



MRES701

PACE for Research

S2 Day 2017

University

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	6
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	6
<u>Graduate Capabilities</u>	7

Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Florence Chiew

florence.chiew@mq.edu.au

Juliet Lum

juliet.lum@mq.edu.au

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Permission by special approval

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This PACE unit provides MRes students with the opportunity to undertake research as part of a research team or in community or industry settings. Students will be required to identify and design a research project that aligns with the priorities of a partner organisation. Students' projects will be supervised by a member of the partner organisation and supported through a series of academic seminars. This unit aims to equip students with practical problem-solving and research skills, as well as insight into conducting research that involves a partner and is aimed helping them to achieve their organisational goals. Over the course of a semester, students work with the partner organisation to identify and fully scope a research project. Students should complete 100 hours working with their partner organisation eventuating in delivery of a formal written project plan. Students may choose to use the research conducted in this unit as the basis of their MRes thesis in the second year.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Apply knowledge and research methodologies learned in other units (MRES700) to a practical context.

Use project management guidelines to prepare a fully scoped plan for a project that

aligns with the priorities of the partner organisation.

Participate meaningfully as a member of an organisation or research team and develop a critically reflective practice on the experience of the research process.

Demonstrate initiative and self-sufficiency during the placement.

Use ethical practices during the research project.

Develop professional skills which contribute to an organisation's appreciation of research.

Engage with ethical, social, and/or environmental issues affecting the partner organisation and assist in addressing them.

General Assessment Information

Applying for an extension

To request an extension for an assignment, students should submit a Disruption to Studies Notification within 5 working days of the commencement of the disruption. The Disruption to Studies Notification must be submitted online through www.ask.mq.edu.au. Information on what constitutes a disruption and how to apply for an extension can be found on the MQ students' [Disruption to Studies webpage](#).

Students with a pre-existing disability/health condition or prolonged adverse circumstances may be eligible for ongoing assistance and support. Such support is governed by other policies and may be sought and coordinated through [Campus Wellbeing and Support Services](#).

Late submissions

Unless an extension is granted, work that is submitted after the due date will attract a penalty of 10% of the total marks for each week it is overdue (i.e. -10% for 1-6 days late; -20% for 7-13 days late; -30% for 14-20 days late). Work submitted more than 20 days late will not be accepted.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Project Management Plan	20%	No	first 20 hours of placement
Participation and Engagement	20%	No	Ongoing in class and iLearn
Presentation	20%	No	Week 11
Final project report	40%	No	Week 13

Project Management Plan

Due: **first 20 hours of placement**

Weighting: **20%**

Within the first 20 hours of placement, you should produce a project management plan. This plan should include a title along with the background, scope and purpose of your project. The plan should also include a detailed schedule of tasks to be completed, and how you will monitor the project. Where possible, you should try to identify any stakeholders, milestones, risks and issues associated with your project. The plan has to be discussed with the host supervisor.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply knowledge and research methodologies learned in other units (MRES700) to a practical context.
- Use project management guidelines to prepare a fully scoped plan for a project that aligns with the priorities of the partner organisation.
- Demonstrate initiative and self-sufficiency during the placement.
- Use ethical practices during the research project.
- Develop professional skills which contribute to an organisation's appreciation of research.
- Engage with ethical, social, and/or environmental issues affecting the partner organisation and assist in addressing them.

Participation and Engagement

Due: **Ongoing in class and iLearn**

Weighting: **20%**

An important part of this course is open dialogue and honest engagement with the course content, your teachers and peers. It is an expectation that you attend all face-to-face components of this unit, and beyond them, actively participate in the online forum discussions. Your grade for this aspect of the assessment will be based on your a) attendance and participation in the 5 face-to-face workshops and b) your willingness to engage in ongoing iLearn forum discussions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Participate meaningfully as a member of an organisation or research team and develop a critically reflective practice on the experience of the research process.
- Demonstrate initiative and self-sufficiency during the placement.
- Use ethical practices during the research project.
- Develop professional skills which contribute to an organisation's appreciation of research.
- Engage with ethical, social, and/or environmental issues affecting the partner organisation and assist in addressing them.

Presentation

Due: **Week 11**

Weighting: **20%**

You will give a 10 minute presentation on your project. The presentation should discuss the issues examined in your project, your findings and conclusions/recommendations. If applicable, you may also consider including suggestions for future work/investigation. The presentation should provide your reflections on the successes and failures of the project and reflect on how you would revise the approach taken if you had to do it all over again.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply knowledge and research methodologies learned in other units (MRES700) to a practical context.
- Participate meaningfully as a member of an organisation or research team and develop a critically reflective practice on the experience of the research process.
- Demonstrate initiative and self-sufficiency during the placement.
- Use ethical practices during the research project.
- Engage with ethical, social, and/or environmental issues affecting the partner organisation and assist in addressing them.

