 1 + 2 (F): 11/03/11 Trimesters 2 + 3 (J): 22/07/11 Trimesters 3 + 1 (K):25/11/11	Trimesters 1 + 2 (F): 19/08/2011 Trimesters 2 + 3 (J): 20/12/2011 Trimesters 3 + 1 (K): 04/04/2012

*\*The Associate Dean's approval is required to withdraw from a course after this date for students who are forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control. 'Application for Associate Dean's Permission to Withdraw Late' form is available from either of the Faculty's Student Customer Service Desks.*

**Class Times and Room Numbers**

There are no formal classes for MMIM592.

- **Times:** Regular meetings with supervisors, by arrangement.
- **Supervisor:** To be assigned by the course coordinator on an individual basis.

Students are advised to meet with their assigned supervisors to work on their Research Project.

### **Course Content**

This course provides an opportunity for students to complete a theoretical research project on an approved topic in information management. It is intended that through this process, the student will demonstrate not only mastery of the theoretical basis of the topic chosen, but also an ability to undertake independent research at an appropriate academic level.

### **Course Learning Objectives**

Students passing this course should be able to:

- identify, clarify and investigate a research problem in information management/ communications,
- locate, analyse, and integrate relevant literature,
- gather and analyse additional data if appropriate, and
- present a coherent, well-organised argument (written and oral) based on the above.

**Prerequisite:** MMIM 552 Research Methods

### **Course Delivery**

You will have regular contact with your supervisor during your MMIM592 enrolment. These may be face-to-face meetings; contact through telephone; or emails.

### **Expected Workload**

Time commitment: Expect to spend 12 -14 hours per week on work related to this course  
Lectures or tutorial: There are no regular lectures or tutorials  
Research seminars: These will be held as required

### **Informal learning groups**

Students are encouraged to form learning groups and meet on a regular basis to share and discuss ideas related to their projects.

### **Readings**

There is no set text; the text and readings from MMIM552 Research Methods are important.

**Learning Resources:** These are specified in the pre-requisite research methods course.

**Literature:** You will make extensive use of the library print and CD-ROM media as well as online academic literature databases.

### **Assessment Requirements**

20% formal research proposal  
80% written research report  
Due by the Friday in the last week of the exam period of the second trimester you are enrolled in.

**Written Research Report:** Your supervisor will help you in planning and preparing this report.

## Project milestone:

Task	Date/ time
<b>Choose topic</b> Students are advised to prepare for the course by choosing the same topic for their literature review and project proposal (MMIM552). This is a strong recommendation, but not a requirement. Early selection of a topic also sensitises you to issues and the potential value of literature you read during your other studies.	If required, TBA
<b>Submit Topic Approval Form (TAF)</b> – This goes to the Programme Administrator, who can also provide you with the TAF template. That forms the basis for enrolment and the allocation of a supervisor.*	As soon as enrolled
<b>Submit formal project proposal</b> , and assuming human ethics subjects are involved, submit a HEC application to the SIM Human Ethics Committee.	4 wks
<b>Submit final draft</b> of written research report to your supervisor. Your supervisor may negotiate an earlier date.	To be advised by Supervisor
<b>Submit 2 copies of your written research report (plus an electronic copy)</b> to the Course Co-ordinator or Programme Administrator.	By last day of second trimester (see course dates)

**Computer Labs:** Enrolment in this course entitles you to use of SIM Postgraduate computer lab – please contact the programme administrator for further details. Access to your student email account, Blackboard, and student records is via MyVictoria <http://my.vuw.ac.nz/cp/home/loginf>. Please ensure your contact details are kept up to date in the Student Records System.

Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and audit purposes. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of FCA programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.

## Mandatory Course Requirements

You must submit a satisfactory topic approval form (TAF) prior to the start of MMIM592. This outlines your topic and your background reading, and is used to allocate an appropriate supervisor. To pass the course you must submit a final case study at the end of the enrolment.

## Faculty of Commerce and Administration Offices

FCA Student and Academic Services Offices are located on the first floor of the Railway West Wing (RWW) and ground floor of the Rutherford House (RH). Student Administration Advisers are available to discuss course status and give further advice about FCA qualifications. To check for opening hours call (04) 463 5376 or go to <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fca/studenthelp/counter.aspx>.

## Use of Turnitin (if applicable)

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

**For the following important information follow the links provided:**

## Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

## **General University Policies and Statutes**

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study)

Find out about academic progress and restricted enrolment at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress.aspx>

The University's statutes and policies are available at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy), except qualification statutes, which are available via the Calendar webpage at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx> (See Section C).

Further information about the University's academic processes can be found on the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic/default.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/default.aspx)

## **AVC (Academic) Website: information including: Conduct, Academic Grievances, Students with Impairments, Student Support**

[http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx)

## **Faculty of Commerce and Administration Offices**

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fca/studenthelp/>

## **Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme**

[http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/mentoring/](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/mentoring/)