

Module 8 - Getting ready for submission

This module focuses on student's preparation for the thesis submission. The module commences with a course providing a checklist of essential questions to ensure their thesis document is complete. Systematic consideration of this checklist will enable understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the research, and address any identified deficiencies or weaknesses. The key objective is that the student's thesis adheres to the doctoral standard and quality an examiners will expect.

Module 8 consists of three study units:

1. An advanced course on "Getting ready for submission" of 8 weeks duration that will be completed over the first two months. The course is available from: https://www.doctoratehub.com/advanced_courses/350
2. A two-month club journey period geared at self-directed learning where the student will be expected to continue working through their thesis and to improve it in accordance to the checklist.
3. A conference where the student presents the results and outcomes of the module to two expert academics.

Research scoping lectures

Alongside the module students will be provided with a number of research scoping lectures to gain perspectives on how to further develop their research.

a) Knowledge gained through Module 8

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have:

- a) Acquired systematic understanding of a dedicated aspect of management and business demonstrating how an appropriate conceptual framework has been developed and its interrelationship to other determinants of the chosen organisation through explication of multi-disciplinary knowledge;
- b) Show how empirical data garnered through disciplined examination of practice has enable the student to builds upon extant specialised or multi-disciplinary knowledge and understanding;
- c) Demonstrate understanding of the requirements and expected standards of a doctoral thesis that will be judged on examiners' criteria;
- d) Extend, redefine, and/or make an original contribution to existing practice and/or knowledge in the selected area of research of management and/or business administration.

b) Skills gained through Module 8

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have acquired the following skills:

- a) Demonstrate mastery in skills such as planning and conducting an in-depth investigation of a selected aspect of business or management based on a workplace issue intended to produce a doctoral thesis with evidence of critical thinking, consistency, narrative, flow, and logical conclusions. In addition, the student will make judgements involving a multitude of interacting factors providing evidence of innovative scholarly research;
- b) Autonomously finalise and submit the thesis as per university and examiners requirements and expectations/standards and present it to different audiences including peers and the general public;
- c) Apply the skills developed during the module to confidently write and submit a doctoral level thesis in compliance with university procedures and to the satisfaction of examiners' expectations/standards;
- d) Demonstrate expertise in structuring and writing up a doctoral thesis based on researching business and management by application of concrete, specific, concise, precise language;
- e) Present interpretation of concepts contained in extant literature and the elicitation of empirical data, to demonstrate a coherent examination of the implications of findings for technological, social and cultural issues of organisations and any wider impact for a knowledge-based society;

Demonstrate expertise in critical evaluations and analysis of management and business theory and the limitations of existing guidance for practising managers.

c) Competencies gained through Module 8

At the end of the module/unit the learner will have acquired the ability and autonomy to:

- a) Demonstrate confidence in the selection of a research issue with relevance to day-to-day management practice and business processes with the objective of proffering logical and coherent conclusions for enhanced outcomes based on judgements involving a multitude of interacting factors;
- b) Demonstrate their expertise and authority in articulating their confidence in analysing and incorporating suggestions, comments and/or questions provided by their reviewer/supervisory team and to make judgement on what will be involving a multitude of interacting factors;
- c) Plan and organise a doctoral research project and, through considered dissemination, ensure the importance of the thesis' finding, particularly with respect to innovation and potential for organisational improvement;
- d) Clearly show how the research results and findings will potentially contribute to social, scientific and ethical advancement within the field of business and management research;

- e) Demonstrate a sustained commitment in the development of new ideas, innovative and collective practice has relevance for selected specialised knowledge;
- f) Present evidence of the student's expertise and authority within the written thesis and assessment process during the viva voce;

Ensure contribution to social, scientific, and ethical advancement in both academia and professional life.

d) Learning hour estimates – full time

Module Weekly learning hour distribution	Course / Mentoring	Clubs	Sum
A. Reading	15	15	240
B. Writing (assignments, drafts, etc.)	5	5	80
C. Practicing (training, presenting, data collection, etc.)	5	5	80
D. Peer work (group discussions, peer feedback, etc.)	5	1	48
E. Assessment (of assignments / drafts)	1	1	16
F. Live sessions	1	1	16
G. Formative Feedback (by supervisor, mentor, chairs)	1	1	16
Sum weekly hours	33	29	496
H. Research Scoping Lectures (90min per session)	6	6	12
I. End of module conference	0	4	4
Sum of hours per module*	270	242	512
Module total	512		
Contact (D, F, H)	76		
Supervised (G)	16		
Self-Study (A, B, C)	400		
Assessment (E, I)	20		
Average weekly learning hours	32		
* Considering 8 course/mentored weeks followed by 8 club weeks per module.			

e) Learning hour estimates – part time

Module Weekly learning hour distribution	Course / Mentoring	Clubs	Sum
A. Reading	15	7,5	300
B. Writing (assignments, drafts, etc.)	5	2,5	100
C. Practicing (Training, presenting, data collection, etc.)	5	2,5	100
D. Peer work (group discussions, peer feedback, etc.)	5	0,5	52
E. Assessment (of assignments / drafts)	1	0,5	20
F. Live sessions	1	0,5	20
G. Formative Feedback (by supervisor, mentor, chairs)	1	0,5	20
Sum weekly hours	33	14,5	612
H. Research Scoping Lectures (90min per session)	6	6	12
I. End of module conference	0	4	4
Sum hours per module*	270	358	628
Module total	628		
Contact (D, F, H)	84		
Supervised (G)	20		
Self-Study (A, B, C)	500		
Assessment (E, I)	24		
Average weekly learning hours	19,63		
* Considering 8 course/mentored weeks followed by 24 club weeks per module			

f) Assessment grid

Module	<u>Weekly course assignments & mentoring drafts to be submitted for formative assessment and feedback</u>	<u>End of course / mentoring written and oral assessments</u>	<u>End of module conference assessments</u>
<p>Module 8: Getting Ready for Submission</p>	<p>Written defence of the thesis to a set of questions focusing on:</p> <p>Week 1 - Thesis Introduction.</p> <p>Week 2 - Literature Review.</p> <p>Week 3 - Methodology.</p> <p>Week 4 - Data and Findings</p> <p>Week 5 - Analysis and Evaluation</p> <p>Week 6 - Conclusions, recommendations, and future research.</p> <p>Week 7 - Impact, actionability and personal development.</p> <p>Week 8 - Outline providing a holistic account of the thesis.</p>	<p>A draft version of the revision plan (chapter by chapter) for the final write up of the complete thesis based on the individual feedback and questions.</p> <p><i>Weighting: 20%.</i></p> <p><i>Written component: Word count: 5,000 – 10,000 words (excluding table of content, figures, references).</i></p> <p><i>Oral component: Presentation of 10 minutes.</i></p> <p><i>Submission: on-line in the DoctorateHub system.</i></p> <p><i>Due date: 1 week after the last lecture of the module.</i></p>	<p>A submission-ready thesis draft</p> <p><i>Type: Individual assessment.</i></p> <p><i>Written component: Word count: 40,000 – 60,000 words.</i></p> <p><i>Weighting: 70%.</i></p> <p><i>Oral component: Presentation of 5 minutes, followed by a 15 minutes Q/A session, and a final 10 minutes on the next development steps.</i></p> <p><i>Weighting: 10%</i></p> <p><i>Submission: on-line in the DoctorateHub system.</i></p> <p><i>Due date: 1 week before the conference.</i></p>