



PROJECT ISSUES

Undergraduate students, in particular, may struggle with the aspects of managing a research project. Based on interviews with undergraduate students Todd, Bannister and Clegg (2004) noted particular areas of difficulty for undergraduate students were formulating research questions, data collection and completing the project within the required time frame.

Todd, Feather, Anchor and Cowton (2014) surveyed undergraduate dissertation supervisors across two departments of a UK Business School. While the majority of undergraduate dissertation supervisors saw merit in having all students complete a dissertation in their final year, a minority expressed preference for an optional dissertation, with a more practical capstone experience offered as an alternative. The view expressed was that not all students are capable of performing at the level required for completing a dissertation, and that a cut-off score should be imposed. This would have the effect of reducing supervisory loads and costs.

References

- Feather, D., Anchor, J. R., & Cowton, C. J. (2014). Supervisors' perceptions of the value of the undergraduate dissertation. *The International Journal of Management Education*, 12(1), 14-21.
- Todd, M., Bannister, P., & Clegg, S. (2004). Independent inquiry and the undergraduate dissertation: perceptions and experiences of final-year social science students. *Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education*, 29, 335-355.

