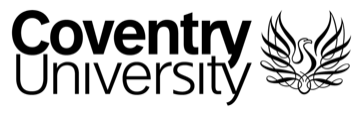
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Student Assignment Brief

**This document is intended for Coventry University Group students for their own use in completing their assessed work for this module. It must not be passed to third parties or posted on any website. If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact your Module Leader.**

# Contents:

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The work you submit for this assignment must be your own independent work, or in the case of a group assignment your own group’s work. More information is available in the ‘[Assignment Task](#_Assignment_Task)’ section of this assignment brief.

# Assignment Information

**Module Name:** Individual Research Project Preparation

**Module Code:** 7164CEM

**Assignment Title:** Project Proposal and Initial Literature Review

**Assignment Due:** 04/04/202418:00 UK Time

**Assignment Credit: 15**

**Word Count (or equivalent):** 3000 Words +/- 10 %

**Assignment Type: Percentage Grade** (Applied Core Assessment). You will be provided with an overall grade between 0% and 100%. You have one opportunity to pass the assignment at or above 40%.

# Assignment Task

The assignment has two components:

* Project Proposal
* Initial Literature Review

**Project Proposal (MLO (1-5))**

Instructions: You are to produce a HYPOTHETICAL proposal for an MSc level Research Project. The constraints on this project should be realistic: A single Author, 13 weeks of a semester. Resources are the Coventry University Library and the Available Software , access to a supervisor.

# Utilise the following headings in your proposal:

**1: Project Title.** The project title is a statement based on your research question. For example, the research question 'to what extent does a mobile application reduce the number of errors made in class registers at Coventry University in comparison to current paper-based registers' may be stated in the project title: "A Wi-Fi driven mobile application for large group registers".

**2: Project Topic.** Describe a topic area in computing that you are personally interested in and that relates to the subject of your course. Try to be specific and identify a topic that is not so broad that you would have difficulty covering it in a one semester project module.

Example 1: As a topic ‘E-Commerce’ is too broad – a more specific topic might be ‘Utilising a

novel Neural Network Algorithm to improve product recommendations. Example 2: As a

topic ‘Artificial Intelligence’ is too broad – a more specific topic might be ‘detecting plagiarism in student reports utilizing a machine learning approach. Important: Describe the outputs you expect the project to produce (a project report is taken as a given) such as demonstrator software, results from an experiment, survey results with recommendations for action, data mining outputs, a computer game level or shader method, a multimedia gallery or web framework, a demonstrator phone app, a business analysis report.

**3: Primary Research Plan.** This is the plan as to how you will go about conducting your project - It must include a primary research method (an extended literature review is not an acceptable primary method). Think and plan logically. Primary methods may include experiments, applications or software demonstrators, process models, surveys, analysis of generated data, refinement of machine learning algorithms, visual object recognition system

… you may wish to suggest a timeline/Gantt Chart (covering 13 weeks) or simply a sequence of tasks. Where you intend to collect data think about how much data you need and how long the collection process will take. Make reasonable assumptions about the amount of work you can do and try not to ‘over-promise’ on results – most scientific research is small scale and time limited; this is even more the case with student projects where you also have competing modules.

**4: Ethical Considerations:** Briefly outline any legal or ethical issues that the suggested project may raise.

**Initial Literature Review (MLO (1-3))**

Using the University Library e-journal database, the ACM portal database, or Google Scholar, identify and select research papers relating to the project topic proposed in assignment 1. Try and identify papers that are relatively current (within the last three years).

A literature review is a select analysis of existing research which is relevant to your topic. It *explains and justifies* how your investigation may help answer some of the questions or gaps in this area of research. A literature review is not a straightforward summary of everything you have read on the topic, and it is not a chronological description of what was discovered in your field. Use your literature review to:

* Show how your study will relate to previous studies.
* Compare and contrast different authors' views on an issue - note areas in which authors disagree.
* Highlight current exemplary studies
* Highlight any gaps in research that may provide you with a starting point for your project
* Highlight any good approaches that may allow you to develop a project idea further
* The key to the mini-literature review is your critical and evaluative perspective on the literature reviewed.

*Use the review to make a case/argument as to why your own research project is necessary/important and different from previous research works.*

**Bibliography**

**(key texts from both your literature review and proposal)**

Please provide citations and references, in correct APA style, for the research papers that have informed your literature review. The references should be recent and sufficiently technical or academic. Your markers will be looking for you to identify technical reports, conference papers, journal papers, and recent textbooks. Avoid *Wikipedia* entries, newspaper reports that do not cite sources, and general or introductory texts.

### Submission Instructions:

* You are also required to submit a written report (3000 words) online on Aula detain your proposal and the initial literature review. The written report must be in Microsoft Word file format.

# Marking and Feedback

**How will my assignment be marked?**

Your assignment will be marked by the supervisor assigned to you.

**How will I receive my grades and feedback?**

Provisional marks will be released once internally moderated.

Feedback will be provided by the assigned project supervisor alongside the grade released, You can access feedback and your grade online on Aula

Your provisional marks and feedback should be available within 2 weeks

**What will I be marked against?**

Details of the marking criteria for this task can be found at the [bottom of this assignment brief](#Marking_Rubric).

