

Course	BUSN 6140 – Business Research Analysis
Term	Spring II, 2007
Instructor	Name: Dr. Christopher B. Kummer Phone: 269 92 93 - 54 Email: kummer@webster.ac.at
Course Description	The student examines the application of the tools and methods of research to management problems. The course focuses on the nature of research; the use of research in decision making; decision making; research concepts and methods for the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data from surveys, experiments, and observational studies; and the evaluation, use, and presentation of research findings.
Prerequisites	Completion of all other required courses in this major except BUSN 6200.
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will be able to find relevant data and information for their research using the research tools and databases in Passports.• Students will be able to properly document their research paper.• Students will be able to write a substantive, original empirical research study.
Textbook and other Materials	Readings: Textbook: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Booth, W. C., G. G. Colomb and J. M. Williams (2003): The Craft of Research, 2nd ed., Chicago & London: University of Chicago Press. (ISBN 0-226-06568-5) Websites: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Course materials can be found in Webster's Connection System:: http://connections.webster.edu/
Grading	Grading: Grades will be based on student performance on the term paper (100%). The paper should be approx. 30 pages DIN-A4 (excl. table of contents, bibliography, appendices, etc.), 1.5 line spacing, font size 12 pts. The paper will be graded based on the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research/Content 30%• Logic/Structure 30%• Originality/Personal Contribution 30%• Formalities 10%

Activities

Students can choose from a given list of topics at the beginning of the course. This list will be available end of February and students can choose a topic before the course even starts. For an individual discussion before class starts, please make an appointment by email (kummer@webster.ac.at).

N.B.: This is not a traditional class with lots of ex-cathedra teaching. A substantial amount of class time will be devoted for the individual discussion and revision of your research papers (“coaching”) and for doing the actual research work.

University Policies

Cheating

Any student found cheating on any part of the course work (homework assignment, term paper, quiz, exam, etc.) will automatically be given an “F” for the course. Any student found to be helping another student to cheat will likewise be given an “F” for the course. In each case, the student will also be put on disciplinary probation for the remainder of her or his stay at Webster. If the student is found to have engaged in cheating a second time, s/he will be automatically expelled from the University.

Attendance

Class attendance is obligatory. Instructors will take attendance at each class session and reduce a student’s course grade by half a letter grade for each full week of class missed. Any student who misses three or more full weeks of class will automatically be given an “F” for the course.

Course Policies

Weekly Schedule

Week 1	Introduction to Research <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion of and overview to the course• Introduction to Research• Topics• Introduction to resources offered by Webster St. Louis (ca. 60 min)
Week 2	Individual Coaching <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1-to-1 individual coaching, appointments in class 1 or by e-mail
Week 3	Research Techniques <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Empirical Work• Formal aspects and structure of a thesis• Individual discussion
Week 4	Individual Coaching <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1-to-1 individual coaching, appointments in class 3 or by e-mail
Week 5	Individual Coaching <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1-to-1 individual coaching, appointments in class 3 or by e-mail

Week 6

Individual Research

- Individual research for thesis
- No presence in class!

Week 7

Individual Coaching

- Presenting research
- Individual discussion of research paper drafts

Week 8

Research paper due

- Please hand in the research paper:
 - 1) as an electronic version (word or pdf file) by email to kummer@webster.ac.at or on CDROM with your hard copy (see next point), AND
 - 2) as a hard copy version (submitting also an envelope and/or CD-Rom containing key research note cards, copies of articles, outlines, documentations etc.).

**Additional
Information**