Research Methods and Professional Practice

Skill	Proficiency Level	Experience / Examples	Areas for Improvement	Development Plan
Time Management	Intermediate	Managed reading, analysis and e-portfolio work while completing the summary measures worksheet (Unit 6), hypothesis testing (Unit 7) and graphs worksheet (Unit 9).	Sometimes lost time clarifying instructions, especially when deliverables were unclear.	Plan weekly goals early in each unit and confirm task requirements before starting.
Commercial Awareness	Basic	Explored ethical and legal aspects of product promotion and consumer protection in Unit 7. Reflected on professional conduct within research and computing practice.	Limited exposure to commercial research settings.	Read industry reports or case studies that link academic research with business and technology practice.
Critical Thinking and Analysis	Intermediate	Evaluated ethical codes, analysed data accuracy in surveys and critically assessed digital learning tools in the literature review.	Sometimes focused more on summary than critical comparison.	Use evaluation prompts such as purpose, bias and reliability when reviewing sources.
Decision-Making	Intermediate	Applied structured reasoning in statistical analysis and interpretation tasks. Decided how to handle missing or unclear guidance in Units 6–8 by identifying the main objective of each exercise.	Took extra time to make decisions due to uncertainty about marking criteria.	Practise quicker evaluation of options by outlining pros and cons before choosing an approach.
Problem-Solving	Intermediate	Resolved confusion in statistical exercises and found alternative methods when worksheets lacked clear deliverables. Used examples from earlier units to complete later tasks.	Sometimes relied on trial and error when guidance was vague.	Note each problem and its resolution to create a personal troubleshooting guide for future reference.
Initiative	Intermediate	Worked independently throughout the module, identifying what was required in each unit when instructions were unclear. Created self-directed work such as independent slide decks in Unit 3.	Occasionally delayed tasks while working out instructions.	Continue acting independently but make early notes on ambiguities to raise in tutorials.

Entrepreneurial	Basic	Reflected on opportunities for innovation within digital learning tools and gamification in education. Considered how these ideas could influence teaching practice.	Did not explicitly connect research outcomes to real-world product or service ideas.	Review academic work with a focus on practical applications and potential innovation opportunities.
Communication and Literacy Skills	Advanced	Produced clear written reflections, a structured literature review and a research proposal with supporting video. Demonstrated consistent use of Harvard referencing.	Written work is strong but recorded verbal communication could be more confident.	Practise short recorded presentations to improve clarity and pacing in spoken delivery.
Numeracy	Intermediate	Used Excel for descriptive and inferential statistics in Units 6 and 7 and created charts in Unit 9.	Sometimes unsure which statistical test or measure to apply.	Revise statistical concepts using worked examples before applying them to new data.
IT and Digital Skills	Advanced	Used Excel for analysis, OBS and DaVinci Resolve for the proposal video, and managed digital materials in the e-portfolio.	Some tasks took longer due to manual formatting.	Explore templates and automation features to speed up digital production and presentation work.
Interpersonal Skills	Basic	Worked mostly independently due to the individual focus of the module.	Limited interaction with peers reduced feedback opportunities.	Engage more actively in discussion boards or peer review to gain wider perspectives.
Critical Reflection	Intermediate	Produced weekly reflections identifying challenges and progress across all twelve units. Showed awareness of learning gaps and how to address them.	Some reflections were Short and could be more detailed adding feelings.	Use a structured reflection model such as Rolfe to improve weekly reflections.
Research	Advanced	Completed a literature review and a research proposal using academic frameworks, analysis and Harvard referencing.	Early searches gathered too many sources before filtering for relevance.	Define search limits early and apply inclusion criteria to maintain focus.