

Module Title:	Research Methods	Module Code:	COP500
Session:	2017/2018	Semester:	2
Title/Description:	Research context	Part:	1 of 2
This coursework represents <u>60</u> % of the module assessment			
Staff Member responsible:	Dr C W Dawson		
Date set:	w/b 26 February 2018		
Date to be handed in:	9 March 2018	By 2pm - Schofield	

Specification:	As attached
Method(s) of Presentation:	1) All pages must be single sided. 2) Pages must be held together by a single staple in the top left hand corner. 3) All pages must be numbered. 4) A front cover page should include your name, student ID number, and course.
Assessment Guidelines:	Appropriateness of research diagram. Evidence of understanding of field. Discussion and contextualisation of topic area.

Objective

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

There is no definitive marking scheme for this report as it depends on the depth of study undertaken. 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.