# Assessed Module Learning Outcomes

The Learning Outcomes for this module align to the [marking criteria](#Marking_Rubric) which can be found at the end of this brief. Ensure you understand the marking criteria to ensure successful achievement of the assessment task. The following module learning outcomes are assessed in this task:

1. Identify suitable topics of research relevant to chosen specialism.
2. Appraise current information resources relevant to a particular problem and justify appropriate problem-solving strategies with respect to resources, tools and techniques.
3. Apply project planning skills for the undertaking of a significant piece of individual work.
4. Assess professional, legal, social and ethical issues relating to research and project work.
5. Communicate effectively in formal and informal situations both verbally and otherwise with interested parties

# Assignment Support and Academic Integrity

If you have any questions about this assignment please see the [Student Guidance on Coursework](https://share.coventry.ac.uk/students/Registry/Pages/Coursework.aspx) for more information.

### Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar:

You are expected to use effective, accurate, and appropriate language within this assessment task.

### Academic Integrity:

The work you submit must be your own, or in the case of groupwork, that of your group. All sources of information need to be acknowledged and attributed; therefore, you must provide references for all sources of information and acknowledge any tools used in the production of your work, including Artificial Intelligence (AI). We use detection software and make routine checks for evidence of academic misconduct.

Definitions of academic misconduct, including plagiarism, self-plagiarism, and collusion can be found [on the Student Portal](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fshare.coventry.ac.uk%2Fstudents%2FRegistry%2FPages%2FEssential-definitions.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Cab5576%40coventry.ac.uk%7C96dc42ffe3484dd999e808db0e964c5d%7C4b18ab9a37654abeac7c0e0d398afd4f%7C0%7C0%7C638119810903032146%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FggkmIN9ZackqogiKZxEXKYD3QaXAk0jCME%2F1ne82YU%3D&reserved=0). All cases of suspected academic misconduct are referred for investigation, the outcomes of which can have profound consequences to your studies. For more information on academic integrity please visit the [Academic and Research Integrity](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fshare.coventry.ac.uk%2Fstudents%2FRegistry%2FPages%2FAcademic-and-Research-Integrity.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Cab5576%40coventry.ac.uk%7C96dc42ffe3484dd999e808db0e964c5d%7C4b18ab9a37654abeac7c0e0d398afd4f%7C0%7C0%7C638119810903032146%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BPYuaO%2FDqY2x3ajLRlKjxHoEvTPzEqm%2B8wuQ%2FMvxlZk%3D&reserved=0) section of the Student Portal.

### Support for Students with Disabilities or Additional Needs:

If you have a disability, long-term health condition, specific learning difference, mental health diagnosis or symptoms and have discussed your support needs with health and wellbeing you may be able to access support that will help with your studies.

If you feel you may benefit from additional support, but have not disclosed a disability to the University, or have disclosed but are yet to discuss your support needs it is important to let us know so we can provide the right support for your circumstances. Visit [the Student Portal](https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/Disabilities.aspx) to find out more.

### Unable to Submit on Time?

The University wants you to do your best. However, we know that sometimes events happen which mean that you cannot submit your assessment by the deadline or sit a scheduled exam. If you think this might be the case, guidance on understanding what counts as an extenuating circumstance, and how to apply is [available on the Student Portal.](https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-registry-extensions-deferrals/SitePages/CU-Extensions-and-Deferrals-Guidance.aspx)

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# Administration of Assessment

