

Subject outline

Overview of the subject

This subject examines the use of evidence to support policy and decision-making in the public sector. The course assists students to become more critical users of information and evidence and to develop skills in commissioning research and analysis to inform decision-making.

The broad scope and coverage of the subject and assessments will be the same across all ANZSOG jurisdictions. There is nevertheless some local tailoring to draw on the expertise of local lecturers, practitioners and specialists and to facilitate consideration of issues and applications relevant to each jurisdiction.

Educational format

This course will use a variety of educational formats, including case study teaching, small group discussions, exercises, speaker panels and syndicate presentations. The program involves a lot of participation by students, which in turn means that it is important for students to read and prepare set cases and exercises

Learning Outcomes

Those completing this subject will:

- Be able to accurately use, interpret and draw inferences from information gathered as evidence to support decision-making;
- Be aware of the strengths, weaknesses and suitability of selected quantitative and qualitative methods for gathering evidence;
- Know how to commission information gathering and analysis to support management and policy decision-making;
- Understand how the policy system and organizational context affects the use of evidence and analysis in public decision-making.