

## Module: Dissertation 481

<b>Module name:</b>	Dissertation 481
<b>Code:</b>	DST481
<b>NQF level:</b>	8
<b>Type:</b>	Core – Bachelor of Computing (all streams)
<b>Contact Time:</b>	31 hours
<b>Self-directed time:</b>	269 hours
<b>Notional hours:</b>	300 hours
<b>Credits:</b>	30
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	RSH381

### Purpose

The focus of this module is to provide students with all the knowledge, tools and techniques to successfully complete an academic research project. Much emphasis is given to student ability to independently follow the research process unique their area of research.

### Outcomes

Upon successful completion this module, the student will be able to demonstrate:

- Knowledge and engagement in study areas at the forefront of a field, discipline or practice.
- An understanding of knowledge as contested and the ability to define their topics and justification for their research study.
- The ability to formulate hypothesis, identify, analyse, evaluate, critically reflect on choice, application of research paradigms and designs to affirm or deny said hypothesis.
- Exhibit independence, confidence, enthusiasm and empowerment in conducting the study with the goal of discovering themselves through the study.
- The ability to interrogate multiple sources of knowledge in an area of focus, Identify, justify various ethical considerations, reliability and validity issues related to research study.
- To select and communicate ideas and opinions relating to sampling, data collection, data analysis and ways of representing data.
- Present and communicate academic ideas and texts effectively to a range of audiences, offering creative insights, rigorous interpretations and issues appropriate to the context.

### Assessment





- Continuous evaluation of project work, whereby the student conduct a full and independent research study, document findings following the dissertation guidelines with the consent of their supervisor.
- Final assessment of their dissertation and final presentation to a panel.

### Teaching and Learning

#### Learning materials

Presentation notes, hand-outs and templates.

*Additional Reference Material:*

-  Cite This For Me. (2018). *Save Time and Improve your Marks with CiteThisForMe, The No. 1 Citation Tool*. [online] Available at: <http://www.citethisforme.com/> [Accessed 13 Jun. 2018].
-  Sahay A. (2016). Peeling Saunder's Research Onion. *Shodh Gyan*. [ISSN 2395-0617].
-  Olivier M. S. (2013) *Information technology Research*, 3rd Edition. Van Schaik. [ISBN 978-0-627-027581]
-  Course handouts.

**Learning activities**

The supervision approach is a combination of the presentation of research guidelines and feedback sessions. It is dialogue-oriented with a practical approach combined with continuous feedback on each milestone. A dissertation must be completed and presented to a panel at the end of the study.

**Notional learning hours**

List the learning activities in hours

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Contact Time</b>	<b>Structured Time</b>	<b>Self-Directed Time</b>
Lecture		4.0		
Supervisor session	22	22.0		11.0
Proposal presentation	1	1.0		6.0
Research Activities Milestones	6	3.0		240.0
Final Research Document	1			6.0
Final presentation	1	1.0		6.0
		<b>31.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>269.0</b>

**Syllabus**

- Research formalities, psychology, ethics and philosophy.
- Research process.
- Literature review, citation and referencing.
- Research designs.
- Research methodologies.
- Reporting results.
- Research presentation techniques.