

School of Marketing & International Business

## **MARK 410 ADVANCED CONSUMER BEHAVIOUR**

Trimester 1, 2014

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

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#### **Names and Contact Details**

**Lecturer:** Kate Daellenbach  
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**Telephone:** 463 6255;  
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**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 1130-1230 (or by appointment).

#### **Trimester Dates**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June

#### **Withdrawal from Course**

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May. After this date, students forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control must apply for permission on an '*Application for Associate Dean's Permission to Withdraw Late*' including supporting documentation. The application form is available from either of the Faculty's Student Customer Service Desks.

#### **Class Times and Room Numbers**

This course consists of twelve 150-minute seminars. Further details are contained in the Course Content section below. The seminars take place in the following times/room:

Mondays                      11:30 – 14:20 RWW126

#### **Course Delivery**

MARK 410 consists of one three hour seminar each week. A set of readings and assigned course work has been designed to assist learning. Students are expected to read the assigned material, attend all seminars, and be prepared to discuss Consumer Behaviour ideas and concepts in class.

### **Expected Workload**

Students are expected to spend an average of 10-12 hours per week on the various activities associated with MARK 410.

### **Prescription**

This course advances student understanding of consumer behaviour with a particular focus on the academic literature which has a more interpretative and qualitative orientation.

### **Course Learning Objectives**

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Explain interpretivist consumer behaviour literature and research.
2. Critique issues and theories that are considered important in consumer behaviour.
3. Demonstrate familiarity with a range of qualitative methodological approaches that are utilised in consumer research.
4. Construct answerable (i.e. researchable) questions regarding consumer behaviour and convert such questions into feasible research projects.
5. Design and lead a seminar discussion to a group of peers.
6. Undertake advanced research in academic and other professional marketing settings.

### **Course Content**

The BCom (Hons) Programme in Marketing is designed to further develop the intellectual capabilities and skills of those who have recently completed a Bachelor's Degree with a Major in Marketing. It is our conviction that the programme will develop a participant's ability to make valuable contributions to marketing practice through further advanced study and research in the discipline.

The purpose of MARK 410 is to advance student understanding of consumer behaviour research but from a decidedly more academic, interpretive, and qualitative orientation.

*This is a tentative schedule, subject to change.*

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>
1	Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Course Overview: What is Consumer Research?
2	Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Self-Identity
3	Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Symbolic Consumption <i>Presentations / critiques begin, schedule TBA.</i>
	Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Good Friday (University is closed)
4	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Sub-Cultures & Brand Communities
5	Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Attitude, Involvement & Information Processing
6	Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Mon 7<sup>th</sup> April</i>	Shopping Behaviour <i>Proposed topic &amp; research question due for interview assignment.</i>

7	Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> April	<i>Assignment one due at the beginning of class.</i> In-class discussion & workshop: Interview protocols, transcription & coding
<b>Mid trimester break</b> <b>18<sup>th</sup> April – 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>		
8	Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Media Consumption & Technology <i>Proposed interview protocol, information sheet and consent form due for interview assignment.</i>
9	Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Disposition Behaviour
10	Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Sustainability and the Ethical Consumer
11	Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Transformative Consumer Research
12	Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	(Queen's Birthday - University Closed) Final class will be rescheduled – time and place to be confirmed.
<b>Tues 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>		<b>Interview Assignment due by 3.30pm</b>

Note: Changes to this schedule may well need to be made from time to time. Any revisions will be announced in class and posted on the blackboard site.

### **Readings**

The reading material for this course consists of a set of journal articles and book excerpts. These readings will either be provided in hardcopy, or available via an electronic link on blackboard. A list of readings will be made available to you in Week 1.

### **Materials and Equipment**

Students are required to have access to personal computers and the Internet in order to prepare material for assignments, presentations, and class participation.

### **Assessment**

From Trimester 1, 2014, a revised Assessment Handbook will apply to all VUW courses: see <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf>.

In particular, there will be a new grade scheme, in which the A+ range will be 90-100% and 50-54% will be a C-.

Evaluation for the course is as follows:

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
<b>Presentation &amp; Critique</b> (1000-1200 words) (Objectives 1, 2, 3, 5)	30%	<i>From week 3 (Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March).</i> Each student will prepare and conduct a presentation/critique. Presentations will take place in class and <u>written critiques are due at the beginning of the relevant class</u> . Students will be assigned specific papers for this assessment in week 2.
<b>Assignment one</b> (Objectives 1,2,3,4)	20%	<i>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April, 11.30am</i> (beginning of class). See assignment sheet for details.
<b>Interview Assignment</b> (4000-5000 words) (Objectives 2,3,4,6)	40%	<i>Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June, 3.30pm</i> Your final report needs to be submitted by 3.30pm, <u>and</u> submitted to <i>Turnitin</i> . Additional deadlines are noted for the research question (7 <sup>th</sup> April) and interview protocol (5 <sup>th</sup> May). See the assignment handout for more details.
<b>Participation</b> (Objectives 1,2,3,4,5)	10%	Within class participation is assessed throughout the trimester. More details are contained in the participation handout.
<b>Total</b>	100%	

### **Penalties**

- Late assignments: Assignments received after the deadline will have 10% deducted from the available grade, per day. For example, an assignment that is one day late will lose 10% of the available grade (i.e. a 78% becomes a 68%), 2 days late 20% (i.e. a 78% becomes 58%), etc. Assignments received 7 days after the due date will not be marked.

**Late assignments must be date stamped and signed-in by a staff member at the 11<sup>th</sup> floor reception desk, Rutherford House. Do NOT slide them under doors or put them into the box after the due date.**

- Extensions: Extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances (e.g. illness with supporting medical documents stating the nature and length of impairment, provincial or national representative activities with supporting documents) by the MARK 410 Course Coordinator. If at all possible, extensions need to be arranged before the due date.
- Word Count: Clear word count limits and/or page limits are stated for these assignments. Failure to adhere to these limits will incur a penalty of **5% for every 10% words** over the limit. In other words, if the word limit is set at 1500 words, a 5% penalty will be applied for every 150 words over the limit.

### **Use of Turnitin**

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 submitted to Turnitin. A copy of submitted materials will be retained 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.

### **Class Representative**

A class representative will be elected in MARK405, and that person's name and contact details will be made available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

### **Mandatory Course Requirements**

To meet mandatory course requirements students must submit ALL pieces of internal assessment. Students must also obtain at least 50% overall, to obtain a pass grade for this course. Failure to meet the mandatory course requirements will jeopardise your ability to pass the course.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat)

### **Communication of Additional Information**

Any additional information or changes will be communicated at the beginning of seminars, added to the MARK 410 *Blackboard* announcements and/or communicated via e-mail. The course outline, course notes, and other learning material will be available on *Blackboard*. The address is: <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>. You will be asked for your SCS username and student ID. Click on the MARK 410 course heading under My Courses. It is your responsibility to ensure you check *Blackboard* on a regular basis. The course coordinator cannot be held responsible if you do not check the notices on *Blackboard* regularly.

### **Student feedback**

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php)

### **Link to general information**

For general information about course-related matters, go to <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vbs/studenthelp/general-course-information>

### **Note to Students**

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 academic audit. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of VBS programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.

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