

HEP903: DESIGNING ENGAGED RESEARCH

Student workload:

No. hours student engagement per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
4	8	12

Delivery Mode:

Face-to-face at HELI's Melbourne campus and online via HELI's Cloud campus. Learners will need to have access to an electronic device (such as a laptop, tablet or smart phone) with internet access to successfully undertake this subject.

Pre-requisites:

There are no pre-requisites for this subject.

Subject requirements:

To successfully complete this subject a student must attempt all assessment tasks and achieve at least 50% of the total marks.

Subject Aim and Content:

The aim of this subject is to develop students' knowledge and skills, enabling them to *design* engaged research and development projects that aim to develop knowledge of or solutions to opportunities or challenges that they find in their professional practice. Students explore the foundational elements of engaged research practice, enabling them to develop and execute research projects that aim to develop solutions to immediate problems they face in their professional practice. The contribution of engaged research lies in adding or improving value in organisational or social processes. In designing engaged research, educators, trainers and eLearning developers can use ideas, theories and data, rather than preferences or informed guesses, to guide improvement efforts, as well as changing the learning and teaching context. The subject begins with an exploration of the conduct of applied research in a professional setting, and a consideration of the philosophical basis of conducting applied research, with a specific focus on critical realism. It further explores the process of reviewing best practice and theory (the present art) and the development of a practice or theoretical framework that provides structure to the research.

The subject covers research design, qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis. It concludes with a discussion of communicating research knowledge and a consideration of the practice of applied research.

Subject Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this subject students will be able to:	
SLO1	Analyse an organisational opportunity or challenge against the principles of conducting applied research and development in a professional setting, including the identification of research and development problems, and the philosophical basis for conducting applied research and development.
SLO2	Critically review academic or professional literature, identifying gaps in the knowledge and in practice, and develop applied research and development questions.
SLO3	Develop a research and development design, including qualitative and quantitative research methods, development techniques, that are appropriate to answering identified applied research and development questions.
SLO4	Plan the communication of research and development outcomes

Delivery and Assessment Plan

Week	Topic	Key concepts	Assessment Timing
Week 1	Applied research in a professional setting: engaged scholarship and action research	Contemporary applied business research; Research trends; Research technologies; Research ethics	Assessment 1: Learner Engagement (varied activities throughout the Term 20%)
Week 2	The philosophical basis for applied research: positivism, constructivism and critical realism	Applied research process, theory, and proposals	
Week 3	Reviewing and critiquing theory and practice	Quality research topics; literature review; research questions; sources of secondary data	
Week 4	Designing applied research	Conceptual models; qualitative versus quantitative research; applied research designs	
Week 5	Sampling approaches	Sampling; Sampling Frame; Probability Sampling Methods; Nonprobability Sampling methods	
Week 6	Collecting quantitative and qualitative data, measurement and scaling	Data collection methods; Quantitative data collection; Qualitative data collection; Measurements scales; Reliability and Validity	
Week 7	Designing surveys	Questionnaire design; Types of questions; Presenting "good" questions	Assessment 2: Research Brief (35%)
Week 8	Data analysis	Qualitative data analysis; Grounded theory; Coding and Theming; Quantitative data analysis; Descriptive Statistics; Distribution	
Week 9	Disseminating research findings	Effective communication; Research proposal; Effective research reports; Research presentations	
Week 10	Assessment only week		Assessment 3: Research Proposal (50%)