

ASSESSMENT GUIDE

Unit Code: MGMT657, Business Consulting Project

Semester 2, 2021

Assessment number 1

Assessment Artefact – Concept Paper

Weighting [25%]

Why this assessment?

- This assessment will help students to critically analyse the functions of a business consulting, and differentiate the role of a Management Consultant from the role of management in general in the organisational context.
- Once students understand the function of business consulting and the role of a Management Consultant and its interface with organisational members, it will then enable students to scope, design and deliver on a consulting assignment, which is the basis for Assessments 2 and 3.
- The feedback from this assessment will help students to be ready to correct any conceptual misunderstanding and apply in the next assessment.

What are the types of employability skills that I will acquire upon completion of this assessment?

Skill Type	
Developed critical and analytical thinking	☒
Developed ability to solve complex problems	☐
Developed ability to work effectively with others	☐
Developed confidence to learn independently	☒
Developed written communication skills	☒
Developed spoken communication skills	☐
Developed knowledge in the field study	☒
Developed work-related knowledge and skills	☐
Develop effective research skills	☒

Assessment Overview:

Purpose, as written in the EUO

Due date:	5pm, Saturday 28 August 2021 (week 5)
Weighting:	25%
Length and/or format:	1,000 words
Learning outcomes assessed	LO1
Graduate attributes assessed	GA5 and GA6
How to submit:	This assessment should be uploaded online via the LEO portal in the section under Assessment.

Return of assignment:	The assessment will be marked and returned via the LEO portal in the section under Assessment. Feedback will be provided through Turnitin using rubrics.
Assessment criteria:	Rubric: see end of document

Context

You have attended the first four workshops of this unit and you seek to draw upon all the new concepts, theories, ideas and examples you have learnt about on business consulting. You will bring all these together in an essay to cement your learning and prepare yourself for the upcoming project-based assessments for this unit (i.e. assessment 2 and 3).

Instructions

Students are required to review all the material covered in Weeks 1, 2, 3 and 4. This includes reviewing the slides, additional resources, texts and activities covered during each week's workshop.

You will write about these in essay format to show your understanding of business consulting and management consultancy.

Please keep to 1,000 words (+/- 10%).

You are required to use a minimum of eight (8) references, of which four (4) must be through your own research and not one that has been used in the unit material.

Structure

A recommended structure for this assessment is as follows.

1. Write an **introduction** to your assessment, outlining the key concepts and topics to be covered in your essay.
2. Critically analyse the **function of business consulting** – what services they provide, what skills are required, what value they add to organisations, how are they measured, and why is **ethical conduct** so important.
3. Compare and contrast the **role of management consultants** against the role of embedded management roles in the organisational context.
4. Conclude with an evaluation of what constitutes a **sustainable client relationship** using an example that was discussed in class or using your own research.

These four elements of the recommended structure can form paragraphs within your essay, noting that point 2 above in the Structure outline should carry the highest word count.

Headings are not required for an essay.

How do I submit?

This assessment should be uploaded online via the LEO portal in the section under Assessment.

Some Helpful Websites and Resources

Please refer to LEO, Weeks 1-4 for a range of helpful websites, texts and resources.

Who can help me?

[Academic skills Unit \(ASU\)](#)

[Studiosity](#)

Lecturer: Rita D'Arcy – Please email me on rita.d'arcy@acu.edu.au and I will respond within 48 hours.

I'm having problems

Please visit ACU using the provided link to understand when you can apply for Special Consideration and eligibility for extension forms, and also relevant forms to complete: https://acu.service-now.com/askacu?id=askacu_search&t=stu_knowledge_search_source&q=Special%20consideration%20form

Referencing

All referencing should be in [ACU Harvard style](#); however if you are coming from another faculty, you may choose to use your usual referencing style. If this is the case you must indicate at the top of your reference list what referencing style you are using (e.g. APA, MLA, Chicago, etc).

Please ensure your assignment makes use of in-text citations and a reference list. Missing citations or references is equivalent to plagiarism.

Criteria

The full criteria is compiled in a rubric, which can be found on the following page/s.

Checklist for students to submit along with their assignment

My submitted assignment is within the specified word limit +/- 10%	☐
I have included references using Harvard Referencing Style	☐
I have correctly cited all our sources and references	☐
I have formatted my assignment submission as per the specifications	☐
I have checked my Turnitin report to ensure the similarity level is acceptable (less than 20%)	☐
I have included specified process output in my submission (e.g. reflection report, e-portfolio submission, video summary, screen dump of my search and retrieval of journal articles, etc.)	☐
I have actioned feedback advice provided to me from previous assignment feedback (if applicable)	☐
I have completed proof reading and checked for spelling and grammar	☐
I have submitted my work before the due date/time	☐

Rubric for Assessment 1 – Concept Paper - Weighting [25%]

Relevant LO/GAs	Criteria (related to a single GA from the related LO – one GA per criterion)	Does not meet expectations	Meets expectations	Exceeds expectations		
		NN	PA	CR	DI	HD
LO1 & GA5 TL = 4 Learning Stage = D	Critically analyse the function and operating models of business consulting, using contemporary theories and approaches.	The function and operating models of management consulting is not accurately or only partially explained.	There is an adequate analysis of the function and operating models of business consulting	There is thorough analysis of the function and operating models of business consulting.	There is a comprehensive analysis of the function and operating models of business consulting with adequate reference to contemporary theories and approaches.	There is a sophisticated analysis of the function and operating models of business consulting with comprehensive reference to contemporary theories and approaches, and a link to ethical business practices.
	(Weight = 15 marks)	(0-4.9 marks)	(5-7.9 marks)	(8-10.9 marks)	(11-13.5 marks)	(13.5-15 marks)
LO1 & GA6 TL = 6 Learning Stage = D	Compare and contrast the role and skills of business consultants against the role and skills of embedded management roles in organisations.	The roles and skills of business consultants against the roles and skills of embedded organisational roles is not accurately or only partially explained.	The roles and skills of business consultants against the roles and skills of embedded organisational roles is adequately compared and contrasted.	The roles and skills of business consultants against the roles and skills of embedded organisational roles is compared and contrasted in a thorough way, and using a relevant business example.	The roles and skills of business consultants against the roles and skills of embedded organisational roles is compared and contrasted in a thorough way, using a relevant business example and linkages to supporting concepts.	The roles and skills of business consultants against the roles and skills of embedded organisational roles is compared and contrasted in a thorough way, using a relevant business example and linkages to supporting concepts and encapsulates the local and global context.
	(Weight = 5 marks)	(0-0.9 marks)	(1-1.9 marks)	(2-2.9 marks)	(3-3.9 marks)	(4-5 marks)
LO1 & GA6 TL = 5 Learning Stage = D	Discuss the importance and characteristics of a sustainable client-consultant relationship.	There is little or no discussion on the importance and characteristics of a sustainable client-consultant relationship.	There is rudimentary discussion on the importance and characteristics of a sustainable client-consultant relationship.	There is a thorough discussion on the importance and characteristics of a sustainable client-consultant relationship.	There is a thorough discussion on the importance and characteristics of a sustainable client-consultant relationship, linked to relevant theories and concepts.	The whole discussion is sophisticated and comprehensive on the importance and characteristics of a sustainable client-consultant relationship, linked to relevant theories and concepts,

						and supported by at least with recommended business strategies.
	(Weight = 5 marks)	(0-0.9 marks)	(1-1.9 marks)	(2-2.9 marks)	(3-3.9 marks)	(4-5 marks)