



PSY 440

Psychology of Driving

S2 Day 2019

Department of Psychology

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	3
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	5
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	5
<u>Graduate Capabilities</u>	7

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General Information

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Credit points

3

Prerequisites

Corequisites

PSY490 or PSY495

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines driving behaviour from a human factors perspective. Many of the factors that affect safe/unsafe driving are the same as those that affect occupational safety. Human error is regarded as a contributing factor in 70-90% of accidents in all walks of life, often brought about by poor human factors design. This unit will discuss how the factors of perception, attention, distraction, memory, fatigue, risk sensitivity, experience, and drugs - both prescribed and 'recreational' can affect driving. They will be looked at within the total context of user experience, their limitations and their predispositions. In the light of these insights we will discuss how a safer system can be designed to accommodate the fallibility of its users.

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:

Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users

Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes

Use theoretical models to conceptualise the behaviour of road users

Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors

General Assessment Information

Attendance to all the lectures during the 4 days of the course is compulsory as it contributes to the participation component of that assessment. In the event of unavoidable non-attendance then students must submit an "Application for Special Consideration" which requires documentation after 3 days of absence. See relevant course administrator for the appropriate form to complete (Donna Keeley).

The essay will be submitted via Turnitin link on iLearn page. Requests for extensions should be made via ask.mq.edu.au

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Essay	60%	No	04/11/2019

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Seminar Presentation	30%	No	28/10/2019
Class Participation	10%	No	0107-2019 to 03-07-2019 and 28/10/2019

Essay

Due: **04/11/2019**

Weighting: **60%**

Option 1: Select two journal articles on a topic relevant to the topics covered in the course, and then compare and contrast them in relation to their rationales, methods, statistics, conclusions, and discuss related articles and the studies' broader implications.

OR

Option 2: Select a high-risk road user behaviour, either one covered in the course, or one of your own choosing, and discuss the factors (human or otherwise) that contribute to this behaviour.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
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Seminar Presentation

Due: **28/10/2019**

Weighting: **30%**

Select a topic from those given in the lectures or select a topic of your own choice following consultation with the unit chair and present a 20 minute talk on your chosen topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
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- Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors

Class Participation

Due: **0107-2019 to 03-07-2019 and 28/10/2019**

Weighting: **10%**

The workshop format of this unit encourages students to ask questions and discuss topics being presented in the lectures.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
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Delivery and Resources

Lectures will be presented on three continuous days of the unit (July 1st, 2nd and 3rd).

Powerpoint slides of the lectures and any relevant additional readings will be available on the iLearn website.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](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) (<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) (<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

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors

Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Seminar Presentation
- Class Participation

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
- Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes
- Use theoretical models to conceptualise the behaviour of road users
- Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors

Assessment tasks

- Essay

- Class Participation

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
- Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes
- Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors

Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Seminar Presentation
- Class Participation

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
- Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes
- Use theoretical models to conceptualise the behaviour of road users
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influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors

Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Seminar Presentation

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
- Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes
- Use theoretical models to conceptualise the behaviour of road users
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Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Seminar Presentation
- Class Participation

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
- Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors

contributing to road crashes

- Use theoretical models to conceptualise the behaviour of road users
- Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors

Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Seminar Presentation
- Class Participation

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
- Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes
- Use theoretical models to conceptualise the behaviour of road users

Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Seminar Presentation
- Class Participation

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
- Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes
- Use theoretical models to conceptualise the behaviour of road users
- Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors

Assessment task

- Class Participation

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
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- Use theoretical models to conceptualise the behaviour of road users
- Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors