Cape Peninsula University of Technology

Faculty of Engineering
Advanced Diploma: Construction Management, Quantity Surveying, Health and Safety, Facility Management

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

RME473S

SUBJECT GUIDE
2021

PREREQUISISTE SUBJECTS:
None

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Organisational component

1. INTRODUCTION / WORD OF WELCOME

Considering that the body of knowledge of construction is established and advanced by the use of appropriate methodologies and methods of research, this subject is designed to outline the process of research, while discussing the main issues in research, as well as examining the various approaches to research. It will provide guidance on how to solve problems rigorously and present these solutions in the form of a written document.

2. GENERAL

2.1 CONTACT INFORMATION

	Name	Building and room number	Telephone number	E-mail address	Consulting hours
Full-time Lecturer	Mr L. Bikitsha	Room No. 2.45 Business Building	021-953 6419	bikitshal@cput.ac.za	Thursdays

2.2 TIME-TABLE

Full-time				
Day	**Time**	**Subject**	**Venue**	**Level**
Friday	10h15 – 13h15	Research Methodology	Online **Blackboard, student email and WhatsApp**	Adv. Dip:H&S, QS, CM, FM
Part-time				
Day	**Time**	**Subject**	**Venue**	**Level**
Thursday	17:30-21:30	Research Methodology	Online **Blackboard, student email and WhatsApp**	Adv. Dip:H&S, QS, CM, FM

2.3 LEARNER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS)

[Click here to type LMS information]

3. STUDY MATERIALS AND PURCHASES

Bibliography: prescribed and Recommendation, journal & conference readings:

Prescribed Books:

Ormrod J. E. & Leedy, P.D. (2005**)** *Practical Research – Planning and Design.* Pearson Education, New Jersey (ISBN 0-13-124720-4)

Yin, R (2003**)** *Case study research: Design and methods.* Sage publications,

Fellows, R. & Liu, A. (1997) *Research Methods for Construction*. Blackwell Science, UK (ISBN 0-632-04244-3).

Recommended Books:

McNeill, P. & Chapman, S. (2005) *Research Methods*. Routledge, UK (ISBN 0-415-34076-4).

Bryman, A. (1989) Research *Methods and Organization Studies*. Routledge, UK (ISBN 0-415-08404-0).

Field, A., (2005), *Discovery statistics using SPSS for window*. London: Sage Publication.

Green S. B. and Salkind, N. J., (2005), *Using SPSS for windows and macintosh: Analysing and understanding data*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson and Prentice.

Punch, F. K., (2003), *Survey research the basics.* London: Sage Publications.

Silverman, D., (2005), *Doing qualitative research: A practical handbook*. 2nd ed. London: Sage Publications.

Trochim, William M., (2006), *The research methods knowledge base.* 2nd ed. (e-book)

Vans, D., (2002), *Analysing social science data: 50 key problems in data analysis.* London: Sage Publications.

You will be required to read several journal articles on construction health and safety.

4. MODULE CREDITS

[Click here to type s module credits information]

5. ASSESSMENT

5.1 ASSESSMENT POLICY AND REGULATIONS

Plagiarism is a serious practice. You will be severely penalized if you are found guilty of plagiarism. Due recognition in the appropriate form must always be given if you use the material of others.

EVALUATIONS

1. Students must participate in all prescribed evaluations. Failing which, they will be disqualified in that particular subject and will have to repeat same in the next academic cycle.

2. Only ONE evaluation will be considered for re-assessment based on an acceptable reason.

3. Students have five working days to view marks posted on the department's notice boards and must report any discrepancies to the SUBJECT LECTURER within the said prescribed period.

4. Medical certificates/documents must be submitted to the department's SECRETARY on the first day that the student is back on campus/in class.

5. Assignments must be placed in the ASSIGNMENT CUPBOARD or handed to the SUBJECT LECTURERS during their class periods. These evaluations must be started timeously and submitted on the due dates. This will facilitate the monitoring and evaluating process and ensure feedback to learners.

   If you do not meet the submission dates for evaluations you will be penalised as follows:

   ONE DAY LATE = - 10 %
   TWO DAYS LATE = - 20 %

SUBMISSIONS AFTER 2 (TWO) DAYS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

If you, the learner, are aware that you will be unable to hand in the evaluations on the due date, because of unavoidable circumstances, you are to make alternative arrangements with your lecturer BEFORE the due date and these arrangements should be confirmed in writing.

5.2 ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITIES: ADMINISTRATION

Numerous tutorials and assignments should be done throughout the year where the emphasis is placed on the application of theoretical knowledge to the building industry

Four assessments spread over a year.