Final project report

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **40%**

The final report will consist of two sections: 1) a report on your placement activities (1500 words) and 2) a reflective component where you describe your responses to the strengths and challenges of your placement and project (500 words). The report should provide enough background information so that your audience understands your host organisation and the nature of your activity. It should also provide examples of the work you completed. Your reflection of your placement experience should not only state what your successes or dilemmas were, but flesh out *why* they were successes or dilemmas, what some of your options were, why you feel stuck on them, and the implications of different ways of resolving them. Use specific examples where possible.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply knowledge and research methodologies learned in other units (MRES700) to a practical context.
- Use project management guidelines to prepare a fully scoped plan for a project that aligns with the priorities of the partner organisation.
- Participate meaningfully as a member of an organisation or research team and develop a

critically reflective practice on the experience of the research process.

- Demonstrate initiative and self-sufficiency during the placement.
- Use ethical practices during the research project.
- Develop professional skills which contribute to an organisation's appreciation of research.
- Engage with ethical, social, and/or environmental issues affecting the partner organisation and assist in addressing them.

Delivery and Resources

The unit involves 5 compulsory workshops and online learning through iLearn activities. The 5 on-campus workshops are scheduled as follows:

Week 1: Tuesday 1 August, 10am-12pm

Week 2: Tuesday 8 August, 10am-12pm

Week 3: Tuesday 15 August, 10am-12pm

Week 12: Tuesday 31 October, 10am-12pm

Week 13: Tuesday 7 November 10am-12pm

It is expected that students attend **all** workshops, unless a compelling reason (e.g. illness) prevents them from doing so. If you cannot attend a workshop, please contact the unit convenor.

Students will be enrolled into the online MRES701 iLearn unit. This iLearn site provides access to online learning resources, peer-to-peer communication, and participation in online discussion forums. Students will also receive course related announcements through the iLearn unit, download readings, submit assignments and receive feedback on graded work.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html

Disruption to Studies Policy (in effect until Dec 4th, 2017): http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html

Special Consideration Policy (in effect from Dec 4th, 2017): <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy->

[planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/special-consideration](#)

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit <ask.mq.edu.au>.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (<mq.edu.au/learningskills>) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at <ask.mq.edu.au>

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and

Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Participate meaningfully as a member of an organisation or research team and develop a critically reflective practice on the experience of the research process.
- Demonstrate initiative and self-sufficiency during the placement.
- Use ethical practices during the research project.
- Develop professional skills which contribute to an organisation's appreciation of research.
- Engage with ethical, social, and/or environmental issues affecting the partner organisation and assist in addressing them.

Assessment tasks

- Project Management Plan
- Participation and Engagement
- Presentation
- Final project report

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Use project management guidelines to prepare a fully scoped plan for a project that aligns with the priorities of the partner organisation.
- Develop professional skills which contribute to an organisation's appreciation of research.

Assessment tasks

- Project Management Plan
- Participation and Engagement
- Final project report

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Apply knowledge and research methodologies learned in other units (MRES700) to a practical context.
- Use project management guidelines to prepare a fully scoped plan for a project that aligns with the priorities of the partner organisation.
- Participate meaningfully as a member of an organisation or research team and develop a critically reflective practice on the experience of the research process.
- Demonstrate initiative and self-sufficiency during the placement.
- Develop professional skills which contribute to an organisation's appreciation of research.
- Engage with ethical, social, and/or environmental issues affecting the partner organisation and assist in addressing them.

Assessment tasks

- Project Management Plan
- Participation and Engagement
- Presentation
- Final project report

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Apply knowledge and research methodologies learned in other units (MRES700) to a practical context.
- Use project management guidelines to prepare a fully scoped plan for a project that

aligns with the priorities of the partner organisation.

- Participate meaningfully as a member of an organisation or research team and develop a critically reflective practice on the experience of the research process.
- Demonstrate initiative and self-sufficiency during the placement.
- Develop professional skills which contribute to an organisation's appreciation of research.
- Engage with ethical, social, and/or environmental issues affecting the partner organisation and assist in addressing them.

Assessment tasks

- Project Management Plan
- Participation and Engagement
- Presentation
- Final project report

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Apply knowledge and research methodologies learned in other units (MRES700) to a practical context.
- Participate meaningfully as a member of an organisation or research team and develop a critically reflective practice on the experience of the research process.
- Demonstrate initiative and self-sufficiency during the placement.
- Use ethical practices during the research project.
- Develop professional skills which contribute to an organisation's appreciation of research.
- Engage with ethical, social, and/or environmental issues affecting the partner organisation and assist in addressing them.

Assessment tasks

- Project Management Plan
- Participation and Engagement
- Presentation

- Final project report

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Participate meaningfully as a member of an organisation or research team and develop a critically reflective practice on the experience of the research process.
- Demonstrate initiative and self-sufficiency during the placement.
- Use ethical practices during the research project.
- Develop professional skills which contribute to an organisation's appreciation of research.
- Engage with ethical, social, and/or environmental issues affecting the partner organisation and assist in addressing them.

Assessment tasks

- Project Management Plan
- Participation and Engagement
- Presentation
- Final project report