

Students doing individual coursework must complete this cover sheet to accompany assessed coursework submitted.

All coursework will be submitted and assessed on Learn.

Student Number:			
Degree Programme:	Computer Science MSc programmes (ACS+AI+DS)	Part:	P
Module Title:	Research Methods	Module Code:	COP500
Session:	2021-2022	Semester:	2
Title/Description:	Research Methods	Part:	P
This coursework represents	100	% of the module assessment	
Module leader:	Dr. Lin Guan		
Date set:	20 Jan. 2022		
Date to be handed in:	1) Full-time (FT) students: Report on Week 9 Fri. 6 th May 2022, before 12noon on Learn. 2) Part-time (PT) students: Report on Week 12 Fri. 27 th May 2022, before 12noon on Learn.		

Specification:	See attached below
Method(s) of Presentation:	- Online submission as PDF format for individual report - All pages must be numbered. - A front cover page should include your name, student ID number, and course. - Attach main reference papers as an appendix
Assessment Guidelines:	See attached below

DECLARATION:

We certify that the attached coursework is our own work, except that anything which is used from or based upon the work of others has its source clearly and explicitly cited in the references.

All group members must sign below.

Student Name:	ID Number	Signature:	Date:

No. of pages:

Coursework 21COP500 'Research Methods'

The weight of 20COP500 module is 15 credits and the module will be assessed by 100% individual coursework (60% deliverable 1 and 40% deliverable 2).

Deliverable 1 Objectives (60%)

You are to explore, understand, and contextualise your chosen research area and present your understanding in a report containing a research diagram that explains your interpretation of the field(s). If you are considering a project that draws on two or more different fields, you should show how these fields link together and what previous work has been done on the overlap between them.

There are three parts to this work:

1. Undertake a literature review in your chosen research area to understand and contextualise the inter-relationships between topics, the gaps, the overlaps, and current work and thinking in the area. Identify key, seminal texts and papers in the field.
2. Put together a research diagram (choose between a research territory map/spider diagram/or hierarchy diagram) for your chosen research area.
3. Write a report of 1000 - 2000 words explaining how the field is structured, how the topics relate to one another and any seminal papers/authors in the field. This report should also explain the reasoning behind your research diagram and explain why it is structured in this way. Make sure your report is split into appropriate, numbered sections. Sections you should include as a minimum – 1. Introduction (overview of the chosen area and why you have chosen it); 2. Research Diagram; 3. Explanation of your Research Diagram (including gaps, seminal works, authors, relationships between topics, sub-topics, etc.); 4. Conclusions; 5. References (in Harvard form).

Marking guidance

Marks are based on the depth of research study undertaken and academic content within the written report. For example, a superficial diagram and report with little academic content and little evidence of research around the subject area will clearly attract low marks. For high marks the report should contain a detailed research diagram with a mature critique of the field including pertinent references.

- Meeting deliverable objectives and requirements above (e.g., appropriateness of research diagram; evidence of understanding of field; discussion and contextualisation of topic area etc.) 70%
- Structure (e.g., does the deliverable present a logical clear structure and an appropriate distribution of contents?) 15%
- References, language and presentation style (e.g., Is the presentation understandable, with clear explanations at the right level, including right referencing?) 15%

Deliverable 2 Objectives (40%)

Undertake a critical evaluation of two academic papers in your field of interest.
Compare and contrast the two papers.
Explain how the papers fit into the wider field and what they contribute to that field.
Evaluate the process you have followed to choose and critically evaluate the papers.

The report should be structured as follows:

1. Introduction (10%)
Introduce the field the papers are from. Introduce the two papers in turn and explain why you have chosen them in particular. You can refer to your report from deliverable 1 if you want to discuss the context.

As part of the introduction - were there other papers you considered but decided not to use – and why?

2. Critique of Paper A (25%)

3. Critique of Paper B (25%)

3. Compare and contrast the two papers (20%)

4. Conclusions (20%)

e.g., What have you learnt from the papers?

How did this process of evaluation work for you? Was it useful?

What will you do differently, if anything, next time you read an academic paper?

Has your understanding of the field changed in any way since reading these papers?

Marking guidance

Marks are based on the depth of academic content within the written report. A superficial discussion of the papers, little contextualisation, little justification and little critical evaluation of the process will attract low marks. A good report will provide a good academic discussion of the field and justification for the chosen papers. The critique of the papers will be in-depth and professional. The report will provide a mature evaluation and comparison of the two research papers and the conclusions will be insightful. Around at least 10 pages would be needed (12-point font) for a good report. The percentages indicate the relative weightings of contents section when marking.

- Contents: Meeting deliverable objectives and requirements (e.g., appropriate choice of papers; evidence of understanding of field; critical evaluation of those papers; and appraisal of the process etc.) 70%

- Structure (e.g., does the deliverable present a logical clear structure and an appropriate distribution of contents?) 15%

- References, language and presentation style (e.g., Is the presentation understandable, with clear explanations at the right level, including right referencing?) 15%

The individual written coursework (reports including both deliverable 1&2) must be submitted on Learn: 1) Full-time (FT) students: Report on Week 9 Fri. 6th May 2022, before 12noon.
2) Part-time (PT) students: Report on Week 12 Fri. 27th May 2022, before 12noon.

Dr. Lin Guan, Jan. 2022