

400-level in the Department of Management

Welcome!!

Important Dates

MANT 480 (BCom(Hons), PGDipCom)	Due date
Expression of interest	14 May 2010
Draft to be handed in to supervisor	5pm, 24 September 2010
FINAL SUBMISSION	5pm, 29 October 2010

Expression of interest

Please email Kaye Jeffries (kaye.jeffries@otago.ac.nz) with a brief outline of your research topic and the name of the staff member who has agreed to be your supervisor.

Grades

The award of final marks is by a committee of fourth year examiners and is done at the end of the year. Semester one papers will be returned to Registry as “incomplete” until the Examiner’s committee meets at the end of your course in November

Any grades suggested by your teacher or supervisor during the year are provisional only! The Examiner’s committee looks across an individual’s record and also across the average marks for particular papers. There is always a second examiner for dissertations and projects. Postgraduate marks are subject to external moderation (which will not affect the particular marks – but may recommend future changes).

Expectations

MANT 480 can be:

a) A theoretical dissertation

A student may undertake a ‘library-based’ survey which critiques the literature on a topic, and makes a contribution to theory. We would expect the student to thoroughly investigate the literature on a topic after negotiating the research methodology and reporting format with their supervisor. An example may be that a student undertakes a study like “*Significant determinants of employee loyalty*”. The focus of the dissertation is the development of theory. This is a high risk option.

b) Empirical research not conducted in any specific organisation

A student may be undertaking a study like “*An empirical investigation of employee loyalty in the New Zealand Health Sector*”. We would expect the student to perhaps survey a wide variety of people involved in Health provision and to draw conclusions from that data. The focus of the dissertation is the primary research, supported by the literature review. While the dissertation may prove useful to a wide variety of users in the Health industry, no particular provider would have commissioned it. As before, we would expect the student to negotiate the methodology and reporting format with their supervisor.

c) **Empirical research conducted in an organisation**

A student may be undertaking a study like “*An empirical investigation of employee loyalty at Dunedin Hospital*”. We would expect the student to develop an appropriate methodology for gathering the data and writing a dissertation (MANT480/590/591). We would expect the student to negotiate the methodology and reporting format with their supervisor. As with b), the focus of the dissertation is primary research, supported by the literature review.

MANT480 final documents should be between 10,000 and 15,000 words (15,000 words being the maximum)

Resources

\$125 is available to each student for printing and binding of your dissertation; or you may choose to use it to facilitate your research (ie send out surveys, postage etc). Please see Leanne or Kaye about this.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Alan Geare (alan.geare@otago.ac.nz) or Kaye Jeffries (kaye.jeffries@otago.ac.nz)