



## UNSW Course Outline

# BENV7020 Research Design - 2024

Published on the 23 Sep 2024

## General Course Information

**Course Code :** BENV7020

**Year :** 2024

**Term :** Term 3

**Teaching Period :** T3

**Is a multi-term course? :** No

**Faculty :** Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

**Academic Unit :** School of Built Environment

**Delivery Mode :** In Person

**Delivery Format :** Standard

**Delivery Location :** Kensington

**Campus :** Sydney

**Study Level :** Postgraduate, Research

**Units of Credit :** 6

### Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

## Course Details & Outcomes

### Course Description

Research Design prepares you to undertake an independent research project and complete a research dissertation or thesis. The course helps you to develop and plan your project, covering key considerations including identifying a research topic, developing research questions, choosing (or refining) your methodology, integrating theoretical insights, understanding ethical

research practices, and structuring your thesis. At the end of the course you should feel ready to embark on your research project with the ongoing support of your supervisor(s).

## Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Identify a relevant research topic and develop suitable research questions to guide and structure a research project in the relevant discipline.
CLO2 : Critically review key literature on a chosen research topic.
CLO3 : Identify research methods, data collection and analytical approaches that are aligned with research objectives.
CLO4 : Develop a clearly-structured and robust research proposal.
CLO5 : Communicate the key elements of a research proposal visually and orally.
CLO6 : Comply with research integrity principles and key requirements for undertaking ethical research.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Identify a relevant research topic and develop suitable research questions to guide and structure a research project in the relevant discipline.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Draft Proposal</li><li>• Presentation</li><li>• Developed Proposal</li></ul>
CLO2 : Critically review key literature on a chosen research topic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Draft Proposal</li><li>• Presentation</li><li>• Developed Proposal</li></ul>
CLO3 : Identify research methods, data collection and analytical approaches that are aligned with research objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Draft Proposal</li><li>• Presentation</li><li>• Developed Proposal</li></ul>
CLO4 : Develop a clearly-structured and robust research proposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Draft Proposal</li><li>• Presentation</li><li>• Developed Proposal</li></ul>
CLO5 : Communicate the key elements of a research proposal visually and orally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation</li><li>• Developed Proposal</li></ul>
CLO6 : Comply with research integrity principles and key requirements for undertaking ethical research.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developed Proposal</li></ul>

## Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Zoom | Microsoft Teams

# Assessments

## Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Draft Proposal Assessment Format: Individual	25%	Due Date: 11/10/2024 11:59 PM
Presentation Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Due Date: 29/10/2024 01:00 PM
Developed Proposal Assessment Format: Individual	55%	Due Date: 15/11/2024 11:59 PM

## Assessment Details

### Draft Proposal

#### Assessment Overview

You will draft summary research proposal using a proposal template. Grading will be done against assessment criteria accompanied by written feedback.

#### Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify a relevant research topic and develop suitable research questions to guide and structure a research project in the relevant discipline.
- CLO2 : Critically review key literature on a chosen research topic.
- CLO3 : Identify research methods, data collection and analytical approaches that are aligned with research objectives.
- CLO4 : Develop a clearly-structured and robust research proposal.

#### Detailed Assessment Description

#### Assessment Length

2000 words

#### Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

#### Generative AI Permission Level

#### Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

If your Convenor has concerns that your submission contains passages of AI-generated text or media, you may be asked to account for your work. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Please see general assessment information!

## Presentation

### Assessment Overview

You will present your developed proposal in a brief presentation, and respond to questions from the class. Grading will be done against assessment criteria. Oral feedback will be provided following your presentation.

### Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify a relevant research topic and develop suitable research questions to guide and structure a research project in the relevant discipline.
- CLO2 : Critically review key literature on a chosen research topic.
- CLO3 : Identify research methods, data collection and analytical approaches that are aligned with research objectives.
- CLO4 : Develop a clearly-structured and robust research proposal.
- CLO5 : Communicate the key elements of a research proposal visually and orally.

### Assessment Length

10 minute presentation

### Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

### Generative AI Permission Level

#### Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

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Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Please see general assessment information!

## Developed Proposal

### Assessment Overview

You will produce a fully developed research proposal. Grading will be done against assessment criteria accompanied by written feedback.

### Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify a relevant research topic and develop suitable research questions to guide and structure a research project in the relevant discipline.
- CLO2 : Critically review key literature on a chosen research topic.
- CLO3 : Identify research methods, data collection and analytical approaches that are aligned with research objectives.
- CLO4 : Develop a clearly-structured and robust research proposal.
- CLO5 : Communicate the key elements of a research proposal visually and orally.
- CLO6 : Comply with research integrity principles and key requirements for undertaking ethical research.

### Assessment Length

5000 words

### Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

### Generative AI Permission Level

#### Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

If your Convenor has concerns that your submission contains passages of AI-generated text or media, you may be asked to account for your work. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Please see general assessment information!

## General Assessment Information

### Use of AI-based Tools

For assessment tasks in this course, you may only use AI-based software to research and prepare prior to writing your assessment. You are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in word processing software in the creation of your submission (note: this is limited to spelling and grammar checking and reference citation generation). You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase or translate passages of text, whether based on your own work or not. Please note that your submission will be passed through an AI-generated text detection tool. If your marker has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated

text you may be asked to explain your work. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

### Grading Basis

Satisfactory

### Requirements to pass course

#### Supplementary Assessment Information

In this course, BENV7020, a Supplementary Assessment may be offered at the end of term, after results for the course are finalised, to students who satisfy the following conditions:  
your final result in BENV7020 is between 45-49FL.

your failure of the course is not due to misconduct or lateness (and no other misconduct incidents or academic matters under review).

you have not failed the course in previous years.

you have attempted all assessment tasks in the course and met all attendance requirements if and as specified.

Your Course Convener will contact eligible students via email at the end of term.

A satisfactory grade for the Supplementary Assessment will result in a final mark/grade for the course of 50PS. An unsatisfactory grade for the Supplementary Assessment will result in no change to your original mark/grade for course. Once you have agreed to complete the supplementary assessment, you will have no further recourse to an appeal or a request for a review of results.

### Grading Basis

# Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Introduction to BENV7020 Research, Research design and research proposal
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Introduction to research methods in the construction and planning disciplines
	Tutorial	Please see moodle for instructions
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Academic integrity and research ethics
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Conducting a literature review, developing conceptual frameworks, and understanding the role of theory in research.
	Tutorial	See Moodle
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	Data sources and data sampling
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Lecture	Data analysis techniques; interpreting and presenting findings, effective presentation of data
	Tutorial	See Moodle
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	Thesis structure and academic writing
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Presentation	Student presentations in tutorials
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Tutorial	See Moodle for details

## Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

## Course Resources

## Course Evaluation and Development

We encourage and support students to maintain regular contact with the course convenor to provide informal feedback throughout the course. For specific issues or detailed feedback, please arrange a meeting with the course convenor via email.

In this course there is an option for students to provide anonymous feedback via the course's Moodle page, which is directly sent to the convenor. As a final step, students are invited to share their insights and experiences by completing the MyExperience survey. The feedback gathered each year is integral to the continuous enhancement and development of the course.

# Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Jeeva Sajan				Zoom Consultation through appointments	Yes	Yes

## Other Useful Information

### Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Student equity and disability;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Examination information;
- Review of results;

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>

### Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work.

Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

## Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

## Submission of Assessment Tasks

Assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

### Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here](#).

**Important note:** UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

### School Contact Information

[badmin@unsw.edu.au](mailto:badmin@unsw.edu.au)