



## UNSW Course Outline

# INFS4801 Thesis B - 2024

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## General Course Information

**Course Code :** INFS4801

**Year :** 2024

**Term :** Term 2

**Teaching Period :** T2

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

**Faculty :** UNSW Business School

**Academic Unit :** School of Information Systems and Technology Management

**Delivery Mode :** Research

**Delivery Format :** Standard

**Delivery Location :** Kensington

**Campus :** Sydney

**Study Level :** Undergraduate

**Units of Credit :** 6

### Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

## Course Details & Outcomes

### Course Description

You will complete a thesis under the direction of a supervisor. The thesis requires the reporting of research in an approved topic area in Information Systems and Technology Management including a literature review, analysis of a research problem along with presentation of research methods and data analysis.

## Course Aims

1. Provide a forum for discussion of the literature and advanced journal articles or texts in the research topic areas of the research students
2. Develop academic presentation skills for research papers and advanced topics in research texts
3. Develop skills of critical analysis and discussion of research papers and advanced topics

## Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes	Program learning outcomes
CL01 : Carry out a literature review for a research topic, identifying relevant articles and summarising major contributions as well as constructing a literature map.	• PL01 : Business Knowledge
CL02 : Structure and present a research paper in a format appropriate for an academic audience.	• PL01 : Business Knowledge • PL03 : Business Communication
CL03 : Critically review a research paper.	• PL01 : Business Knowledge • PL03 : Business Communication
CL04 : Prepare a research proposal covering research motivations, methodology and expected outcomes.	• PL01 : Business Knowledge • PL03 : Business Communication

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CL01 : Carry out a literature review for a research topic, identifying relevant articles and summarising major contributions as well as constructing a literature map.	• Thesis
CL02 : Structure and present a research paper in a format appropriate for an academic audience.	• Thesis
CL03 : Critically review a research paper.	• Thesis
CL04 : Prepare a research proposal covering research motivations, methodology and expected outcomes.	• Thesis

## Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

# Learning and Teaching in this course

Thesis B is run as a series of fortnightly catchups to facilitate peer-to-peer sharing and learning.

## Assessments

### Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates	Program learning outcomes
Thesis Assessment Format: Individual	100%	Due Date: Week 11: 05 August - 11 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PL01 : Business Knowledge</li><li>• PL03 : Business Communication</li></ul>

## Assessment Details

### Thesis

#### Assessment Overview

Thesis B

#### Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate your ability to:

1. Identify relevant and interesting research problem(s) in your field, and demonstrate their significance;
2. Assess the current body of knowledge and formulate research question(s);
3. Propose and justify your research approach and methodology to examine your research problem(s) and answer your research questions;
4. Propose and discuss an appropriate research design;
5. Prepare and submit an appropriate research ethics application;
6. Discuss expected results and contribution and significance of research
7. Plan and manage a research project.

#### Requirements

This assessment consists of an oral presentation (including slides and speaker notes) and a written assessment consisting of 3 parts:

#### Part 1: Research Design

You are required to prepare a research design addressing the research problem approved at the end of INFS4800. Your design should include the following:

1. An introduction to of your area of interest and an explanation of the significance of the problem that you intend solving.
2. A synthesis of relevant prior literature revealing (i) what is, and is not, known (ii) areas of agreement and disagreement, and (iii) the 'state of art' in the area.
3. Your research objective and questions.
4. An explanation of the rationale for the study and its potential contribution to theory and practice.
5. A description of your conceptual framework and / or theoretical propositions (if applicable).
6. An overview of research methods suitable for your study,
7. An explanation of the rationale for your chosen method.
8. A description and justification of your proposed data gathering and analysis strategy.
9. Your project plan for T3.

## Part 2: Project Management and Planning.

You are required to submit a detailed assessment of your project management and planning that supports point 9 in your research design. This should include:

1. An assessment of the project plan submitted as part of Thesis A and an explanation for deviations from the plan.
2. Dates, times, duration and venue of all meetings between you and your supervisor during T2. Please note that you are required to meet with your supervisor at a minimum for 30 minutes every week during term. Within 24 hours of the meeting you are required to send your supervisor an email (copying [ISTM.Honours@UNSW.edu.au](mailto:ISTM.Honours@UNSW.edu.au)) a summary of the action points (including responsibilities and milestones) arising from the meeting.
3. An overview of challenges that arose during T2 and how these were addressed.
4. A detailed week-by-week plan, including milestones, for completing your research.
5. An assessment of project feasibility, including potential challenges and contingency plans.
6. An outline, with justification, of how the final written report will be structured.

potential

## Part 3: Research Ethics.

The following are required to submit:

1. Your signed and dated ethics application, including date of submission;
2. Copies of any post submission correspondence between you and the Ethics committee and/or SISTM ethics advisor.
3. Your Research Ethics approval letter. Please note that approval may take some time, so you are advised to submit your application no later than week 3.

