# BHMNSc (Honours) – Research Projects

12-unit Thesis HMST6001; HMST6002; HMST6003; HMST6004

2-unit Research Projects: HMST4945; HMST6965; HMST6903

## Information for Supervisors

This information relates to supervisors of students undertaking their BHMNSc Honours.

Students will undertake a 12-unit thesis research project and a 2-unit research project (HMST4945) and may also take a 2-unit directed study course as an elective. The aim is that students gain an understanding and experience of the research process. It also gives the students an opportunity to reflect on if they would like to go on to further higher degree research opportunities and provides the necessary opportunity, subject to high honours class.

Research projects undertaken in the honours program can be related but must be distinct. For example, one project could be a rapid review, one could be a cross-sectional study, and one could be an intervention study, but all can be the same topic. Supervisors and students are collectively responsible for ensuring that each project is distinct.

### Expected workload

The expected workload for the 2-unit courses, including written components, is 120 to 150 hours. For the 12-unit course, the expected workload, including written components, is approximately 720 hours across the year. This equates to approximately 240 hours in the first semester (if you have also undertaken 4 units in other courses) and 480 hours in the second semester.

The exact plan for the project is to be made by the student in consultation with the supervisor and detailed in the study plan as part of each course. It is possible for students to undertake individual research projects under the direction and guidance of individuals who are not academic staff members of the school of HMNS. In these situations, there must still be an academic staff member of the school to take a supervisor responsibility. However, the majority of the mentoring may be carried out by other approved individuals (e.g. post graduate research students; industry partners).

## Project

Available projects are listed on the HMNS website. Suitable projects include literature reviews (systematic, narrative and scoping), analyses of secondary data and original data collection. Other projects outside of those listed may also be available and suitable. The requirement for the project is that:

- The project must be feasible in terms of complexity and the length of the study: one semester 4-5 months for 2-unit courses and two semesters for 12-unit courses.
- The project provides genuine skill development opportunities for the student.

- Supervisors or research team have the capacity to facilitate analyses required for the project.
- The necessary equipment and resources for the project are available.
- Ethics approval has been received or is likely have a quick / feasible turnaround (e.g. low and negligible risk) and is possible within the timeline of the project.
- For HMST4925, students will also need to be able to demonstrate that they can achieve at least three standards applicable to their eventual profession.

## Responsibilities of the Principal Supervisor

- assist the student to develop a research proposal that is feasible within the timeframe;
- discuss mutual expectations and obligations with the student at the commencement of the research;
- meet with the student (virtual or in person, individually or as a group) at mutually agreed intervals throughout the project;
- provide timely and constructive feedback to the student;
- ensure that ethics approvals are obtained in a timely manner and intellectual property arrangements are secured before the research starts;
- ensure that the student is made aware of, and given instruction in safety procedures appropriate to the field of study;
- mark the assessment pieces as required by the course;
- advise the Course Coordinators of any serious concerns or impediments to the student's progress;
- reach agreement with the student regarding authorship of any publication, presentation or research output that results from the honours research.
- ensure that the projects conducted across the honours are distinct for assessment purposes.

## Responsibilities of the Associate Supervisor

- provide expertise in support of the student's research project;
- maintain regular communication with the student;
- assume the role of the principal supervisor during any brief absences.

## Responsibilities of the Student

- discuss needs and expectations with supervisor throughout the program;
- establish agreed methods of working and timing of meeting with supervisor;
- maintain progress in accordance with the timeline negotiated with supervisor;
- receive direction, advice and criticism of supervisor in good faith;
- take responsibility for organising meetings;
- discuss any difficulties and problems with supervisor in a timely manner, and share responsibility for seeking solutions;
- complete all the requirements/assessments for the course(s);
- be familiar and comply with requirements relating to ethical conduct, intellectual property, authorship, safety and the location and storage of data.

## Assessment

Please see the associated course profiles for information on the assessment pieces. All research projects require a final report on the project and may require a knowledge translation piece. It will be important to discuss the appropriate format for these pieces well before the due date.