

## Undergraduate Education Coursework Guidelines

Module Code / Title: EDUC3027: Dissertation

Module leader: Dr Kiki Messiou

Assignment Title: Dissertation – Individual titles

Word count: 8000  $\pm$  10% (i.e. 7200 – 8800)

*This is the number of words from the start of your work to the last sentence and will include all quotes and authors' names acknowledged within the main body of the text. It does **not** include the reference/bibliography list, the title page or any appendices.*

Submission date:

### Notes:

- This assignment must be uploaded to the module BlackBoard by 3pm on the due date or a penalty may be applied (see EduNet for details);
- Work submitted must be in Word format (do not submit in other formats such as PDF and Works as these do not submit correctly and/or cannot be downloaded and printed for marking);
- This work is expected to adhere to the following Programme requirements for submission (at least 1.5 line spacing; word processed; word count clearly indicated and within  $\pm$  10% of stated word count; font Times New Roman 12 or Lucida Sans 11; page numbers on each page including the references and appendices). Marks may be deducted for not following these requirements in their entirety.

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**Learning Outcome 1:** Design, research and produce a significant, independent piece of work.

#### **Specific guidelines relating to this learning outcome:**

For the dissertation you are required to design independently a small-scale study. You are expected to design your study and justify the decisions for the specific design, taking into account your research questions and relevant studies in your chosen topic. You are also expected to carry out the research using relevant research methods. A list of what you should include in the dissertation will be provided in the core sessions.

**Learning Outcome 2:** Demonstrate appropriate analysis and criticality on a focused topic within education

#### **Specific guidelines relating to this learning outcome:**

Based on the kind of study that you designed, quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods, you are expected to analyse the data collected. You need to demonstrate that a thorough analysis has taken place. Where possible you should include samples of evidence of your analysis (for example, interview transcripts and how these were coded) in an Appendix. Criticality has to be demonstrated throughout the dissertation; in the review of the

literature, choice of methodology and methods, presentation of findings, and discussion which links your findings to existing research.

**Learning Outcome 3:** Present a significant piece of work in an appropriate format.

**Specific guidelines relating to this learning outcome:**

Like any other piece of work you have to present a coherent argument and follow academic conventions for your dissertation.

**Other guidelines additional to those linked to the stated learning outcomes:**

Information will be given in the two core sessions.

***What would an outstanding piece of work look like?***

An outstanding piece of work will have a very clear focus and demonstrate a high level of criticality throughout. At level 6 we expect to see a wider range of readings and critical analysis of the readings than just description. We are looking for a very well designed study, thorough data collection and analysis, constructive use of the literature and the development of an argument supported by the study's findings. The work will also be excellent in terms of presentation, grammar and spelling and will follow the expected conventions for academic writing and acknowledgement of sources.