

Boorowa Central School
Community and Family Studies
HSC ASSESSMENT TASK 1
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY



YEAR GROUP: 12
COURSE: HSC CAFS
TASK WEIGHT: 20%

DATE ISSUED: Term 1, Week 1 Tuesday 11 February 2020
DATE DUE: Term 1, Week 10 Friday 3 April 2020

COURSE OUTCOME/S:

A student will:

- H2.2** Evaluates strategies to contribute to positive relationships and the wellbeing of individuals, groups, families and communities
- H4.1** Justifies and applies appropriate research methodologies
- H4.2** Communicates ideas, debates issues and justifies opinions
- H7.1** Appreciates differences among individuals, groups and families within communities and values their contributions to society
- H7.4** Values the place of management in coping with a variety of role expectations

TASK DESCRIPTION:

Students are required to complete an Independent Research Project while studying the module of research methodology. The focus of the project should be related to one or more of the following topics:

- Individuals
- Groups
- Families
- Communities
- Resource Management

The project consists of three parts including:

- **The project plan 5%**
 - ↳ provides an initial summary and outlines of the complete research process to be located in the Appendix section of the report
- **The diary 5 %**
 - ↳ A record of ongoing process
 - ↳ A record of values, attitudes and feelings
 - ↳ An honest reflection on problems encountered and their solutions
 - ↳ Recording of conversations, contacts, readings and sources of secondary data
 - ↳ Reflects a proposed timeline
 - ↳ To be located in the Appendix section of the report
- **The completed product or report 15%**
 - ↳ Is independent, the student's own work
 - ↳ Is research based
 - ↳ Reflects time and commitment allocated in the overall context of the course

Stages in the development of the Independent Research Project:

- Determine an area of interest
- Develop a focus question or hypothesis
- Select appropriate research methodology
- Prepare a project plan indicating sequence/timeframe for task completion
- Collecting and recording data
- Analyse and interpret data
- Constructing a bibliography and appendix
- Evaluation of process, commenting on experience from research process and forming suggestions for further research

➤ Prepare final report

Note:

An assessment task which is not handed in on the due date will receive 20% less per day it is late. You must be present at school and in class and hand in your assignment to your class teacher yourself. Genuine misadventure or illness which is supported by documentation (e.g. A Medical Certificate or a letter from a parent/guardian) must be handed in with all late assignments

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:

Use this criteria as a checklist to make sure all areas have been covered throughout the report writing stage and to monitor your progress

Presentation of Task	Mark/Value Total 25%	Date Achieved
Project Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presents the topic area ▪ Recognises why you chose the topic. ▪ Outlines how the topic relates to the CAFS course content. ▪ Puts forward the research question or hypothesis. ▪ Offers an explanation of how you developed that question or hypothesis. ▪ States the methodologies (including the sampling methods) you will use and why. ▪ Addresses any ethical issues you might face, and the strategies you will use to overcome them. ▪ Lists the sources of data, resources and actions you will use in conducting your research. ▪ Timeline is clear and detailed 	5	Tuesday 7 ^h February, 2020
Project Diary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clearly comments on research process and feelings involved in completing the IRP ▪ Record of thoughts with regular dated entries ▪ Evidence of questionnaires and interview ▪ Problems encountered and possible solutions ▪ Suggest ways to improve for next time 	5	Weekly Checks each Friday to monitor progress Ongoing
Report Section		
The report should be presented clearly, in a logical sequence and with following components:		
Title Page <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Developed a title page focusing on the topic of report ▪ Added interesting pictures to capture the attention of the reader ▪ Included name, class, date due and teacher 	2	Final Due - Week 10 Friday 7 February 2020
Contents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All pages listing items in report ▪ Written in sections ▪ Pages numbered 	2	Final Due - Week 10 Friday 7 February 2020
Acknowledgements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted all people who participated in research ▪ Gained permission to note names in report ▪ Included an explanation of what they assisted with ▪ Included a description on how the person or people assisted 	2	Final Due - Week 10 Friday 7 February 2020
Abstract (½ - 1 page) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outlined the topic, aim and purpose of the research ▪ Provided summary of report (methodologies, sources of data) ▪ Presented findings of research (major findings and conclusion) 	3	Draft due –Term 4, Week 8 Final Due - Week 10

