Graduate Diploma in Business (Research) (Accountancy) (BS69)

Year offered: 2011
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 072979M
Course duration (full-time): 1 year (2 semesters)
Course duration (part-time): 2 years (4 semesters)
Domestic Fees (indicative): 2011: $9,750 per semester (indicative)
International Fees (indicative): 2011: $11,375 per semester (indicative)
Domestic Entry: February; July* (*subject to unit and supervisor availability)
International Entry: February; July* (*subject to unit and supervisor availability)
Total credit points: 96
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48
Standard credit points per part-time semester: 24
Discipline coordinator: Associate Professor Marion Hutchinson
Campus: Gardens Point

Why choose this course?
The Graduate Diploma in Business (Research) is a PhD qualifying course, designed to provide the initial research training required to gain entry into the PhD. The Graduate Diploma in Business (Research) is best viewed as a pathway program and not as a standalone course.

Overview
The Graduate Diploma in Business (Research) provides high-achieving students with no or limited previous research experience the opportunity to develop advanced analytical, theoretical and empirical research skills that provide a sound preparation for advanced research training within a PhD. The capacity to conduct rigorous independent research will develop, and the advanced coursework integrates conceptual knowledge and research skills within a discipline. The Graduate Diploma program allows the development of advanced theoretical knowledge integrated with a rigorous introduction to research training in a chosen field. Applicants will have shown high achievement in a relevant undergraduate degree or coursework Masters degree.

As a graduate you will be able to clearly demonstrate an ability to undertake rigorous independent research.

Meeting minimum entry requirements does not guarantee entry into this course. Admission to the Graduate Diploma in Business (Research) program will depend on the availability of supervision, infrastructure and other required resources.

Course design
Students must complete four coursework units (48 credit points) and a dissertation (48 credit points), as per the programs of study described under the individual majors.

Unit prerequisite requirements are deemed to have been satisfied upon admission to this course. Where option (elective) units may be undertaken, students should check prerequisite requirements in the unit synopsis section of the QUT Handbook and obtain approval from the School Honours Coordinator.

Alternative pathways
The traditional approach is to complete a fourth year after you graduate from your undergraduate degree.

The School also offers the unique opportunity to fast track your studies and complete both your Bachelor of Business and Honours degree in three years with significant financial support through the Dean's Honours program or the School of Accountancy Honours Scholarship Program. Both programs offer successful applicants the opportunity of enrolling in extra units throughout the first two years and over summer, so you can commence and complete your Honours year in the third rather than the fourth year.

Course Availability
Mid-year entry:
Mid-year entry students should contact the Research Discipline Coordinator for enrolment advice and course progression details. Mid-year entry to any major cannot be guaranteed and is subject to supervisor and unit availability.

Part-time study:
Part-time students should contact the Research Discipline Coordinator for enrolment advice and course progression details. Part time study in any major cannot be guaranteed and is subject to unit availability.

PhD Pathway for International Students
Grad Dip (Research) + PhD pathway for international students: If the offer for entry into BS69 is packaged with the PhD, the following conditions will apply:
1. The package is defined as a sequence of programs from BS69 to IF49;
2. Progression from BS69 to IF49 is guaranteed if the BS69 is completed with a GPA of 5.5/7 or greater;
4. A supervisor for the IF49, normally the same as the supervisor for the BS69, is confirmed when assessing entry into the BS69 program;
5. A suitable research topic and thesis title for both BS69 and IF49, the latter of which can be a progression of the topic undertaken in BS69, is confirmed when assessing entry into the BS69 program;
6. The Business School guarantees Research support, places, supervisors and topic areas for IF49 12 months in advance of when the offer for BS69 is made to full time students and 24 months in advance of when the offer for BS69 is made to part time students.

**Important course specific enrolment advice**

This course is a PhD qualifying course, and applicants are assessed as to their potential suitability for undertaking a PhD on the completion of BS69. Prior to enrolment in BS69, a supervisor and dissertation topic must be allocated. Contact with the supervisor prior to applying for entry is essential.

To obtain further information about the policies and procedures relating to this course, please refer to the Business School Postgraduate Guidelines.

Other useful information can be found on the Student Services website.

**Further information**

For further information on this course contact the Research Discipline Coordinator Associate Professor Marion Hutchinson on 3138 2739 or m.hutchinson@qut.edu.au

The Research Discipline Coordinator is responsible for the administration of the course, including admissions, scholarships and determining the result for the year as a whole. If you have any questions about the course or any comments, the Research Discipline Coordinator should be your first point of contact.

**Abbreviation**

GradDipBus(Research)(Accy)

**Course Structure (full-time)**

**Accountancy**

Students must complete four prescribed units (48 credit points) and a dissertation (48 credit points).

**UNIT SYNOPSES**

**AYN433 RESEARCH TOPICS IN ACCOUNTING**

This unit introduces Honours, Higher Degree Research and other Postgraduate students to a broad range of accounting literature. It is designed to explore various theories and research methodologies that are applied in accounting research through assigned weekly readings and assigned research tasks. The assigned readings include contemporary research in financial accounting, management accounting, auditing and corporate governance.

**Prerequisites:** AYN417 and AYN418  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**BSN412 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH AND ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES**

This unit provides a detailed overview of qualitative research to support decision-making in business disciplines. The primary purpose of this unit is to develop a detailed understanding of the theoretical contexts in which field studies and qualitative research methods have developed and the techniques that define the approach. Students develop the ability to analyse, conduct, and evaluate qualitative research in discipline areas related to business. The unit provides a basic preparation for the development of a project, thesis or dissertation proposal based on the use of qualitative research.

**Antirequisites:** CON500  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2

**BSN414 QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS**
Quantitative Research Methods is a postgraduate unit designed to introduce students to a range of quantitative research methods and their application to different research questions and types of quantitative data. Throughout the unit, students will be exposed to a wide range of quantitative research issues including survey and index development, factor analysis, multiple regression, experimental data collection and analysis, ANOVA and MANOVA, structural models, secondary data collection and analysis, and longitudinal data analysis. Each lecture will be conducted in computer laboratories to allow students the opportunity to develop their quantitative research skills using SPSS and AMOS with data provided by lecturers.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2

**BSN501 DISSERTATION**  
Students undertake a study of an issue as the culmination of their honours program. The dissertation must have a well-developed conceptual foundation and include a primary research component.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2

**BSN501 DISSERTATION**  
Students undertake a study of an issue as the culmination of their honours program. The dissertation must have a well-developed conceptual foundation and include a primary research component.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2

**BSN502 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**  
The purpose of this study is to provide students with a range of ideas and methods that enable them to analyse, evaluate and conduct research in discipline areas related to business. It provides an essential and basic preparation for the development of a thesis or dissertation proposal. Areas of study include research paradigms, analysis and criticism, research design, data collection and data manipulation, interpretation and presentation.

**Antirequisites:** BSB400  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** Flexible Mode  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1