HLTH703

Introduction to Clinical Research

S1 Day 2019

Dept of Chiropractic

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Disclaimer

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Simon French simon.french@mq.edu.au Contact via Email By appointment: Level 3,17 Wally's Walk (C5C)
Credit points 4
Prerequisites Admission to MRes
Corequisites
Co-badged status
Unit description This unit aims to increase student understanding of the processes involved in clinical research within healthcare. Students will be introduced to a variety of outcome measures used within clinical research with a focus on appropriate use and analysis. Students will be given the opportunity to conduct small data collection projects within a clinical setting, and be exposed to elements of clinical research including: recruitment, ethics, and data collection and storage.

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:

Learn to analyse, interpret and assess data from research findings

Critically appraise the literature on a specific clinically relevant topic and identify areas requiring further research

Design a primary or secondary research project to create new knowledge in a clinically relevant area

Write up a research protocol for a medium term, capstone research project designed to answer a specific research question/s

General Assessment Information

Overview

This unit involves a course on research methods, plus the formulation and write up of a research protocol on a topic your choice.

All written assessments must be submitted electronically via Turnitin. All assessment tasks must be submitted by the due dates outlined in the unit guide.

Students who are unable to submit an assessment or unable to meet a specific deadline should submit a 'Special Consideration' request. For information on this process please visit the link: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration

Failure to submit an assessment task on the due date without an appropriate Special Consideration will result in a loss of 10% per 24-hour period after the due date for that particular task, for example, 25 hours late in submission = 20% penalty.

Serious and Unavoidable circumstances

The University classifies circumstances as serious and unavoidable if they:

1. could not have reasonably been anticipated, avoided or guarded against by the student; and
2. were beyond the student's control; and
3. caused substantial disruption to the student's capacity for undertaking assessment for the unit(s); and
4. occurred during an event critical study period and were at least three (3) consecutive days duration or a total of 5 days within the teaching period; and/or
5. prevented completion of an assessment task scheduled for a specific date (e.g. final examination, in class test/quiz, in class presentation).

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.

Assessment Tasks

Topic	%	Timing
In-class exam #1	20%	Week 7, 11th April 2019
In-class exam #2	20%	Week 13, 6th June 2019
Research plan presentation	30%	*Presentation:* Week 12, 30th May 2019

Research plan written report	30%	*Written report:* 20th June 2019

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
In-class exam #1	20%	No	8am Week 7, 11th April 2019
In-class exam #2	20%	No	8am Week 13, 6th June 2019
Research Plan Presentation	30%	No	Week 12, 30th May 2019
Research Plan Written Report	30%	No	20th June 2019

In-class exam #1

Due: **8am Week 7, 11th April 2019**
Weighting: **20%**

Multiple choice questions that evaluate student learning of lecture and tutorial material. The assessment will be held in the scheduled lecture time.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Learn to analyse, interpret and assess data from research findings

In-class exam #2

Due: **8am Week 13, 6th June 2019**
Weighting: **20%**

Multiple choice questions that evaluate student learning of lecture and tutorial material. The assessment will be held in the scheduled lecture time.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Learn to analyse, interpret and assess data from research findings
- Critically appraise the literature on a specific clinically relevant topic and identify areas requiring further research

Research Plan Presentation

Due: **Week 12, 30th May 2019**
Weighting: **30%**

Students are to clearly and concisely present the rationale, research question, sampling strategy, data collection and data analysis for the proposed study; 10 minute presentation, 5 minute

question time.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically appraise the literature on a specific clinically relevant topic and identify areas requiring further research
- Design a primary or secondary research project to create new knowledge in a clinically relevant area
- Write up a research protocol for a medium term, capstone research project designed to answer a specific research question/s

Research Plan Written Report

Due: **20th June 2019**
Weighting: **30%**

Students are to submit a written report of the proposed research including the following sections:

1. Rationale
2. Research Question
3. Participant Selection and Recruitment
4. Data Collection
5. Data Analysis
6. Relevance of Potential Findings to the Field of Study

