



YEAR 12 COMMUNITY AND FAMILY STUDIES

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT

Due Date: Project Plan – Friday 3 rd November Week 4 @ 3:30pm Project Diary and Report – 6 th December Week 9 @ 3:30pm	Assessment Name: Independent Research Project
Mark: /30	Weighting: 30 %

SYLLABUS OUTCOMES TO BE ASSESSED:

H4.1 **Justifies** and **applies** appropriate research methodologies

H4.2 **Communicates** ideas, **debates** issues & justifies opinions

DIRECTIVES TO BE ASSESSED:

Justify – Support an argument or conclusion

Apply – Use, utilise, employ in a particular situation

Communicate - share or exchange information, news, or ideas

Debate - argue about (a subject), especially in a formal manner.

TASK DESCRIPTION:

You are to **apply** appropriate research methodologies to a topic of your choice to **communicate** ideas, **debate** issues and **justify** opinions in a detailed report called the Independent Research Project (IRP). The topic should be relevant to the Community and Family Studies (CAFS) syllabus and fit into one or more of the following areas:

- Individuals
- Groups
- Families
- Communities
- Resource Management

Part A – Project Plan (5 marks)

This should be written as a report that explains what topic your IRP will be on and where it fits in the CAFS syllabus, description and **justification** of research methodologies you will use, a basic timeline and a proposal of the finished product.

Part B – Project Diary (5 marks)

You will be required to **communicate** each step of your IRP in the project diary (please see example diary entry included in this package). You should write in your diary 3-4 times a week. Your diary should be a record of ongoing process and an honest reflection of problems encountered.

Part C – The Product (20 marks)

You will be required to complete your Independent Research Project (IRP) as per the syllabus guidelines on a topic of your choice. It should **communicate** your ideas, **debate** issues and **justify** opinions throughout the body of the report. It must be research based (which means you should 'find something out' or add to your existing knowledge). It must also reflect the time and commitment allocated to it in the overall context of the course.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA – STUDENT CHECKLIST:

You will be assessed on your ability to:

Project Plan

- Is your project plan typed and is it roughly an A4 page (at 12 point font)?
- Do you state your research question, problem statement or hypothesis?
- Do you explain how your topic relates to CAFS by stating the selected course content area?

Check your assessment booklet for the PHS Assessment Policy

- Do you explain what you aim to find in your research?
- Have you described the research methods you intend to use – both primary (including sample method and size) and secondary?
- Have you justified why these research methods will be appropriate?
- Have you given a brief weekly timeline of how you will be completing your IRP?
- Have you proposed what the outcome of your IRP will be?

Project Diary

- Have you written in your diary at least 3-4 times a week?
- Do your entries record values, attitudes and feelings towards the task?
- Do your entries reflect honestly on problems encountered and their solutions?
- Do your entries record conversations, contacts, readings and sources of secondary data?
- Do your entries reflect the proposed timeline (roughly) from your project plan?

The Product

Have you followed the following process?

Planning for research

- formulating a research proposal
- managing resources, e.g. time, materials

Conducting research

- accessing sources of data
- collecting and recording data
- documenting actions and issues

Interpreting research

- presenting research findings
- analysing research results
- drawing conclusions

The Report:

- Does it have a cover page?
- Does it have a contents page?
- Does it have an introduction (brief overview of objectives, research methods used and intended outcomes?)
- Does it have your evidence of primary research? (surveys, case studies, interviews, observations, literature reviews)
- Does it have your primary research analysis? (graphs, tables, quotes)
- Does it have your evidence of secondary research? (internet, books, newspapers, magazines, DVDs)
- Does it have your secondary research analysis?
- Does it have a final conclusion?
- Does it have a detailed bibliography?
- Does it have an appendix?
- Do you use direct quoting and referencing throughout?
- Does every page have a heading and subheadings?
- Is it approximately 3000 words?