Assessment	**Weighting**
Defining a problem	10%
Literature	20%
Research Methodology and Design	5%
Full Proposal	50%
Research Paper	15%
	100%

6. Additional information

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. RULES

- All students registered in the Faculty of Engineering shall be subject to the rules, regulations and authority of the Faculty when attending any function or activity under the auspices of the said Faculty.

- The Faculty of Engineering including the Department of the Built Environment and academic staff are indemnified against any action that may be brought against any lecturer, the Faculty of Engineering or the Cape Peninsula University of Technology by a student for whatsoever reason, e.g. injury, damage or loss of property/personal effects etc. Students are required to fill out a form in which they acknowledge their indebtedness to the Cape Peninsula University of Technology in respect of equipment issued for use during practicals or tutorials.

- Upon registration the student undertakes to abide by all rules and regulations of the Cape Peninsula University of Technology and the Faculty of Engineering. All outstanding fees must be paid and all outstanding property be returned to the University before final results are published.

- The University reserves the right to retain any work done by the student during the course of the academic year.

- The University expects of its students a high sense of duty and responsibility at all times.

- Students are expected to take personal pride in their appearance at all times. The lecture rooms, corridors, cafeteria and grounds must be kept clean at all times.

- Regular attendance of classes is of the utmost importance and continued absenteeism without good reason, will be viewed in a very serious light. An attendance register will be taken in order to monitor your attendance and performance.

- Punctuality is essential – registers will be marked at the beginning of each period and latecomers may be refused admission to lectures/ practicals. Classes commence daily at 08:30 for full time students and 17:30 for part time students.

- Eating, smoking, rowdiness and loitering during lecture times are not acceptable behaviour.

- Any wilful damage to property and equipment will have to be paid for by the person/s responsible.

- Students must acquaint themselves with all instructions and notices issued or displayed on the notice boards and in this student guide.

- Members of staff and students must park their vehicles only in the parking spaces allocated to them. Parking is entirely at owner's risk. Drivers are expected to be careful, considerate and courteous.

2. CONSULTATION TIMES

Your lecturers will be available for personal consultation and you are free to consult with them by appointment only.

3. SUBJECT REPEATS

In the event of a subject being failed the learner will have to re-register for that subject the following year. Close liaison with the subject lecturer is essential and the learner is responsible for ensuring that the necessary contact with the lecturer is maintained. The learner is strongly advised to ensure that the work required is timeously done. SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS AT YEAR-END WILL NOT BE ACCOMMODATED.

4. COMPUTER FACILITIES

The Computer Lab will not be available when lectures are in progress and Fridays after 16:00. Printing times and after hours use of the computer lab will be as per the timetable, which will be displayed in the computer lab.

5. LIBRARY CARDS

You must ensure that you are in possession of library cards and are acquainted with the library hours.

6. COPYRIGHT

You are expected to comply with all copyright provisions governing the use of books, articles, journals, audio visual and other media. The penalties for contravention of these provisions are extremely severe and will be your responsibility should you be caught.

Study component

SUBJECT SPECIFICATIONS

6.1 THE PURPOSE OF SUBJECT

The purpose of this subject is to equip students with the knowledge needed to understand and apply the process of research to construction related problems or questions.

6.2 COURSE AIMS AND OBJECTIVE

The aims and objectives of the subject include the following:

- To make students conversant with the language and concept used in research,
- To engender an awareness and application of the most important concepts and theories in research methodology,
- To apply principles of research methodology in all construction related problems,
- To enable students to have an understanding and appreciation of the process of research methodology,
- To equip students with the ability to compile a proposal for a research study and subsequently create a research paper,
- To understand and apply research methodology tactics to solve construction problems.

6.3 CRITICAL CROSS-FIELD OUTCOMES

- Identifying and solving construction related problems.
- Work effectively with others as a team, group, organization or community.
- Organizing and managing oneself and one's activities responsibly and effectively.
- Collecting, analyzing, organizing and critically evaluating information.
- Communicating effectively using visual, mathematical and / or language skills in the modes of oral / written persuasion.

7. MODULE SPECIFICATIONS

7.1 COURSE STRUCTURE

Modules	Topics
Module 1:	Background to the problem
Module 2:	Literature Review
Module 3:	Research methods and design
Module 4:	Analysis and discussions
Module 5:	Conclusion and recommendations
Module 6:	Research Paper

This part of the subject prepares the student to grasp the process of construction site related activities. This part also prepares students to understand and apply management principles *relatively straightforward construction project*.

7.2 ARTICULATION WITH OTHER MODULES IN THE PROGRAMME

This subject is one of three majors which the student will carry through to the end of the Advanced Diploma qualification.

7.3 SELF-STUDY ACTIVITIES

Students are required to familiarize themselves with the shared drive (N drive) on the Built Environment's server.