

# ISYS90031 Research Methods in Information Systems

<b>Credit Points:</b>	12.50
<b>Level:</b>	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
<b>Dates &amp; Locations:</b>	This subject is not offered in 2013. Students are expected to attend all seminars and actively participate. This requires reading relevant material before the seminar. Students who miss two or more seminars will be required to show cause why they should not be failed in the subject. Students should expect to devote 10-12 hours per week to a single semester unit, with up to 9 hours each week preparing for the class and completing assignments and 3 hours each week in class.
<b>Time Commitment:</b>	Contact Hours: 3 hours of contact per week Total Time Commitment: 120 hours
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Permission to undertake subject must be obtained from the MIS academic coordinator
<b>Corequisites:</b>	None
<b>Recommended Background Knowledge:</b>	None
<b>Non Allowed Subjects:</b>	None
<b>Core Participation Requirements:</b>	<p>&lt;p&gt;For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Student Support and Engagement Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Overview, Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Generic Skills sections of this entry.&lt;/p&gt;         &lt;p&gt;It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study, and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact on meeting the requirements of this subject are encouraged to discuss this matter with a Faculty Student Adviser and Student Equity and Disability Support: &lt;a href="http://services.unimelb.edu.au/disability"&gt;http://services.unimelb.edu.au/disability&lt;/a&gt;&lt;/p&gt;</p>
<b>Contact:</b>	Dr Martin Gibbs email: <a href="mailto:martin.gibbs@unimelb.edu.au">martin.gibbs@unimelb.edu.au</a> (mailto:martin.gibbs@unimelb.edu.au)
<b>Subject Overview:</b>	Research is a systematic process of answering questions to acquire new knowledge. Research in information systems questions how professional practice is conducted and contributes to the development of better practices. The subject provides students with coverage of how research is conducted within information systems, and how to critically assess published research. Topics covered include the nature of research, the scientific method, theory and research, research paradigms: positivist, interpretivist and critical research approaches, quantitative and qualitative data, measurement and quantitative data analysis techniques, qualitative data analysis techniques, research approaches in organisational information systems and interaction design: literature review and conceptual study, survey, experiment, case study, ethnography, cultural probes, design science.
<b>Objectives:</b>	Upon completion of this subject students should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># Be familiar with the main research methods used in IS research</li> <li># Understand the main concepts underlying the selection of a research method for different types of research questions and stages of research</li> <li># Develop an appreciation of the importance of both rigour and relevance in IS research</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment:</b>	A 1500 word individual critical literature review, due early semester (30%) A 1500 word individual research methods evaluation assignment, due mid semester (30%) A 1500 word individual research design assignment, due at the end of semester (30%) Participation in seminar activities and contributions to online discussion throughout the semester (10%)ILO 1, 2 and 3 are addressed in all assessment components.

<b>Prescribed Texts:</b>	Neuman, W.L. 2006 Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches, Allyn and Bacon
<b>Breadth Options:</b>	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
<b>Fees Information:</b>	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, <a href="http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees">http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees</a>
<b>Generic Skills:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># Ability to undertake literature search and critical analysis of literature.</li> <li># Ability to plan and implement a complex research project.</li> <li># Capacity for independent critical thought, rational inquiry and self-directed learning.</li> <li># Profound respect for truth and intellectual integrity, and for the ethics of scholarship.</li> </ul>
<b>Links to further information:</b>	<a href="http://www.cis.unimelb.edu.au">www.cis.unimelb.edu.au</a>
<b>Notes:</b>	This is a core subject in the BIS(Honours) course. Postgraduate coursework students, who are interested in undertaking a minor research project as part of their degree, must obtain permission from the MIS Academic coordinator to undertake this subject, prior to enrolment in ISYS90044 Minor Research Project in IS. Enrolments in ISYS90044 will be subject to supervisor availability.
<b>Related Course(s):</b>	Master of Information Systems Master of Information Systems Master of Information Systems Master of Philosophy - Engineering Master of Science (Information Systems) Ph.D.- Engineering