

## **CS5500**

### **Task 1**

#### **Dissertation Definition Report Template**

*Please use this form to submit your dissertation definition report. Notes on how to use this form are on the second page.*

*For guidance on the use of this form, please consult your supervisor.*

**Student name**  
**Student registration number**  
**Student email**  
**Dissertation Title**  
**Supervisor name**

#### **Abstract**

**(Approx 200 words)**

- 1. Background**  
**(Approx. 500 words)**
- 2. Aims and Objectives**  
**(Approx. 200 words)**
- 3. Approach**  
**(Approx. 500 words)**
- 4. Plan**  
**(Approx. 200 words + Gantt chart)**

**References**

1. **Student name:** Supply your full name.
2. **Student registration number:** Supply your student registration number.
3. **Student email:** Supply your email address.
4. **Dissertation title:** Supply the full title of your dissertation.
5. **Abstract:** Supply a concise description of the expected outcomes of the dissertation.
6. **Background:** Supply a description of the motivation for your dissertation. This should include a description of any relevant background information and might include reference to theory or other material. It should explain to the reader why you are doing this dissertation.
7. **Aims and Objectives:** State concisely the major aim of your dissertation and objectives you will set to help you achieve you aim.
  - a. The aim should be general and broad. It can be phrased in terms of solving a practical problem or answering a given question.
  - b. The objectives should be specific and measurable; they should help structure your dissertation and provide a means of evaluating whether it achieved it's stated intentions.
8. **Approach:** Supply a description of how you plan to conduct this dissertation. This should include the different research methods that you will use to accomplish your aim and objectives. Which specific research methods will you use? How will they be actually used? Be as specific as possible and try and avoid generic approaches.
9. **Plan:** Please use a Gantt chart. You should identify and describe the major tasks of your dissertation and their timing. Please indicate any milestones within the dissertation and their timing.
10. **References:** Use the Harvard Referencing system (examples of the Harvard system are offered below). Starting at the top of a new page, provide an alphabetical list, ordered by first author surname, of ALL references you cite in the text of this report.

Example of a **book reference:**

Bloggs, R. & Smith, J. (2004) *A really interesting book*. London: Brunel University Press.

Example of a **journal article reference:**

Bloggs, R. & Smith, J. (2004) A really interesting journal article. *Journal of Useful Information*, 13 (2), 18-28.

Example of a **conference paper reference:**

Bloggs, R. & Smith, J. (2004) A really interesting conference paper. In: *Proceedings of the 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Really Interesting Stuff*, Vol 2, 31-45. July 6 – 10, London, UK.

Example of a **website reference:**

Brunel Library (2004) *Searching the library catalogue*. Available: <http://www.brunel.ac.uk/library/guides/skills/guide3.html> [Accessed: 07-03-2004].

More information regarding the Harvard referencing system can be found using the library web-pages see: <http://intranet.brunel.ac.uk/library/help/guides/citing.html>

## ***Dissertation Plan Gantt chart***

**Note: This for guidance only – your own tasks will have their own names (i.e. just because ‘Library work’ is used below does not mean that your chart has to have it!) Make sure that you have the correct number of weeks in your chart.**

You are strongly encouraged to use this as a guide only, and to use the literature on dissertation planning to flesh out your own plan, with your own tasks, activities and milestones. As much detail as you can add here would be useful.

		Week number:											
Task ID	Task Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	etc.
1	Dissertation planning						◆						
2	Library work							◆					
3	Planning survey										◆		
4	Data collection												
...	<b>etc.</b>												
...													

Etc.

Key: task  milestone 