

Faculty of Engineering, University of Malaya
KXGX 6101: Research Methodology (Research Mode – PhD & MEngSc)

Tentative Course Schedule*

Session 2017-2018, Semester 1

Date	Time	Lecture / Discussion	Class room activities/Submission/Presentation	Instructor	Venue
30 Sept 2017 (Saturday)	10:00-12:00 hr	University regulations and ethical issues University rules and regulation pertaining to postgraduate studies. Intellectual honesty, transparency in conflicts of interest, redundant publication, authorship disputes, duplicate publication, human welfare concerns, data fabrication/falsification, plagiarism, and conflicts of interest.	–	Professor Ir. Dr. Abdul Aziz Bin Abdul Raman, Deputy Dean (PG)	DK3, Block U
	12:00-13:00 hr	Introduction to research Research: definition, type, methodology, and outcome. History and philosophy of scientific research. Scientific research method.	–	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
07 Oct 2017 (Saturday)	10:00-11:00 hr	Attributes and skills of a researcher	–	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	11:00-12:00 hr	–	- Group discussion on traits of a successful graduate researcher and your motivation - Formation of peer groups	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	12:00-13:00 hr	Review of basic writing skills, and writing in English		Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	
14 Oct 2017 (Saturday)	10:00-11:00 hr	Research proposal writing Main purposes, contents, length, format. Funding application and research proposal. IPS format for proposal. IPPP proposal format.	–	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	11:00-13:00 hr	–	Class Work: Critically analyze research proposal of one of your colleagues, make comments on proposal and prepare a report	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
21 Oct 2017 (Saturday)	10:00-11:00 hr	Conducting graduate research– I Major steps: Identifying a research topic and develop research questions, proposal writing, literature study, carrying out research, experimental design, thesis writing, seminar/defense.	–	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	11:00-12:00 hr	–	Class Work: Group discussion on research proposal	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	12:00-13:00 hr	Conducting graduate research– I continues	–	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	
28 Oct 2017 (Saturday)	10:00-12:00 hr	Conducting graduate research– II Be your own critic, planning and monitoring, time management, staying motivated, good research habits, networking, managing supervisor, research ethics and best research practice.	SUBMISSION 1: a) Proposal with corrections on it, b) Individual report on research proposal, c) Assessment rubric, d) Group report	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	12:00-13:00 hr	–	Class Work: Group discussion on graduate research	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
04 Nov 2017 (Saturday)	10:00-11:00 hr	Thesis writing Contents of a thesis, IPS format, revision, language, examiners' expectation. Practical tips on how to develop a draft efficiently.	–	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
		–	Class Work: Critically analyze a thesis related to your research topic	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	12:00-13:00 hr	Thesis writing continues		Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	

***Subject to changes if unavoidable circumstances arise**

Date	Time	Lecture / Discussion	Class room activities/Submission/Presentation	Instructor	Venue
11 Nov 2017 (Saturday)	10:00-11:00 hr	Web of Science (WoS), ISI, impact factor, journal category, h-Index etc.		Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	11:00-12:00 hr		Class Work: Continue to work on the critical analysis of a thesis related to your topic		
	12:00-13:00 hr	Paper writing – I Essentials of research papers, the IMRaD format		Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
25 Nov 2017 (Saturday)	10:00-11:00 hr	Paper writing – II Title, Abstract, Introduction, Methodology	–	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	11:00-12:00 hr	–	Class Work: Critically analyze a 'poor' and a 'very good' paper in area closely related to your research	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	12:00-13:00 hr	Paper writing – III Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgements, References	SUBMISSION 2: Report on critical analysis of a thesis closely related to your research	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	
09 Dec 2017 (Saturday)	10:00-11:00 hr	Paper writing – IV Submission to a journal, Dealing with reviewers, Ethical issues. etc.	–	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	11:00-12:00 hr		Class Work: Group discussion on the characteristics of a good and a poor paper	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	12:00-13:00 hr	Oral communication Preparation, analyzing of audience, structure, rehearsal, slide preparation, delivery, effective communication through eye contact, gesture, voice etc. Avoiding nervousness, question and answer	SUBMISSION 3: Report on critical analysis of research papers	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
06 Jan 2017(Saturday)	10:00-11:00 hr	Attending conferences Selection of conference. Things to do before, during, and after the conference. Networking. Maximizing benefit from conference. Poster presentation.		Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
	11:00-13:00	–	Experience sharing session among students	Prof. Dr. A. S. M. A. Haseeb	DK3, Block U
13 Jan 2017 (Saturday)	10:00-11:00 hr	Experience sharing session	Experience sharing session	Dr. Nahrizul Adib Kadri	DK3, Block U
	11:00-13:00 hr	Experience sharing session	Experience sharing session	Prof. Dr. Saad Mekhilef	DK3, Block U
Schedule to be announced by the Faculty	10:00-13:00 hr	–	Final presentation: Oral presentation of your research proposal SUBMISSION 4: Your Updated Research Proposal SUBMISSION 5: Literature Review following IPS format	To be appointed by Faculty	To be announced
Schedule to be announced by the Faculty	10:00-13:00 hr 14:00-17:00 hr	–	Final presentation: Oral presentation of your research proposal SUBMISSION 4: Your Updated Research Proposal SUBMISSION 5: Literature Review following IPS format	To be appointed by Faculty	To be announced
Schedule to be announced by the Faculty		Training on essential softwares: Turnitin, Endnotes etc. (3 h)		To be appointed by Faculty	To be announced

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Course Information

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Documents to be collected IMMEDIATELY

For this course, the following must be collected by each student immediately:

- 1) Your research proposal
- 2) A copy of a good post graduate thesis relevant to your research area. It must be
 - a *PhD thesis for a PhD student*
 - a *master or PhD thesis for a master student*
- 3) A copy of a “poor” and a “very good” paper relevant to your research topic.
 - *No review paper will be accepted.*
 - *The “very good” paper must have been published in a top ranking journal in your field.*
 - *The “poor” paper might have been published in any journal / conference proceeding.*

Class work

- **Prepare yourself mentally to work seriously in the class and to take active part in discussions.**
- Bring enough papers and stationary to work in the class and prepare assignment (A4 size papers, pen/pencil, stapler etc. as necessary).
- Class attendance will be taken in every session. Make sure that you sign on the attendance sheets. Otherwise your status will be recorded as absent (This will be followed strictly as required by audit).

Assignments

- Assignment submission: The first page must contain information including the following:
 - course code and title
 - title of the assignment
 - student name
 - student number
 - date of submission
- Punctuality: every student **must observe punctuality** in attending the classes and in assignment submission.
- Hardcopy of all assignments must be submitted on the due date. Late submission will not be accepted. Do not send a soft copy of any assignment.
- Each student must sign the assignment submission sheet **only** if he/she actually submitted the assignment.
- **Plagiarism: A sin !**

Assessment Method

- Assessment for this course will be based on: Attendance, participation in discussions, assignments, presentation etc.
- Criteria for passing this course:
 - 1) *Attendance ≥ 80%*
AND
 - 2) *Submission of all assignments and obtaining a pass mark in all (Pass mark being 60%)*
AND
 - 3) *Final presentation of the research proposal and obtaining a pass mark (Pass mark being 60%)*