Cambridge International AS and A Level Global Perspectives and Research (9239)
Component 4: Cambridge Research Report - Research Log

Research Log guidance for centres for June 2016

The following are possible examples of elements of a research log. They are not intended to be prescriptive and centres may devise their own format. They key requirements are

1. There should be evidence of a log submitted with the report.
2. The log should be used when writing the report.
3. The log should be maintained throughout the research process.
4. The log must be effective in helping the report to meet the requirements for the use, analysis and evaluation of evidence and perspectives in order to reach a reasoned conclusion which is the subject of reflection.
5. The log should be useful to centres when monitoring progress, conducting the final interview and in confirming the declaration that the work is the candidate's own.

Deciding on a topic and reflecting on and refining a title

Initial idea for research report	Why I chose it	Initial search for resources	
September 2015 Migration from Middle East. Why is it such a problem? What effects will it have on the West?	Pictures on TV. Saw documentary. Was disturbed by pictures of refugees and wanted to know more. Personally interested because my family were originally immigrants. I think we have a duty to help migrants and this is not just Europe's problem.	Did an internet search on Middle East conflict and refugee problems.	

Draft title for OPF	Explanation showing perspectives	Sample sources for OPF	Any advice from tutor
2 October 2015 What effects will migration have on society?	Some like Angela Merkel have welcomed refugees. Sees economic benefits. There is also hatred and opposition to refugees and concern about culture clashes and economic costs.	(not included)	In a discussion, tutor showed mark schemes and advice. Explained perspectives. Gave presentation on issue to class explaining why this is an important issue both globally and for me.
18 October 2015 Modified title after OPF feedback	Changes to plan Additional sources	Additional Sources	Any advice from tutor
Adviser suggested changing title to avoid series of explanations and setting up more of a debate. Should European states take in more refugees from the Middle East?	Set out plan into different broad perspectives. <u>For</u> Extend plan Moral responsibility Possible benefits to	To be decided but need more on possible social benefits.	Tutor suggested developing clearer perspectives and extending reading list.

| | European societies with falling populations Ease burden on countries like Lebanon and Syria Prevent people trafficking.

Against
Social strains on Western countries Might delay a settlement in the Middle East Fears of affecting the culture and way of life in Europe. | | |
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Comments
This log shows the process from initial idea to title and shows how the candidate had a constructive dialogue and modified ideas and developed the plan.

Date	Resource	Key ideas	Evaluation
21 October 2015	Manifesto of Danish conservative groups against migration

(url reference and date of access) | Need to restrict migration. Threat to traditional Christian way of life. Heavy costs to Danes to support migrants. Migrants should not be allowed to enter unless they prove political persecution. Many Danes oppose. | Multi-faith communities common in Europe and assumption that there is a 'Christian way of life' may be false. In any case Christian values are those of charity so illogical. Assumption that migrants would cost more, but many are young and would add to labour market. |

			Opinion poll does confirm a lot of opposition, but should this determine policy? Need to balance this by counter arguments. Is this typical of arguments from anti-immigration groups?

Record of sources used (sample extract from research log)

Centres should submit sample sheets from throughout the process to show how they have used sources. It would be acceptable to include sheets from the beginning, middle and end of the research process. It is not expected that every source used should be included. Candidates should select notes on research done throughout the time allocated for the project.

The log above shows the date and the source. The source is analysed in 'Key ideas' and there are some indications of evaluation in the final column and for further research. A series of extracts would show that the Log was being maintained through research period, that it was being used and that it was being effective in helping with Analysis and Evaluation (AO1) and was driving the research process.

Date	Tutorial/Seminar	Issues discussed	How this affected my research/writing
7 Feb 2016	Seminar on source evaluation	How statistical evidence can be assessed.	I went back to my section on the economic costs of migration and looked more critically at the figures produced and considered the samples they were based on.

3 March 2016	Tutorial on reflecting on research	How reflection should avoid being general and should focus on particular research issues to do with migration.	Reviewed my reflections and edited some over-personal and general comments.

Record of tutorials and seminars   (sample extracts from research log)

Centres should submit no more than **a sample** of examples of the records of tutorials/seminars /lectures with analysis of the effects on the research and/or the writing of the report included as part of the log. A series of entries would show the log was being maintained, that it was being used and that it was being effective in driving research.