Body of the Report

Body of the Report		
Introduction (1 page)	3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Described the topic ▪ Outlined the background to selection of topic (why it was chosen) ▪ Highlighted the research question/hypothesis (what the researcher expects to find out) ▪ Explain how it is related to CAFS 		Draft due –Term 4, Week 4 Final Due - Week 10
Literature Review	6	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Summary of existing data that is relevant to the topic (at least 5) ▪ Complete a resource scaffold for each (see appendix 1) for all five which includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Positive and negative aspects of each ↳ Analysis of secondary resources ↳ Relevance of literature checked ↳ Relevant quotes/statistics to support research 		Draft due –Term 4, Week 5 Final Due - Week 10 Friday 14 February 2020
Methodologies (1-2 pages)	5	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Description of the types of methods used to collect data (clearly outlines sampling and amount surveyed). You need to describe all methods even if you didn't use them and explain why you didn't use them – WHO, WHAT, WHERE AND WHY ▪ Sequence steps followed to collect data (provides the reader with the complete picture of the process undertaken) 		Draft due – Term 1, Week 6 Final Due - Week 10 Friday 14 February 2020
Results (4 pages max)	5	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presented primary data collected in graphs, tables, charts ▪ Descriptions of each – not an analysis ▪ Use of appropriate graphs 		Draft due – Term 1, Week 7 Final Due - Week 10 Friday 6 March 2020
Analysis and Discussion (1 ½ - 2 page)	8	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Results interpreted both for and against the hypothesis (why the results came out the way they did) ▪ Discussion of results (links primary to secondary research) ▪ Shows the relationship between the data and the hypothesis/questions) what does your data tell in relation to your question/hypothesis (trends/patterns) and the impact ▪ Express opinions of research 		Draft due – Term 1, Week 8 Final Due - Week 10 Friday 6 March 2020
Summary and Conclusion (1 page min)	3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Summary of the findings (no new information) ▪ Conclusions drawn from the research with problems encountered with ways to improve for next time (recommendations for future research) ▪ Outcome of the investigation stated (an answer to the hypothesis/ question) 		Draft due –Term 1, Week 9 Final Due - Week 10 Friday 6 March 2020
End of Body of Report		
Bibliography/ Referencing	3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All references cited in alphabetical order ▪ Listed all components of Harvard Referencing ▪ In text referencing 		Final Due - Week 10 Friday 20 March 2020
Appendix	3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included all items referred to in research, even those that are not necessarily used in the report ▪ Interview and personal communication transcripts included ▪ Interview, survey, questionnaire added ▪ All source clearly labelled, easy to refer to throughout IRP 		Final Due - Week 10 Friday 20 March 2020
TOTAL /45:	45	

Appendix 1: Literature Review Scaffold

Title of the Article:
Date (day, month, year):
Author:
Source:
Publisher/place of publishing:
Summary of information and page numbers (key points):
Relevance to research topic:
Positive and negative aspects:
Relevant quotes/statistics to support research: (with correct referencing)

Appendix 2: Sample Diary Template 1

Date	Action	Resources	Summary	Effectiveness
27/11/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brainstormed all areas of interest for research Mind mapped my thoughts (could provide copy of the mind map) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All previous notes on focus topics Looked at past students topics Looked on the internet at various websites to find info on topics on interest (list web sites and info gained) Discussed topics with teacher and other students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have chosen the topics of families and communities There seemed to be a lot of research in this area and it's an area I would like to explore 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This was a worthwhile experience, I am fairly certain that I have chosen my focus topic for researching The brainstorming and discussion was a worthwhile process

Appendix 3: Sample Diary Template 2

Week 1

Date	Activity (e.g. interviews, phone calls, library research)	Notes (include positive and/or negative experiences or challenges you faced completing each activity)	Recommendations