

HBS108 Assignment Task 1: Sourcing, Identifying and Evaluating Evidence

800 words, 20% of total assessment

Due Sunday 27 November 2022 by 8.00 PM [AEST]

This assignment draws on Topics 1, 2, and 3. It requires you to access and understand health-related data and information from reputable, widely used sources of health information in the form of:

- Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and/or Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
- Research findings from peer-reviewed academic journals accessed through the Deakin University Library

Topics 1, 2, and 3 (and especially the tutorial activities associated with each topic) will provide you with the knowledge and skills you need to successfully complete this assignment.

Please note that links to the online reports and articles are deliberately not provided in this assignment because one of the skills of a health professional (taught in this unit) is being able to locate health data and information online.

Notes:

- This is a learning and assessment exercise. It will provide you with suggestions on important aspects of this issue. However, it does not substitute for a full and through exploration of the issue.
- You may reference the topic content PDFs for this assignment but not the lecture notes (in which case you may wish to find other sources).
- When you refer to specific data or information from an external source (e.g., ABS survey data, journal articles, textbooks, or HBS108 topic content PDFs) you must reference them (in-text and, where appropriate, in a reference list at the end of the assignment) according to the latest Deakin-Harvard referencing style. Note that any references provided in these instructions are deliberately formatted using an outdated referencing style. **References incorporated in your assignment submission must comply with the latest Deakin-Harvard referencing style.**
- The word count for this assignment is tight and will be strictly enforced—it will help you develop valuable skills in writing briefly and to-the-point. **Do NOT repeat the questions in your assignment**—these words will be included in your word count. It is acceptable, where appropriate, to provide brief answers in a few words (i.e., not a complete sentence)—all answers must include the question number, e.g., *Q. 1(iii) Qualitative study*. Be assured that it is possible to get 100% for this assignment within the word count.

Task A

Question 1 requires you to access the Australian Bureau of Statistics [ABS] website to review the questions that were asked in the 2021 Census. For ideas on writing your own census question, use the skills you learned in Topic 2 and explore the following (and other) resource(s):

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2018, *Census of Population and Housing: Consultation on Topics (2021)*, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra, <<https://www.abs.gov.au>>.

Question 1

- i. Write a householder question for the next Australian census. This could be similar to an existing question or a completely new question. For example, your question might relate to a social determinant of health or a health behaviour. Note that although the following assignment tasks (Questions 2–4) focus on men's health, that topic does not need to be the focus of your census question. **(5 marks)**
- ii. Justify why the information gathered by your census question would be useful to know (i.e., what makes the information relevant and helpful?). **(5 marks)**
- iii. What would be the practical implications of knowing the information in your census question (i.e., how this knowledge might translate into relevant policies or practice). **(5 marks)**

Task B

Use the skills you developed in Topic 2 to locate three (3) journal articles through the Deakin Library website. For examples of how to answer Question 2 (ii), use the skills you developed in Topic 2 to locate some systematic reviews and look at the authors' search strategies as outlined in the 'Methods' section.

Question 2

- i. Identify three (3) academic peer-reviewed journal articles relating to a single topic you consider significant with respect to men's health. Include a combination of relevant quantitative and qualitative articles (a mixed-methods study could also be included). Your articles should examine the same/similar topic from different research perspectives. The articles should have been published within the past 10 years and may be from international journals. **(6 marks)**

Your journal articles must be:

- ✓ Published in an academic journal
- ✓ Peer-reviewed
- ✓ Published within the past 10 years
- ✓ Examining the same/similar topic from different research perspectives

To receive any marks for Question 2 you **must** paste the abstract(s) of your chosen articles into your assignment as appendices (at the end of your assignment). Note that the abstracts are **NOT** included in the word count for this assignment neither are their effects on your Turnitin score.

- ii. Describe your complete search strategy (including key terms and databases) in such a way that others using the same approach would typically identify the same papers. What did you keep in? (i.e., state your inclusion criteria) What did you leave out? (i.e., state your exclusion criteria) (9 marks)

Task C

Use the skills you developed in Topics 1–3 to read your three chosen journal articles carefully before answering Questions 3 and 4.

