



Table 1 An Outline of the RSD Framework for the University of the South Pacific

Levels of Student Autonomy

	Prescribed Research (Level 1) Highly structured directions and modelling from educator prompt student research.	Channeled Research (Level 2) Boundaries set by and limited directions from educator channel student research.	Scaffolded Research (Level 3) Scaffolds placed by educator shape student independent research.	Student-initiated Research (Level 4) Students initiate the research and this is guided by the educator.	Open Research (Level 5) Students research within self-determined guidelines that are in accord with discipline or context.
Facet A: Embark & Clarify Respond to or initiate research and clarify or determine what knowledge is required, heeding ethical/cultural and social/team considerations.	Identify the problem, frame research question				
Facet B: Find & Generate Find and generate needed information/data using appropriate methodology.	Use methods/ procedures to generate information				
Facet C: Evaluate & Reflect Determine and critique the degree of credibility of selected sources, information and of data generated, and reflect on the research processes used.	Evaluate the methods and data collected to select credible and appropriate information				
Facet D: Organise and Manage Organise information and data to reveal patterns and themes, and manage teams and research processes.	Organise information in a logical and coherent format				
Facet E: Analyse & Synthesise Analyse information/data critically and synthesise new knowledge to produce coherent individual/ team understandings.	Synthesise and analyse knowledge				
Facet F: Communicate & Apply ethically Write, present and perform the processes, understandings and applications of the research, and respond to feedback, accounting for ethical, social and cultural (ESC) issues.	Communicate and present research findings				