

# HUMN 4001 RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT 1: READING, WRITING, AND THE BUSINESS OF RESEARCH

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 800218

**Coordinator** Michael O'Connor ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Michael OConnor/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Michael%20OConnor/))

**Description** Research is the process of using knowledge to generate new understandings of the world. Research is also a social enterprise, with communities and norms of behaviour, and is an industry that is shaped by numerous cultural and economic forces. Taking a holistic approach that includes general research skill development, this subject focuses on four main topics: (1) critical reading, (2) effective writing, (3) research as a professional industry, and (4) the ethics of stewardship and personal responsibility. The subject equips students with vital skills that underpin their discipline-specific learning, and lays the ground for their development as professional researchers.

**School** Graduate Research School

**Discipline** Literature

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 1 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Undergraduate Level 4 subject

**Equivalent Subjects** HUMN 4009 - Research Design 1 Theories of Enquiry

## Restrictions

Students must be enrolled in 8083 Bachelor of Research Studies/ Master of Research, 8084 Master of Research (High Cost) or 8085 Master of Research (Low Cost), 8119 Bachelor of Research Studies (Planning), 1712 Master of Planning, 3702 (8112) Master of Information and Communications Technology (Research), 1870 Master of Chinese Cultural Relations, 1883 Master of Cross-cultural Relations or 3761 Master of Architecture (Urban Transformation). 1895 Master of Humanitarian and Development Studies, 1896 Graduate Diploma in Humanitarian and Development Studies or 1897 Graduate Certificate in Humanitarian and Development Studies, 8128 Master of Artificial Intelligence (Research).

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Appraise the personal, societal, institutional, and intellectual process of creating new knowledge or new understanding of current knowledge.
2. Appraise the scholarly literature, identify research problems, and formulate research questions.
3. Employ academic referencing conventions and document production at a research standard;
4. Demonstrate the principles of professional academic writing to generate research grade text

5. Integrate knowledge from other units and sources to create a preliminary research proposal.

## Subject Content

- The nature of research as a professional industry;
- The attitudes and the tools required to develop as a professional researcher;
- The principles of effective academic writing;
- The principles of detailed critical reading;
- Theories of how research fields develop over time;
- The external forces that shape research fields and research agendas;
- The concept of stewardship and personal responsibility in research; and
- The importance of reflective writing for developing a research project.
- The nature of research as a professional industry;
- The attitudes and the tools required to develop as a professional researcher;
- The principles of effective academic writing;
- The principles of detailed critical reading;
- Theories of how research fields develop over time;
- The external forces that shape research fields and research agendas;
- The concept of stewardship and personal responsibility in research; and
- The importance of reflective writing for developing a research project.
- The nature of research as a professional industry;
- The attitudes and the tools required to develop as a professional researcher;
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- Theories of how research fields develop over time;
- The external forces that shape research fields and research agendas;
- The concept of stewardship and personal responsibility in research; and
- The importance of reflective writing for developing a research project.

## Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

| Type                   | Length      | Percent | Threshold | Individual/ Group Task | Mandatory |
|------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Portfolio              | 3,000 words | S/U     | Y         | Individual             | Y         |
| Annotated Bibliography | 1,000 words | S/U     | Y         | Individual             | Y         |
| Report                 | 2,000 words | S/U     | Y         | Individual             | Y         |

Teaching Periods

## Autumn (2025)

### Parramatta City - Macquarie St

#### Hybrid

**Subject Contact** Michael O'Connor ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Michael O&#x27;Connor](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Michael%20O%27Connor))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=HUMN4001\\_25-AUT\\_PC\\_3#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=HUMN4001_25-AUT_PC_3#subjects))

## Spring (2025)

### Parramatta City - Macquarie St

#### Hybrid

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