



UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

COM656: INDEPENDENT STUDY

Course Name (English)	INDEPENDENT STUDY APPROVED
Course Code	COM656
MQF Credit	7
Course Description	<p>This course offers the opportunity for students to discover their understanding of the communication and media field of study. The area of study in communication and media involved will be specifically catered to each programme within the faculty. Students will engage in discussions with their supervisor to complete the assessment given. The central theme of the report will be based upon reflective and analysis of different studies in the area of communication and media. Students will be required to explore each reflective piece and analysis with the guidance of their supervisor. The whole assessment will be based upon how students propose their ideas according to the field related and portray their thoughts and ideas that encompass the whole communication and media practices with the theories learned throughout their studies. Students should maintain constant contact with their supervisor as this assessment requires discussion and approval. One of the most important aspects is a student should read and analyze reading materials such as books, journals, research and previous studies. There may also be additional reading, research and discussion assigned by the supervisor. At the end of the semester, students will be required to submit their reflective piece and analysis of their chosen topic.</p>
Transferable Skills	Critical thinking, problem solving skills, creative thinking
Teaching Methodologies	Case Study, Reading Activity, Discussion, Self-directed Learning, Supervision
CLO	CLO1 Display values and ethical relevant in independent study CLO2 Present ideas related to independent study through verbal communication CLO3 Construct problem solving skills in issues related to independent study CLO4 Demonstrate autonomous learning in independent study
Pre-Requisite Courses	No course recommendations
Topics	
1. Exploring the subject matter 1.1) 1.1. Explore the topic or issue related to the area of interest 1.2) 1.2 Writing style and format	
2. Finding the reading material I 2.1) 2.1 Information seeking and organizing literature review 2.2) 2.3 Steps in writing literature review	
3. Finding the reading material II 3.1) 3.1 Information seeking and organizing literature review 3.2) 3.2 Steps in writing literature review 3.3) 3.3 Writing the research proposal	
4. Outlining the subject matter 4.1) 4.1 Present the objectives of the paper 4.2) 4.2 Provide the structure of the paper	
5. Discussion on the subject matter with supervisor 5.1) 5.1 Background 5.2) 5.2 Provide thoughts and ideas on the topic	
6. Proposal approval with supervisor 6.1) N/A	

7. Refining the proposal 7.1) N/A
8. Writing process: Introduction to the area of interest 8.1) N/A
9. Writing process: Issues related to the area of interest 9.1) N/A
10. Writing process: Discussion 10.1) N/A
11. Writing process: Suggestions 11.1) N/A
12. Writing process: Conclusion 12.1) N/A
13. Refining the writing process 13.1) N/A
14. Review and submission 14.1) N/A

Assessment Breakdown	%
Continuous Assessment	100.00%

Details of Continuous Assessment	Assessment Type	Assessment Description	% of Total Mark	CLO
	Assignment	Proposal writing	30%	CLO1
	Discussion	Consultation and discussion with supervisor through the different stages of writing.	20%	CLO4
	Written Report	Assessment of report writing and references	10%	CLO3
	Written Report	Assessment of report writing and discussion	40%	CLO2

Reading List	Recommended Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Chatfield 2017, <i>Critical Thinking : Your Guide to Effective Argument, Successful Analysis and Independent Study</i>, Sage Publications Ltd London, United Kingdom [ISBN: 1473947146] • Dass, Laura Christ, Masturah Alias, Naginder Kaur, Nalini Arumugam, Noorkhida Abdul Murad, and Surina Nayan 2015, <i>Step Up Academic Writing Skills</i>, UiTM Shah Alam
	Reference Book Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ahmad, Jasmine, Nor Suziwana Tahir, and Yarith Ahmad 2015, <i>101 FAQs on Research for Undergraduates (with pocket guide)</i>, UiTM publication Shah Alam • Robert S. Fortner P. Mark Fackler 2014, <i>The Handbook of Media and Mass Communication Theory</i>, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. [ISBN: 9780470675052] • Gurevitch, Michael, and James Curran. 2005, <i>Mass Media and Society</i>, 4th Ed., Bloomsbury USA: USA [ISBN: 978-034088499]
Article/Paper List	This Course does not have any article/paper resources	
Other References	This Course does not have any other resources	