

UNIT TITLE: Public Policy and Research**UNIT CODE: IFP103****UNIT TITLE:****DISCIPLINE CODE:****Credit Points: 12****Semester(s) of Offer: 2 (2007), 1 and 2 (2008), 2 (2009), 1 and 2 (2010) etc.****Year(s) of Offer: 2007 onwards****Prerequisite(s): Nil****Co-requisite(s): Nil****Coordinator: Rod Wissler****1. Rationale**

This unit is designed to introduce the world of public policy and specifically to raise awareness about the complex and problematic relationship between research and public policy

2. Aims

This unit introduces a number of themes and issues on the relationship between research and public policy; these will help you to better understand the world of public policy. You will become more confident in dealing with that public policy world, whether that be in working within it, seeking to influence it, or trying to obtain something from it.

3. Objectives

On successful completion of this course you will have:

- gained a greater awareness and understanding of the nature of research/policy relationships
- a greater understanding of public policy debates in Australia and you will have developed skills to better manage these relationships
- the dynamics and politics of the policy making process and the extent to which research influences that process
- developed your skills in putting together research proposals and to conduct research projects.

4. Content

- a) The relationship between research and public policy.
- b) The role of public policy in framing research effort by engaging with issues concerning the nature, purpose and impact of research at global, national and local level.

5. Teaching and Learning**Learning Activities**

You will be involved with other students on this course in:

- group discussions in the online moderated discussion forum
- project work through guided activities; and
- tasks and reflection on what you are learning

Resources for learning

This is an online course. Set texts and other reading material will be available. There are online quizzes, case studies and activities that will help you reflect on your ongoing learning.

6. Assessment

Summative Assessment

a) Type: Online forum

Description: Each module has an online moderated discussion forum. You must participate in the forum as part of the overall assessment will be based on your participation.

Due date: Ongoing
Weight: 50%

b) Type: Workbook

Description: You will be asked to select a field of research and public policy that can be the basis for participating in the activities presented throughout this module. You will have to locate this in an organisational context. You will complete a series of activities that will allow you to determine that public policy implication of the research; present a project proposal to management, think about how objections to the project may be overcome and prepare a funding submission.

You will be provided with an online workbook where you will be expected to summarise and reflect on what you have done.

Due date: End of unit
Weight: 50%

7. Resource Materials

Reference materials are provided online in the unit's 'Resources' section and throughout the body of the website. They include:

- Documents for download
- Links to offsite websites and web pages

You will also have access to:

- An online chat facility
- A personal journal/blog site
- Online discussion forums

8. Risk Management

There are no out-of-the-ordinary risks associated with this unit.