

## Research Proposal Training Programme: Florida Campus

### Objectives

The main objectives of Research Proposal Training Programme is (1) to familiarise postgraduate students with the Unisa research environment; (2) to provide information about the research process, the functions and components of the research proposal; (3) to develop skills to utilise research resources such as library and available research technologies; (4) to develop an understanding about meta-theories, theories, concepts, models and trends within and beyond subject disciplines; (5) to provide postgraduate students with strategies how to gain an understanding and access to their scientific community; (6) to introduce postgraduate students to the concept of *graduateness* and the meaning of making “an original research contribution” (for PhD students).

Achieving the training objectives 1 – 6 will provide the basis for participants (7) to present and discuss their informed research ideas/projects; and facilitators to (8) to guide them in clarifying their research ideas/projects. Furthermore, the Research Proposal Training Programme will (9) assist postgraduate students to interlink their research ideas to relevant theories, concepts, models, trends and empirical findings in their fields. Postgraduate students will be trained (10) in research methods and the available electronic resources on research methodology and technology available at Unisa; and (11) in the methodological concepts of reliability, validity and parsimony in research. Moreover, the research proposal training programme will introduce postgraduate students to (12) descriptive and inferential statistics; as well as to basic and complex model testing using statistics. Lastly, philosophical and ethical issues of research will be discussed.

### Structure

The Research Proposal Training Programme will be offered as three hour per week meeting over a period of ten weeks. The meetings will be held (if not differently stated) on Fridays from 9 am to 12 pm at the Science Campus in Florida (Johannesburg).

Dates				
	ITEM	THEME	FACILITATOR	TIME
<b>5 April 2019</b> <b>Gerwel Building</b> <b>04-097</b>	Opening	Welcoming and Introduction	Dumont	09h00 – 09h15
	Lecture	Introduction of the M & D research proposal programme 2019 and ground rules	Dumont	09h15 – 09h30
	Lecture	Introduction of Unisa' structure as University and its research related policies and research funding at Unisa	Dumont	09h30 – 10h00
	Lecture	The scientific research process	Dumont	10h00 – 11h00
	Discussion	Research Problems and Research Questions	Dumont	11h00 – 12h00
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<b>12 April 2019</b> <b>Gerwel Building</b> <b>04-097</b>	Lecture	The Literature Review (1)	Dumont	09h00 – 10h00
	Lecture	Who is your scientific community?	Dumont	10h00 – 11h00
	Library Training	Library Training: how to retrieve scientific information	Napaai	11h00 – 13h00
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<b>18 April 2019</b> <b>(Thursday)</b> <b>Gerwel Building</b> <b>04-097</b>	Lecture	The Literature Review (2)		09h00 – 10h00

Exercise	How to read <i>Journal Articles</i> ? Particular Focus: Introduction Section and the General Discussion Section	Dumont	10h00 – 11h00
Library Training	Library Training: how to retrieve scientific information	Napaai	11h00 – 13h00

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26 April 2019 Gerwel Building 04-097	ITEM	THEME	FACILITATOR	TIME
	Lecture	The Research Proposal: Components and Structure	Dumont	13h00 – 14h00
	Lecture/Discussion	The Research Proposal: what skills do you need?	Dumont	14h00 – 15h00
	Library Training	Library Training: how to retrieve scientific information	Napaai	15h00 – 16h00

				<b>10h30-11h00</b>
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<b>3 May 2019</b> Gerwel Building 04-097	Lecture	Theoretical Framework	Dumont	09h00 – 10h00
	Lecture	Scientific Theories/ Models	Dumont	10h00 – 11h00
	Lecture	Disciplinary Research versus Interdisciplinary Research	Dumont	11h00 – 12h00

				<b>12h30 – 13h30</b>
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<b>10 May 2019</b> Gerwel Building 04-097	Colloquium	Research ideas/projects		09h00 – 10h30
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	Lecture	Research Methods: From Observations to Experimental Research Designs	Dumont	10h30 - 12h00
				<b>15h00 – 15h30</b>
<b>17 May 2019</b> <b>Gerwel Building</b> <b>04-097</b>	Lecture	Measurements in scientific research	Dumont	09h00 – 10h00
	Lecture	The experimental method	Dumont/ Vorster	10h00 – 11h00
	Exercise	How to read the method and result sections in journal articles?	Dumont/ Vorster	11h00 – 12h00
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<b>24 May 2019</b> <b>Gerwel Building</b> <b>04-097</b>	Lecture	The survey method	Dumont/Khumalo	09h00 – 10h00
	Lecture	The interview method	NN	10h00 – 11h00
	Exercise	How to read the method and result sections in journal articles?	Dumont/Khumalo	11h00 – 12h00
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<b>31 May 2019</b> <b>Gerwel Building</b> <b>04-097</b>	Exercise	What research questions require what research methods in order to be appropriately answered?	Dumont	13h00 – 14h00
	Lecture	Research Instruments: From the spectrometer to the questionnaire.	Dumont/NN	14h00 – 15h00
	Library Training	Library Training: how to use the method space?	Napaai	15h00 – 16h00
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<b>7 June 2018</b> <b>Gerwel Building</b>	Colloquium	Research ideas/projects		09h00 – 10h30

<b>04-097</b>	Lecture	Statistics as a scientific tool: reliability and validity; measures (scales), distributions, general assumptions; descriptive versus inferential statistics; type one and type 2 errors; statistical power	Dumont/Vorster/Khumalo/ Masinga	10h30 – 12h0
<b>14 June 2018 Gerwel Building 04-097</b>	Lecture	Form the simple mean model to the straight line model	Dumont/Vorster/Khumalo/ Masinga	09h00 – 10h00
	Lecture	Statistical Tests comparing Means	Dumont/Vorster/Khumalo/ Masinga	10h00 – 11h00
	Lecture	Statistical Tests testing relationships	Dumont/Vorster/Khumalo/ Masinga	11h00 – 13h00
<b>28 June 2018 Gerwel Building 04-097</b>	Teach-In	Questions and Answers	Dumont	09h00 – 10h00
	Lecture	Ethical Issues in Research	NN	10h00 – 11h00
	Lecture	Application for Ethical Clearance at Unisa	NN	11h00 – 13h00
<b>19 July 2018 Gerwel Building 04-097</b>	Colloquium	Participants of the Research Proposal Training Programme are offered the opportunity to present their research proposals	Supervisors and experts in the respective fields will be invited to serve a faculty	9h00 – 13h00