**Module Leader Name:** Dr Olalekan Lanihun

**Module Leader Email:** ad9193@coventry,ac.uk

**Assignment Category:** Written

**Attempt Type:** Standard

**Component Code:** CW1

## Assessment Marking Criteria

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Part 1: Project Proposal**  **MLO (1-5)** | | | **Part 2: Initial Literature Review**  **MLO (1-3)** | | | |
|  | This Grade is awarded against the following criteria: That the research question is well formed and achievable / That the research question is specific and free from untestable generalisations / That the proposed project represents an appropriate level of challenge to a Level 7 student / That the primary method(s) proposed are appropriate and achievable and demonstrate the application of a sound methodology /That the student has thought through the potential impact and audience for the project / That the primary method is described and critiqued in sufficient detail /That, taken as a whole, the proposal is clear and complete. That the student gave consideration to ethical and legal issues when selecting the project topic | | | **This Grade is awarded against the following criteria:** Critically reviewed literature sources related to the proposed method(s). Properly connect the literature reviewed to the research question(s) and justification of the proposed method(s) for the problem solution.  References are appropriate, academic and up-to-date. | | | |
| **Grade (%)** | **Topic / Research Question (20%)** | **Motivation and Outputs (15%)** | **Initial Project Plan (15%)** | **Currency of Literature (15%)** | **Critical Evaluation (15%)** | **Link to Research Questions (15%)** | **Bibliography**  **(5%)** |
| 80-100 | Exceptional presentation and clear outline of the problem  addressed, methods used and expected outcomes. Summarises the project concisely. Research question.  in specific and testable. | The student has shown exceptional awareness of the  client/audience and a realistic prediction of required outputs. Students can succinctly express the need for the project | A clear and an exceptionally logical sequence with awareness of the critical dependencies.  Shows exceptional awareness of the constraints or limitations of a small-scale project.  The student also demonstrates exceptional understanding of the legal and ethical issues the research project may raise. | The student has shown an exceptional demonstration of currency in the literature and the state of the art of  the subject area. | Identifies gaps or  opportunities that lead to a well-defined project Demonstrates a exceptional understanding of the various issues involved in the subject. | An exceptional understanding of the subject area that leads to a focused research question. An exceptional understanding of relevant theory or concepts | Exceptional brilliance in the choice of current,  academic, peer-reviewed literature. Correctly cited using Harvard protocol. |
| 70 -79 | Excellent presentation and clear outline of the problem  addressed, methods used and expected outcomes. Summarises the project concisely. Research question in specific and testable. | The student has shown Strong and excellent awareness of the  client/audience and a realistic prediction of required outputs. Students can succinctly express the need for the project | A clear and excellent logical sequence with awareness of the critical dependencies.  Shows clear awareness of the constraints or limitations of a small-scale project.  The student also demonstrates excellent understanding of the legal and ethical issues the research project may raise. | The student has shown an excellent demonstration of currency in the literature and the state of the art of  the subject area. | Identifies gaps or  opportunities that lead to a well-defined project Demonstrates an excellent understanding of the various issues involved in the subject. | An excellent understanding of the subject area that leads to a focused research question. An excellent understanding of relevant theory or concepts | Excellent choice of current,  academic, peer reviewed literature. Correctly cited using Harvard protocol. |
| 60-69 | A very good summary of the  project topic that contextualises the research area and appropriately relates to the students’ course of study. | A very good description of  motivation and possible outputs. May need refining further into an achievable project. | Sequencing is very good and dependencies are well described but may need refining. Constraints are identified but may not be well understood. A very good understanding of ethical and legal issues that the project can raise is demonstrated. | The student has shown a very good demonstration of currency in the literature and the state of the art of  the subject area. | Identifies gaps or  opportunities that lead to a well-defined project Demonstrates a very good understanding of the various issues involved in the subject. | Avery good understanding of the subject area that leads to focused research questions. Demonstrates yery good understanding of relevant theory or concepts | A very good choice of current,  academic, peer reviewed literature. Correctly cited using Harvard protocol. |
| 50-59 | A good summary of the  project topic that enables the reader to contextualise the research area and approach. may lack some detail | A good description of  the motivation and possible outputs. May need refining further into an achievable project. | A good awareness of sequencing but a less clear idea of time/resource allocation. A good understanding of ethical and legal issues that the project can raise is demonstrated. | The student has shown a good demonstration of currency in the literature and the state of the art of  the subject area. | A fair review of up‐to‐date  relevant literature Some understanding of the complexities is shown and explores some of the issues, but not in detail | A good understanding of the subject area that leads to possible research questions but does not define them well. Reads like a general introduction to  the topic. | Mix of relevant, mostly  current, material. Properly cited using Harvard protocol. |
| 40-49 | A limited description of  the topic. May not contextualise the project very well. | Less clear explanation of  audience and less specific about needed outputs. | Some awareness of sequencing and a less clear idea of time/resource. Some understanding of ethical and legal issues that the project can raise is demonstrated. | Some current information of the literature and little or no information about the state of the art in the subject area | Some attempt to  evaluate relevant literature Information identifying some of the issues is present but goes nowhere with it | Some understanding of the subject area that leads to possible research questions but does not define them well. Reads like a general introduction to  the topic. | A mix of current and less  relevant literature. Some mistakes in citation. |
| Fail  30, 35 | Vague description of  the topic. Does not contextualise the project very well. | Far too general to be  of much use in defining the requirements of the project. Outputs may be vague or missing. | Over or under-ambitious. The plan is unclear or unrealistic. Constraints are not considered. A limited understanding of ethical and legal issues that the project can raise is demonstrated. | Very limited information is provided on the current and relevant literature to the subject area and mostly outdated.  Issues. | Very little information is provided with regards to critical evaluation of the literature related to the subject area. Unfocused,  disorganised and/or irrelevant literature. | Very limited understanding of the subject areal that leads to possible research questions but poorly define them. A vague and generalise research question(s). | Generally lacking  currency. Some mistakes in citation. |
| Fail 0-29 | No topic is presented Or a poor description of  the topic. Does not contextualise the project very well. | No or very poor and unclear explanation of  audience and poor specification on needed outputs. | No plan or Over or under-ambitious. Very poor and unclear plan or unrealistic. Constraints are not considered.  No or minimal understanding of ethical and legal issues that the project can raise is demonstrated. | Virtually no information is shown about the relevant literature or lacks current information about the  issues | No information provided that assesses the issues in thie subject area. Or unfocused,  disorganised, irrelevant, and poorly presented literature. | No link to research questions and virtually no information is provided on the subject area. Or very poor, difficult to understand, and disorganised information on the subject area. | No references and in-text citations are provided. Or generally lacking  currency; and a lot of mistakes in citation. |
|  | | | | | | Total | /100 |