The written submission will be a maximum of 15 pages, single-spaced, 2.5 cm margins, 12-point font, and page numbers. Include a Title Page and Reference List (not included in the page limit). Also, include in an Appendix, any additional material that supports the methods, e.g. copy of self-reported outcome measure, demographic data collection sheet, interview guide, etc.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically appraise the literature on a specific clinically relevant topic and identify areas requiring further research
- Design a primary or secondary research project to create new knowledge in a clinically relevant area
- Write up a research protocol for a medium term, capstone research project designed to answer a specific research question/s

Delivery and Resources

Recommended text book

Portney LG, Watkins MP (2013). Foundations of Clinical Research: Applications to Practice, 3rd Edition, Pearson Education Limited

https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/mqu/detail.action?docID=5175590

Other relevant text books

Herbert R, Jamtvedt G, Hagen KB, Mead J (2012). Practical evidence-based physiotherapy. 2nd Edition, Churchill Livingston

Adams J, et al (2007). Researching Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Abingdon, Oxon; New York: Routledge

Delivery mode

Lectures will provide a high-level overview of research skills, in addition to more advanced topics that aim to help you develop your research protocol. These lectures will review the main clinical research methods relevant to chiropractic practice, providing relevant material for the unit's substantial research project.

Students will be allocated to a 2-hour tutorial group. In these tutorials students will work on activities related to the topic covered in that week's lecture, meet with their supervisor, or participate in presentations of the research groups' protocol as both a presenter and audience participant. **Tutorial attendance and participation is required**.

Further information on the delivery in this unit is available on the HLTH703 iLearn page.

Further details on class time and locations for this unit can be found at:

https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2019/

Unit Web Page

You can log in to iLearn learning system using the link below:

http://ilearn.mq.edu.au

Unit Schedule

Lecture	Date	Topic	Lecturer
1	28/2/19	Unit introduction, students and supervisor expectations. Why Do Research? What is Research?	Simon French
2	7/3/19	Clinical practice guidelines	André Bussières
3	14/3/19	Framing the problem and formulating research questions	Katie de Luca
4	21/3/19	Library services and resources for chiropractic students	Fiona Jones, Abigail Baker, and Jo Hardy
5	28/3/19	Systematic and scoping reviews	Joshua Zadro

6	4/4/19	Cochrane Risk of Bias & GRADE	Ben Brown
7	11/4/19	Research Designs: Quantitative and Qualitative*	Simon French
8	2/5/19	In class exam #1	N/A
9	9/5/19	Ethics and research integrity	Kandy White
10	16/5/19	Sampling, data collection and analysis	Reidar Lystad
11	23/5/19	Writing a journal article	Katie de Luca
12	30/5/19	Knowledge translation and course summary	Simon French
13	6/6/19	In class exam #2	N/A

* Lecture for “Research Designs: Qualitative” will be available on iLearn

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy *(**Note:** The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/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/study/getting-started/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) 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 or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@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

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@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 - 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

- Learn to analyse, interpret and assess data from research findings
- Design a primary or secondary research project to create new knowledge in a clinically relevant area

Assessment tasks

- In-class exam #1
- In-class exam #2
- Research Plan Presentation
- Research Plan Written 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

- Learn to analyse, interpret and assess data from research findings
- Critically appraise the literature on a specific clinically relevant topic and identify areas requiring further research
- Write up a research protocol for a medium term, capstone research project designed to answer a specific research question/s

Assessment tasks

- In-class exam #1
- In-class exam #2
- Research Plan Presentation
- Research Plan Written 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

- Design a primary or secondary research project to create new knowledge in a clinically relevant area
- Write up a research protocol for a medium term, capstone research project designed to answer a specific research question/s

Assessment tasks

- Research Plan Presentation
- Research Plan Written 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

- Design a primary or secondary research project to create new knowledge in a clinically relevant area
- Write up a research protocol for a medium term, capstone research project designed to answer a specific research question/s

Assessment tasks

- Research Plan Presentation
- Research Plan Written Report