## Assessment Criteria

Assessment criteria will focus on the quality, strength and soundness of the analysis undertaken as well the management of the research project. In order to be deemed satisfactory, the assessment must demonstrate that the student has:

1. Articulated a relevant and interesting research problem(s) in line with the approval received for Thesis A.
2. Explained the significance of the research problem in the context of the prevailing business and/or social environment, including practice (i.e. real life).
3. Analysed and synthesised the current body of knowledge (research literature)
4. Formulated and justified appropriate research question(s) and justified them in the context of the research problem(s), the current research literature, and business / social environment.
5. Presented an justified an appropriate conceptual framework, theoretical lens or model (if applicable). At a minimum, it is expected that students explain the research / theoretical perspectives that will be employed to investigate the phenomenon.
6. Proposed and justified an appropriate research method to answer the research questions;
7. Proposed and justified appropriate data gathering and analysis methods;
8. Discussed expected results and potential contribution/ significance of research
9. Prepared and submitted an appropriate research ethics application
10. Planed and managed their research project in a professional manner
11. Appropriately assessed the feasibility and developed suitable contingency plans
12. Communicated their work in a logical and convincing manner, and adhered to professional written and oral standards. The written report is presented in a suitable format, including structure, argument, grammar and references. Please note that the Harvard referencing format should be used.

## Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Carry out a literature review for a research topic, identifying relevant articles and summarising major contributions as well as constructing a literature map.
- CL02 : Structure and present a research paper in a format appropriate for an academic

audience.

- CLO3 : Critically review a research paper.
- CLO4 : Prepare a research proposal covering research motivations, methodology and expected outcomes.

#### Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

## General Assessment Information

Thesis B is not graded. To pass the course, you need to achieve a satisfactory outcome.

#### Grading Basis

Satisfactory

#### Requirements to pass course

Achieve a Satisfactory outcome.

## Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 27 May - 2 June	Online Activity	Thesis B Catchup and Q&A
Week 3 : 10 June - 16 June	Online Activity	Thesis B Catchup and Q&A
Week 5 : 24 June - 30 June	Online Activity	Thesis B Catchup and Q&A
Week 7 : 8 July - 14 July	Online Activity	Thesis B Catchup and Q&A
Week 9 : 22 July - 28 July	Online Activity	Thesis B Catchup and Q&A

## Attendance Requirements

Not Applicable - as no class attendance is required

## General Schedule Information

This course will have fortnightly catch-ups which will assess student progress and serve as a platform for peer-to-peer sharing and learning.

## Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Sandeep Mysore Seshadrinath		Level 2 Quad 2086	+61 2 9385 7126	By appointment	No	Yes

# Other Useful Information

## Academic Information

### COURSE POLICIES AND SUPPORT

The Business School expects that you are familiar with the contents of this course outline and the UNSW and Business School learning expectations, rules, policies and support services as listed below:

- Program Learning Outcomes
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Student Responsibilities and Conduct
- Special Consideration
- Protocol for Viewing Final Exam Scripts
- Student Learning Support Services

Further information is provided on the [key policies and support](#) page.

Students may not circulate or post online any course materials such as handouts, exams, syllabi or similar resources from their courses without the written permission of their instructor.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) – under the Outcomes tab – are what you should be able to demonstrate by the end of this course, if you participate fully in learning activities and successfully complete the assessment items.

CLOs also contribute to your achievement of the Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs), which are developed across the duration of a program. PLOs are, in turn, directly linked to [UNSW graduate capabilities](#). More information on Coursework PLOs is available on the [key policies and support](#) page. For PG Research PLOs, including MPDBS, please refer to the [UNSW HDR Learning Outcomes](#).

### Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display [academic integrity](#) in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the [UNSW Student Code](#) with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action under the Student Misconduct Procedure. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the

process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Student Code, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

## Submission of Assessment Tasks

### SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

You can apply for special consideration when illness or other circumstances beyond your control interfere with your performance in a specific assessment task or tasks, including online exams. Students studying remotely who have exams scheduled between 10pm and 7am local time, are also able to apply for special consideration to sit a supplementary exam at a time outside of these hours.

