# SS5798B: DISSERTATION

#### **Effective Term**

Semester B 2024/25

# Part I Course Overview

# **Course Title**

Dissertation

# **Subject Code**

SS - Social and Behavioural Sciences

#### **Course Number**

5798B

# **Academic Unit**

Social and Behavioural Sciences (SS)

# College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

#### **Course Duration**

Two Semesters

# **Credit Units**

0-6

#### Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

# **Medium of Instruction**

English

# **Medium of Assessment**

English

# **Prerequisites**

12 credits in the program including SS5783 Psychological Research Design and Analysis

#### **Precursors**

Nil

# **Equivalent Courses**

SS5798

#### **Exclusive Courses**

Nil

# Part II Course Details

**Abstract** 

The aim of this course is to enable students to demonstrate their ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. It is designed to foster independent thinking and to encourage academic debate on significant issues and principles of psychological research via individual supervision.

# Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

	CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	design and carry out psychological research under supervision;	30	X	x	X
2	integrate knowledge of psychological theories and research skills into the planning, design and implementation of their research; and	40	x	x	x
3	communicate effectively findings of psychological research in a scientific manner.	30	X	X	

#### A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

#### A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

# A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

# **Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)**

	LTAs	<b>Brief Description</b>	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Supervision	Students learn to integrate knowledge in psychological theories and research to formulate their own research questions/hypotheses via individual supervision sessions.  In addition, students conducting similar research will meet with their supervisor in a group to report progress of their research and discuss issues of common concern.		

2	Consultation sessions	Consultations on	1, 2	
		methodological,		
		statistical and other		
		technical issues will be		
		provided by instructors/		
		tutors. These sessions		
		are expected to provide		
		students with the		
		guidance that enable		
		them to process, analyze		
		and interpret findings of		
		their research in the most		
		effective and accurate		
		manner		

#### **Additional Information for LTAs**

#### Note

SS5798 and SS5798B are equivalent courses. The courses are designated for students in different modes of study admitted in 2021-22 or before. These courses cannot be repeated. Once started, switching between SS5798 and SS5798B is not allowed regardless of the changes in the mode of study. Only SS5798B will be offered to students admitted in 2022-23 or after.

SS5798 will only be offered to students of the part-time/combined study mode admitted in 2021-22 or before. The normal duration of the course is 2 semesters (Semester A & Semester B). The maximum extension duration of the course is 3 semesters (Summer term, Semester A & Semester B). After which no further extension is permitted. Each semester is charged 3 credits and summer term is charged 1 credit.

#### Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATS	s	CILO No.		Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1 Res	search Report (100%)	1, 2, 3	100	

#### Continuous Assessment (%)

100

# Assessment Rubrics (AR)

#### Assessment Task

Research Report (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

#### Criterion

Ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Effective communication of the findings.

#### Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence for the ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Strong evidence for effective communication of the findings.

#### Good

(B+, B, B-) Good evidence for the ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Good evidence for effective communication of the findings.

# Fair

(C+, C, C-) Fair evidence for the ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Fair evidence for effective communication of the findings.

# Marginal

(D) Limited evidence for the ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Limited evidence for effective communication of the findings.

#### **Failure**

(F) Insufficient evidence for the ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Insufficient evidence for effective communication of the findings.

#### **Assessment Task**

Research Report (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

#### Criterion

Ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Effective communication of the findings.

#### **Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence for the ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Strong evidence for effective communication of the findings.

#### Good

(B+, B) Good evidence for the ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Good evidence for effective communication of the findings.

# Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Fair or limited evidence for the ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Fair evidence for effective communication of the findings.

#### **Failure**

(F) Insufficient evidence for the ability to develop, plan and execute psychological research. Insufficient evidence for effective communication of the findings.

# **Part III Other Information**

#### **Keyword Syllabus**

There is no formal syllabus but the procedure will involve:

- · Determination of topic areas for research.
- · Reading assignment, development and preparation of a research proposal on a topic in line with the research interest of a supervisor.
- · Data gathering and analysis.
- · Preparation and presentation of the research report.

#### **Reading List**

# **Compulsory Readings**

	Title	
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# **Additional Readings**

	Title
1	Christensen, L. B. (2004). Experimental methodology (9th ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.
2	Cohen, B. H. (2001). Explaining psychological statistics (2nd ed.). New York: John Wiley & Sons.

Rosenthal, R., & Rosnow, R. L. (2008). Essentials of behavioral research: Methods and data analysis (3rd ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.