Course Objectives:

This course introduces students to the art of building a research project. It covers conceptualization of a research idea, implementation of that idea, and presentation of the research output in an appealing manner, with the aim of getting published in a top journal. This course will introduce students to the academic peer-reviewed publishing process, and provide insights into how to succeed in this business. This course will show students the steps required to develop an idea into a published peer-reviewed journal article.

Course Requirements:

The instruction will follow a Socratic teaching style. Students are expected to go through the assigned articles and suggested readings, and participate in class discussions. Each and every student should have something to say about each assigned reading. Students will also have to make in-class presentations based on the assigned journal articles. Each student should make powerpoint presentations (approximately 10 slides) on each of the assigned articles supposed to be discussed during a particular session. Students will be picked randomly to make these presentations. The focus of these presentations should be on identifying the research question, literature review, model specification, empirical methods, results, and limitations. Students should also comment on the uniqueness of these articles, or how they contribute to the existing literature.

Each student will also write and present a critical evaluation of a published peer-reviewed article from a top level (A* or A) journal (as per the ABDC ranking, http://www.abdc.edu.au/pages/abdc-journal-quality-list-2013.html), during sessions 17 and 18. Each student should get the article approved well in advance. The critique will be 3-5 pages long, and should talk about both the strengths and weaknesses of the paper. Remember that a criticism in academia needs to be a constructive one; students should not only identify the weaknesses, but also provide solutions to solve those problems.

During sessions 19 and 20, students will make presentations on an original research paper (not more than 10 pages, single-spaced) that a student will write during the course using the techniques learned in Quantitative Research Methods and Qualitative Research Methods. Each student should get the research topic approved well in advance. Students are encouraged to discuss the research idea with the instructors on a regular basis. Difficulties will (and should) arise while developing the original research idea, and how actively a student seeks to solve the problem will determine the student’s success in the academic publication game. It is a student’s responsibility to ensure and demonstrate that the research project will make a new contribution to the existing literature. The instructors will be available throughout the course duration to assist and guide the students in the right direction.

If any student faces any problem or difficulty during the course, please discuss it with the instructors as early as possible.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious offense in academic circles and other professional areas. If you are not sure what plagiarism is, please consult these guidelines: https://plagiarism.repec.org/ and http://plagiarismadvice.org/. Please ensure that your research paper is free of plagiarism related issues. Plagiarism will have serious consequences on a scholar’s academic and professional career, and should be avoided at all costs.

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Grading:

The course will be graded as per the following scheme.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scheme</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation in class discussions</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critiquing a published research paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Original research paper</td>
<td>50%</td>
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Readings:

This course will focus mainly on assigned journal articles. Students are expected to study the materials before class, and make positive contributions to in-class discussions.

Suggested Textbooks:


Sessions:

This course consists of twenty 90 minutes long sessions.

First Half: 4th April, 2015 - 8th April, 2015

Session 1: Research Question and Theoretical Background


Session 2: Research Question: Relevance to Theory and Practice


Session 3: Literature Review and Hypothesis Generation


Session 4: Methodology


Session 5: Analysis and Results


Session 6: Results- Link to Theoretical and Practical Contributions


Session 7: How to Review a Research Paper


* Predicting Banks' Failure: The case of Banking Sector in Sudan for the period (2002-2009).
Session 8: How to Review a Research Paper


* Impact of ISO 9000 Certification on Sales: Mauritius.

Session 9: How to Write a Research Paper (contd.)


Session 10: How to Write a Research Paper


Session 11: Qualitative versus quantitative research


Session 12: Research methodology in management


Session 13: Myths and realities of peer reviewed publication process


**Session 14: How to publish in top journals**

Hamermesh, D. How to Publish in a Top Journal (I Wish that I Knew!).

**Session 15: Critical evaluation of a research paper**

**Session 16: Critical evaluation of a research paper**

**Session 17: Critical evaluation of a research paper**

**Session 18: Student Presentations**

**Session 19: Student Presentations**

**Session 20: Student Presentations**