



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

**SO694**

## **LEADERSHIP THESIS**

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

<b>Unit code</b>	SO694														
<b>Unit name</b>	Leadership Thesis														
<b>Associated higher education awards</b>	Master of Social Science Leadership														
<b>Duration</b>	One semester														
<b>Level</b>	Advanced														
<b>Core/Elective</b>	Elective														
<b>Weighting</b>	Unit credit points: 30 Course credit points: 120														
<b>Student workload</b>	<p><i>Face-to-face on site</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Contact hours</td> <td>117 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reading, study, and preparation</td> <td>177 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assignment preparation</td> <td>156 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>450 hours</b></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>External</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Engagement with study materials</td> <td>270 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assignment preparation</td> <td>180 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>450 hours</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.</p>	Contact hours	117 hours	Reading, study, and preparation	177 hours	Assignment preparation	156 hours	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>450 hours</b>	Engagement with study materials	270 hours	Assignment preparation	180 hours	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>450 hours</b>
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<b>Delivery mode</b>	Face-to-face on site External														
<b>Prerequisites/ Corequisites/ Restrictions</b>	<i>Prerequisite</i> SO693 Research Proposal														
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>The coursework units in the Master of Social Science Leadership can address only a sample of the many relevant and important issues, topics and problems relevant to the applied social sciences; therefore, this unit provides students with the opportunity to pursue deeper understandings of their specific interest areas. By undertaking in-depth studies of appropriate topics of their own choice, where these complement the coursework units and are consistent with the aims of the course, this unit opens the way for important contributions to be made to the fund of applicable knowledge and expertise. It also provides the student with the personal and professional growth experiences that will help to equip them to be leaders in their field.</p> <p>In this unit, students will address the contextual integration of Christian worldview into their research investigations, as well as exploring implications for leadership. This unit therefore focuses on the leadership-enhancing personal and professional development of students who engage in independent inquiry through investigatory activities.</p>														
<b>Prescribed text(s)</b>	Relevant to the research topic.														

<p><b>Recommended readings</b></p>	<p><b>Books</b></p> <p>Barling, J. (2014). <i>The science of leadership: Lessons from research for organizational leaders</i>. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Bui, Y. (2014). <i>How to write a master's thesis</i> (2nd ed.). London, UK: Sage.</p> <p>DeMarrais, K., &amp; Lapan, S. D. (Eds.). (2004). <i>Foundations for research methods of inquiry in education and the social sciences</i>. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.</p> <p>Denzin, N. K., &amp; Lincoln, Y. S. (Eds.). (2011). <i>The handbook of qualitative research</i> (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.</p> <p>Lovitts, B., &amp; Wert, E. (2008). <i>Developing quality dissertations in the social sciences: A graduate student's guide to achieving excellence</i>. Sterling, VA: Stylus.</p> <p>Lunenburg, F., &amp; Irby, B. (2007). <i>Writing a successful thesis or dissertation: Tips and strategies for students in the social and behavioural sciences</i>. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press.</p> <p>Moore, B. N., &amp; Parker, R. (2006). <i>Critical thinking</i> (8th ed.). Boston, MA: McGraw Hill.</p> <p>Punch, K. F. (2014). <i>Introduction to social research: Quantitative &amp; qualitative approaches</i> (3rd ed.). London, UK: Sage.</p> <p>Swetnam, D., &amp; Swetnam, R. (2001). <i>Writing your dissertation</i> (3rd ed.). Oxford, UK: How to Books.</p> <p>Uhl-Bien, M. &amp; Ospina, S.(Eds). (2012). <i>Advancing relational leadership: A dialogue among perspectives</i>. Charlotte, NC: Information Age</p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as The Holy Bible: The New International Version 2011 (NIV 2011) or The Holy Bible: New King James Version (NKJV).</p> <p>These and other translations may be accessed free on-line at <a href="http://www.biblegateway.com">http://www.biblegateway.com</a>. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
<p><b>Specialist resource requirements</b></p>	<p>Nil</p>
<p><b>Content</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Completion of a comprehensive and critical literature review</li> <li>2. Detailed reading of the literature associated with the selected research methodology</li> <li>3. Planning and implementation of the study schedule within appropriate and agreed upon timelines</li> <li>4. Detailed information/data analyses with appropriate validation strategies</li> <li>5. Synthesis of the outcomes of the information/data analyses</li> <li>6. Preparation and critique of the draft thesis</li> <li>7. Thesis presentation and examination</li> </ol>
<p><b>Learning outcomes</b></p>	<p>On completion of this unit of study, students will have provided evidence that they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. critically reviewed and analysed the essential literature related to their chosen topic;</li> <li>2. designed and conducted a study using a methodological approach that is critical, perceptive and constructive, and congruent with the focus of the investigation;</li> <li>3. implemented appropriate information/data gathering and organising strategies;</li> <li>4. performed rigorous information/data analyses through the use of varied, valid and reliable techniques appropriate to the selected study;</li> <li>5. developed comprehensive, reliable, and defensible conclusions to the study; and</li> <li>6. communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammars, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing, and presentation.</li> </ol>

<b>Assessment tasks</b>	<p><b>Task 1: Thesis</b></p> <p>Prepare a thesis building on the research proposal and CHC Expedited or HREC ethics application (if required) submitted for SO693 Research Proposal.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 18,000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 100%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-6</p> <p>Assessed: As negotiated</p>
<b>Unit summary</b>	<p>The Leadership Thesis enables students to synthesise the topics researched as a part of the units SO653 Research Methods and SO693 Research Proposal into a comprehensive thesis, as well as giving them an opportunity to investigate a social sciences topic that is of particular interest to them.</p>

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