MARKING GUIDELINES

Project Plan Guideline	Mark/Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outstanding justification of appropriate research methodologies through the submission of a detailed report that includes ALL of the following: states the research topic, an explanation of how it fits into the CAFS course, explains aims of the report, describes research methods intended to be used (primary and secondary) including a justification of why these methods are appropriate, a timeline of how it will be completed and a proposed outcome 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highly justifies appropriate research methodologies through the submission of a report that includes ALL of the following: states the research topic, an explanation of how it fits into the CAFS course, explains aims of the report, describes research methods intended to be used (primary and secondary) including a justification of why these methods are appropriate, a timeline of how it will be completed and a proposed outcome 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sound justification of appropriate research methodologies through the submission of a report that includes up to 4 of the following: states the research topic, an explanation of how it fits into the CAFS course, explains aims of the report, describes research methods intended to be used (primary and secondary) including a justification of why these methods are appropriate, a timeline of how it will be completed and a proposed outcome 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basic justification of appropriate research methodologies through the submission of a report that includes up to 3 of the following: states the research topic, an explanation of how it fits into the CAFS course, explains aims of the report, describes research methods intended to be used (primary and secondary) including a justification of why these methods are appropriate, a timeline of how it will be completed and a proposed outcome 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited justification of appropriate research methodologies through the submission of a report that includes up to 2 of the following: states the research topic, an explanation of how it fits into the CAFS course, explains aims of the report, describes research methods intended to be used (primary and secondary) including a justification of why these methods are appropriate, a timeline of how it will be completed and a proposed outcome 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Section not attempted 	0

MARKING GUIDELINES

Project Diary Guideline	Mark/Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outstanding communication of ideas, issues and progress of IRP through the use of a detailed diary. It must be: filled in 3-4 times a week with entries that contain detailed information on problems/solutions encountered during research, log of research methodologies used and when, honest reflections on task and reflects proposed timeline. 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highly communicates ideas, issues and progress of IRP through the use of a diary. It must be: filled in 3-4 times a week with entries that contain information on problems/solutions encountered during research, log of research methodologies used and when, honest reflections on task and reflects proposed timeline. 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sound communication of ideas, issues and progress of IRP through the use of a diary. It must be: filled in up to 2 times a week with entries that contain information on problems/solutions encountered during research AND/OR log of research methodologies used and when AND/OR honest reflections on task AND/OR reflects proposed timeline. 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basic communication of ideas, issues and progress of IRP through the use of a diary. It must be: filled in up to 2 times a week with entries that contain information on problems/solutions encountered during research OR log of research methodologies used and when OR honest reflections on task OR reflects proposed timeline. 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited communication of ideas, issues and progress of IRP through the use of a diary with minimal submissions 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Section not attempted 	0

MARKING GUIDELINES

The Product Guideline	Mark/Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outstanding justification and application of appropriate research methodologies by including qualitative and quantitative research methodologies to make predictions, and draw conclusions when analysing the data. - Outstanding communication of ideas, issues and opinions in an organised, logical and coherent manner using the format provided and using graphical representations - Outstanding development of data through the explicit use of direct quotes and referencing - Explicit use of subject specific terminology 	17-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highly justifies and applies appropriate research methodologies by including qualitative and quantitative research methodologies to make some predictions, and draw some conclusions when analysing the data. - High communication of ideas, issues and opinions in an organised, logical and coherent manner using some of the format provided and using some graphical representations - Highly develops of data through the continued use of direct quotes and referencing - Continued use of subject specific terminology 	13-16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sound justification and application of research methodologies by including qualitative AND/OR quantitative research methodologies to make some predictions, AND/OR draw some conclusions when analysing the data. - Sound communication of ideas, issues and opinions using some of the format provided and using basic graphical representations - Sound development of data through some use of direct quotes and referencing - Some use of subject specific terminology 	9-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basic justification and application of research methodologies by including qualitative OR quantitative research methodologies to make some predictions OR draw some conclusions when analysing the data. - Basic communication of ideas, issues and opinions using some of the format provided - Basic development of data through minimal use of direct quotes and referencing - Basic use of subject specific terminology. 	5-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited justification and application of research methodologies by including qualitative OR quantitative research methodologies - Basic communication of ideas, issues and opinions through the submission of a basic report that doesn't follow any format 	1-4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Section not attempted 	0