

# UEL-CN-7000 Mental Wealth; Professional Life (Dissertation)

## Week 3

### Assessment 1: Research Proposal

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Assessment 1: Research Proposal.....	3
Overview .....	3
Structure of your research proposal .....	3
Marking Criteria .....	6
Additional requirements .....	6

**ASSESSMENT 1: RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

**Assignment 1 is worth 0% of the final module grade**

**OVERVIEW**

Assessment 1 is your research proposal in which you will be demonstrating your ability to effectively outline a research problem, objectives, methodology and other research activities as a report. The goal is to present and justify a proposed practical research which fits in the domain of computer science or subject areas that have been covered throughout the degree programme. Assessment 1 is a formative and will not be graded but you must be able to:

- Clearly present and justify your research
- Describe a formalised plan for how you will be conducting your research that is feasible and manageable within the given timeframe

**STRUCTURE OF YOUR RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

A proposed structure for your research proposal would (at minimum) include the following elements:

**1. Title page**

- a. A brief title of your research (the topic)

**2. Abstract**

- a. An overview of the proposed research which should include (half a page):
  - i. Rationale
  - ii. Statement of research aims and objectives

- iii. Chosen research approaches and methodologies
- iv. Justification or explanation of significance of research

### **3. Preliminary pages**

- a. Table of contents
- b. List of tables and figures

### **4. Introduction**

- a. Describe the research area or domain and its significance
  - i. Explain how the subject area or domain relates to the identified research aims and objectives
  - ii. Describe the background of the research problem
  - iii. Write an explicit statement of the research problem
  - iv. Describe the purpose of the research
  - v. Present the theoretical framework for the research
  - vi. Discuss the significance or the importance of the research
  - vii. Outline the feasibility, scope and limitations of the research

### **5. Preliminary Literature Review**

- a. Summarize existing research in the subject area or domain
- b. Identify strengths, weakness, challenges and opportunities of existing knowledge in the subject area or domain
- c. Justify your proposed research in context of what knowledge exists
- d. Justify the necessity of your proposed research and the gap that will be filled

## **6. Experimental design and methods**

- a.** An in-depth discussion on the design and procedures that will be adopted to achieve the identified aims and objectives
  - i.** Presentation of a clear sequence of events needed to complete the research
  - ii.** Description of how data will be analysed and interpreted
  - iii.** Description and justification of selected tools and methodologies
  - iv.** Brief discussion of potential challenges and how they may be dealt with (i.e. limitations, alternative solutions)

## **7. Proposed timetable**

- a.** A clear outline of a timetable in terms of time and deliverables

## **8. References**

- a.** A list of all citations used in the text using the APA 7<sup>th</sup> Edition referencing style

## MARKING CRITERIA

Follow the marking criteria below to ensure you covered all areas in your research proposal.

Criteria	Description	Weight
<b>Structure/Presentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does the submitted work follow a logical structure?</li> <li>- Is content organised appropriately?</li> <li>- Is there an appropriate use of font, styling, paragraphs, spacing, effective use of visual elements?</li> </ul>	<b>20</b>
<b>Content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the research area and topic relevant and feasible?</li> <li>- Are the research aims, objectives, problem statement clearly identified?</li> <li>- How effective is the research plan?</li> </ul>	<b>40</b>
<b>Critical Analysis and Evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How clearly is existing knowledge in the research area presented and evaluated</li> <li>- Has the research been appropriately justified in terms of feasibility, scope, relevance, knowledge generation?</li> </ul>	<b>10</b>
<b>Language, Grammar and Punctuation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are ideas presented with an effective use of language, grammar and punctuation</li> </ul>	<b>10</b>
<b>Level of Competency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are ideas presented in a clear and understandable manner?</li> </ul>	<b>10</b>
<b>Referencing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use of an appropriate range of scholarly and academic references</li> <li>- Correct use of the APA referencing style for citing sources</li> </ul>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Please take note of the following details before you submit your research proposal:

1. The research proposal is an individual test and not a group task
2. The research proposal must be submitted on the indicated due date by **11:59 p.m. (23:59 hours) VLE (UTC)** at the latest

3. Details on late submission procedures and penalties can be found on the module's VLE page
4. The literature review should include a range of **academic journals and textbooks** which can be accessibility on the VLE though the online library.
5. The word count for your research proposal should be **1500 words +/- 10%** excluding the reference list and any additional appendices.
6. You must ensure that you follow academic writing standards and adopt the **APA 7<sup>th</sup> Edition referencing style** when citing sources
7. Your research proposal must be submitted electronically through the **Tutnitin** system