Special consideration is primarily intended to provide you with an extra opportunity to demonstrate the level of performance of which you are capable. To apply, and for further information, see Special Consideration on the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

Special consideration applications will be assessed centrally by the Case Review Team, who will update the online application with the outcome and add any relevant comments. The change to the status of the application immediately sends an email to the student and to the assessor with the outcome of the application.

Please note the following:

1. Applications can only be made through Online Services in myUNSW (see the UNSW [Current Students](#) page). Applications will not be accepted by teaching staff. The lecturer-in-charge/course coordinator will be automatically notified when your application is processed.
2. Applying for special consideration does not automatically mean that you will be granted a supplementary exam or other concession.
3. If you experience illness or misadventure in the lead up to an exam or assessment, you must submit an application for special consideration, either prior to the examination taking place, or prior to the assessment submission deadline, except where illness or misadventure prevent you from doing so.
4. If your circumstances stop you from applying before your exam or assessment due date, you must apply within 3 working days of the assessment or the period covered by your supporting documentation.



5. Under the UNSW Fit To Sit/Submit rule, if you sit the exam/submit an assignment, you are declaring yourself well enough to do so and are cannot subsequently apply for special consideration.
6. If you become unwell on the day of – or during – an exam, you must stop working on your exam, advise your course coordinator or tutor and provide a medical certificate dated within 24 hours of the exam, with your special consideration application. For online exams, you must contact your course coordinator or tutor immediately via email, Moodle or chat and advise them you are unwell and submit screenshots of your conversation along with your medical certificate and application.
7. Special consideration requests do not allow the awarding of additional marks to students.

Further information on Business School policy and procedure can be found under “Special Consideration” on the [key policies and support](#) page.

## **LATE SUBMISSION PENALTIES**

For assessments other than examinations, late submission will incur a penalty of 5% per day or part thereof (including weekends) from the due date and time. An assessment will not be accepted after 5 days (120 hours) of the original deadline unless special consideration has been approved. An assignment is considered late if the requested format, such as hard copy or electronic copy, has not been submitted on time or where the ‘wrong’ assignment has been submitted.

For assessments which account for 10% or less of the overall course grade, and where answers are immediately discussed or debriefed, the LIC may stipulate a different penalty. Details of such late penalties will be available on the course Moodle page.

## **FEEDBACK ON YOUR ASSESSMENT TASK PERFORMANCE**

Feedback on student performance from formative and summative assessment tasks will be provided to students in a timely manner. Assessment tasks completed within the teaching period of a course, other than a final assessment, will be assessed and students provided with feedback, with or without a provisional result, within 10 working days of submission, under normal circumstances. Feedback on continuous assessment tasks (e.g. laboratory and studio-based, workplace-based, weekly quizzes) will be provided prior to the midpoint of the course.

## **Faculty-specific Information**

## **PROTOCOL FOR VIEWING FINAL EXAM SCRIPTS**

UNSW students have the right to view their final exam scripts, subject to a small number of very specific exemptions. The UNSW Business School has set a [protocol](#) under which students may view their final exam script. Individual schools within the Faculty may also set up additional local processes for viewing final exam scripts, so it is important that you check with your School.

If you are completing courses from the following schools, please note the additional school-specific information:

- Students in the **School of Accounting, Auditing & Taxation** who wish to view their final examination script should also refer to [this page](#).
- Students in the **School of Banking & Finance** should also refer to [this page](#).
- Students in the **School of Information Systems & Technology Management** should also refer to [this page](#).

## **COURSE EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Feedback is regularly sought from students and continual improvements are made based on this feedback. At the end of this course, you will be asked to complete the [myExperience survey](#), which provides a key source of student evaluative feedback. Your input into this quality enhancement process is extremely valuable in assisting us to meet the needs of our students and provide an effective and enriching learning experience. The results of all surveys are carefully considered and do lead to action towards enhancing educational quality.

## **QUALITY ASSURANCE**

The Business School is actively monitoring student learning and quality of the student experience in all its programs. A random selection of completed assessment tasks may be used for quality assurance, such as to determine the extent to which program learning goals are being achieved. The information is required for accreditation purposes, and aggregated findings will be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of Business School programs. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential.

## **TEACHING TIMES AND LOCATIONS**

Please note that teaching times and locations are subject to change. Students are strongly advised to refer to the [Class Timetable website](#) for the most up-to-date teaching times and locations.