Question 3

- i. Demonstrating your knowledge of the key concepts we covered in class, explain at least four distinct key reasons (for each article) which indicate that your selected studies are quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods in nature. In other words, claims made about each study type should be accurate and logical, supported by clear examples from the chosen articles, and make correct reference to methodological concepts covered in this unit. Your answer should demonstrate knowledge of the HBS108 unit content and draw on specifics from each of your articles. **[Note that simply mentioning that the study states that it is a quantitative (or qualitative / mixed-methods) study will not be awarded any marks].** (25 marks)

To receive any marks for Question 3 you **must** upload a PDF file of each journal article (in-full) to the appropriate Turnitin tab on Moodle.

Task D

Use the skills you developed in Topic 2 to access data from a government data-reporting website (e.g., Australian Bureau of Statistics and/or Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) related to your chosen aspect of men's health.

Question 4

- i. Identify and state the key messages about men's health from each of your selected journal articles. Compare with data from a government data-reporting website (e.g., Australian Bureau of Statistics and/or Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) and discuss whether the key messages from your journal articles are backed up or contradicted by the findings reported in the government websites. (25 marks)

Presentation and referencing [please follow the guidelines outlined on p. 5]. (20 marks)

You are expected to use citations throughout the assignment. When you refer to specific data or information from an external source (e.g., ABS survey data, journal articles, or HBS108 Topic Content PDFs) you must reference that information (in-text and, where appropriate, in a reference list at the end of the assignment) according to Deakin-Harvard style. **Your assignment is expected to have at least five (5) references.**

How to structure your assignment

This assignment should take the form of a structured report (i.e., a question/answer format) rather than an “essay” and should be approached with a formal scientific writing style (i.e., full sentence structure). Please note you are not expected to re-write the questions in your assignment as this would be an unwise use of your word count. Please use appropriate section and question numbers to label your answers clearly.

Assignment Title – Top of the first page (please do not submit a coversheet)

Student name & ID – Either as a footer OR under the assignment title

COMPULSORY: Label all responses to questions with the appropriate question number

Font – 12 point, Calibri

Line Spacing – 2

Margins – Normal

Borders – None

Use of references

Include all references cited in your assignment (including those that you are instructed to locate and use) in a reference list at the end of the assignment, using the Deakin-Harvard (i.e., author-date) referencing style. If you refer to any additional data not included in these sources, you must reference these additional sources of data too. Remember that, as covered in Topic 2, references are not restricted to academic journals, and can include books and reports from reputable websites.

Information about the Deakin-Harvard referencing style is available here:

<http://www.deakin.edu.au/students/study-support/referencing/harvard>

Word limit

The word limit for the assignment is 800 words (excluding the reference list and any appendices but including in-text citations and headings). **You are permitted a 10% margin over the word limit, but words over 880 will not be assessed.** This is done to ensure equity among students—it is unfair if students who exceed the word limit get higher grades (due to including extra material over the word count) than students who comply with the limit. Also, concise writing is an important skill that you can demonstrate in this assignment!

Using the TurnItIn Originality check and Assignment Submission

Before submitting your assignment, you should check the originality of your work (excluding the abstracts as these will impact on your TurnItIn score) by using TurnItIn. In Week 4 there will be a PowerPoint presentation shown during your HBS108 lecture that will cover this process. You should ensure that your answers to the assignment questions are written in your own words. It is **NOT** acceptable in this assignment to answer questions using ‘blocks’ of text taken from the references provided (though the occasional word or technical term is acceptable). Your lecturer will also show you how to submit your assignment online via Moodle. Until then read through the assignment material, attempt the assignment questions if you feel confident, and be ready to ask your lecturer any questions in class in Week 4!

Reference List

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2018, *Census of Population and Housing: Consultation on Topics (2021)*, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra, <<https://www.abs.gov.au>>.