## Grading criteria

Mark range	Performance characteristic	Grading criteria
<b>90-100</b>	<b>Exceptional Pass</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exemplary attainment of all learning outcomes</li> <li>Demonstrates an outstanding synthesis of varied theoretical positions in the analysis of key issues in the subject area</li> <li>Wide-ranging emphasis on knowledge and ideas that are at the forefront of the discipline</li> <li>Offers an exhaustive exploration of the literature and evidence-base</li> <li>The material covered is accurate and relevant</li> <li>The argument is highly sophisticated</li> <li>The standard of writing is refined</li> <li>No errors in the use of the specified referencing system</li> <li>Well-presented and organised in an appropriate academic style.</li> </ul>
<b>80-89</b>	<b>Outstanding Pass</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent attainment of all learning outcomes, with some met to an exemplary standard</li> <li>Demonstrates a comprehensive synthesis of varied theoretical positions in the analysis of key issues in the subject area. Wide-ranging emphasis on knowledge and ideas that are at the forefront of the discipline</li> <li>Extends far beyond expected levels of engagement with the literature and evidence-base</li> <li>The material covered is accurate and relevant</li> <li>The argument is generally very astute</li> <li>The standard of writing is refined</li> <li>No errors in the use of the specified referencing system</li> <li>Well-presented and organised in an appropriate academic style.</li> </ul>
<b>70-79</b>	<b>Excellent pass</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent attainment of all learning outcomes</li> <li>Demonstrates a thorough synthesis of varied theoretical positions in the analysis of key issues in the subject area</li> <li>Strong emphasis on knowledge and ideas that are at the forefront of the discipline</li> <li>Thorough use the literature and evidence-base</li> <li>The material covered is accurate and relevant</li> <li>The argument is persuasive and there are very perceptive elements</li> <li>The standard of writing is refined</li> <li>No errors in the use of the specified referencing system</li> <li>Well-presented and organised in an appropriate academic style.</li> </ul>
<b>60-69</b>	<b>Good Pass</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good attainment of all learning outcomes</li> <li>Demonstrates detailed synthesis of varied theoretical positions in the analysis of key issues in the subject area</li> <li>Good emphasis on knowledge and ideas that are at the forefront of the discipline</li> <li>Good consideration of the literature and evidence-base that develops from recommended readings</li> <li>The material covered is accurate and relevant</li> <li>The argument is persuasive</li> <li>The standard of writing is refined</li> <li>No errors in the use of the specified referencing system</li> <li>Well-presented and organised in an appropriate academic style.</li> </ul>



<b>50-59</b>	<i>Pass</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate attainment of all learning outcomes</li> <li>• Demonstrates a limited, but sufficient, synthesis of varied theoretical positions in the analysis of key issues in the subject area</li> <li>• Some emphasis on knowledge and ideas that are at the forefront of the discipline</li> <li>• Sufficient consideration of the literature and evidence-base, but little consideration beyond recommended readings</li> <li>• The material covered is mostly accurate and relevant</li> <li>• The argument is straightforward and relatively clear</li> <li>• The standard of writing is well clear and readable, with some sophisticated phrasing</li> <li>• No errors in the use of the specified referencing system</li> <li>• Well-presented and organised in an appropriate academic style.</li> </ul>
<b>40-49</b>	Needs some improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No errors in the use of the specified referencing system</li> <li>• Well-presented and organised in an appropriate academic style.</li> <li>• Meets most, but not all learning outcomes</li> <li>• Demonstrates limited synthesis of varied theoretical positions in the analysis of key issues in the subject area</li> <li>• Less than expected emphasis on knowledge and ideas that are at the forefront of the discipline</li> <li>• Basic consideration of the literature and evidence-base, but restricted to recommended readings</li> <li>• Some inaccuracies or irrelevant materials that suggest confusion and misunderstanding</li> <li>• The argument is relatively clear, although some elements are difficult to understand</li> <li>• The standard of writing is well clear and readable, but overly simplistic</li> <li>• Minor errors in the use of the specified referencing system, but meets key principles</li> <li>• Well-presented and organised in an appropriate academic style.</li> </ul>
<b>30-39</b>	Needs major improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately half the learning outcomes are met</li> <li>• Demonstrates very little synthesis of varied theoretical positions in the analysis of key issues in the subject area</li> <li>• Little emphasis on knowledge and ideas that are at the forefront of the discipline</li> <li>• Minor consideration of the literature and evidence-base, with inadequate use of recommended reading and no exploration outside that</li> <li>• Some materials is accurate, but the amount of inaccurate or irrelevant materials indicates insufficient understanding of key concepts</li> <li>• The argument is poorly defined and defended</li> <li>• The standard of writing is mostly clear and readable</li> <li>• Some errors in the use of the specified referencing system, but meets key principles</li> <li>• Generally, well presented and organised, but does not always conform to conventions of academic presentation.</li> </ul>