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| Title: | **Critical Thinking and Research Skills in Management** | | |
| Level: | 6 | | |
| Credit value: | 6 | | |
| Learning outcomes (the learner will) | | Assessment criteria (the learner can) | |
| 1. Be able to conduct research in relation to leadership and management | | 1.1  1.2 | Undertake research in emerging themes in leadership and management using an appropriate methodology  Evaluate research outcomes and potential implications for own area of responsibility |
| 1. Be able to think critically in relation to leadership and management | | 2.1  2.2 | Critically review contemporary thinking in respect of leadership and management best practice  Evaluate outcomes and potential implications for own area of responsibility and professional development |
| **Additional information about the unit** | |  | |
| Unit purpose and aim(s) | | To enable learners to develop their ability to review ideas and practices critically and to carry out research to inform their practice and professional development. | |
| Details of the relationship between the unit and relevant national occupational standards or professional standards or curricula (if appropriate) | |  | |
| Assessment requirements or guidance specified by a sector or regulatory body (if appropriate) | |  | |
| Support for the unit from a sector skills council or other appropriate body (if required) | | Council for Administration | |
| Location of the unit within the subject/sector classification system | | Business Management | |
| Unit guided learning hours | | 8 | |

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| **Additional Guidance about the Unit** | |
| **Indicative Content:** | |
| 1 | * Critical examination of academic, governmental and commercial research methods and dissemination of findings * Design and development of the most appropriate research methodology within a given context * Assessing the validity and appropriateness of research sources and information * Ethics in research * Quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis techniques and methodologies * Analysis of research outcomes * Testing the validity and relevance of theory and practice to management and leadership decision-making * Emerging themes in leadership and management, such as emotional capacity, intellectual and cognitive development and depth of social relationships |
| 2 | * Concept and practice of critical thinking * Logical reasoning in developing arguments and making decisions * Concepts of causation, correlation, inference, assumption and belief in management and leadership behaviour * Ethical and moral questions associated with management and leadership decision-making * Developments in contemporary thinking on leadership and management, such as agile leadership and sustainable leadership * Relevance of contemporary thinking on leadership and management for own area of responsibility and professional development |