BIOL899

Master of Research - Biology

S1 Day 2019

Dept of Biological Sciences

Contents

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Kate Barry kate.barry@mq.edu.au
Credit points 32
Prerequisites
Corequisites
Co-badged status
Unit description The 800-level components of the Master of Research are not designed around units. The thesis together with four core research activities form a single coherent research unit based on individual research plans and will consists of the followings: 1. Research Frontiers 2: you will attend a number of department or faculty-run sessions and engage in a program of activities developing your knowledge of the sub-disciplinary field in which you want to situate your own research 2. Literature Review: you will attend sessions explaining how researchers in your field engage with previous research literature, and produce a draft of your own literature review for your thesis 3. Research Methods: with other students and led by academic staff, you will develop the research methods you will use in your research project 4. Research Planning: through a combination of group sessions and individual work with your supervision team, you will develop a plan for a large scale research project, part of which will be completed in the MRes 5. Thesis: you will complete a small research project, and write it up in a short thesis of about 20,000 words.

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:

Candidates will develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.

Candidates will be able to situate their individual research project within its broader research context, reviewing associated issues, debates and methodologies.

Candidates will be fully equipped to make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.

Candidates will engage in communication of their research plans and budget outlines in written and other forms.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Present research poster	10%	No	June 2019 (Tbc)
Seminar attendance	0%	Yes	30 June
Literature review	0%	No	30/4/19
MRes Thesis	90%	No	Oct 2019

Present research poster

Due: **June 2019 (Tbc)**
Weighting: **10%**

This Activity will allow you to meet and become part of your relevant scientific community, providing context for the research question you are exploring in your project. Poster presented to Department along with a short oral presentation.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Candidates will develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.
- Candidates will be able to situate their individual research project within its broader research context, reviewing associated issues, debates and methodologies.
- Candidates will be fully equipped to make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.
- Candidates will engage in communication of their research plans and budget outlines in written and other forms.

Seminar attendance

Due: **30 June**
Weighting: **0%**
This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

Students attend 10 seminars and write short reflective statement on 5 of those seminars.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Candidates will be fully equipped to make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.

Literature review

Due: **30/4/19**
Weighting: **0%**

A draft written literature review will be submitted to your supervisor for comment.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Candidates will develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.
- Candidates will be able to situate their individual research project within its broader research context, reviewing associated issues, debates and methodologies.
- Candidates will be fully equipped to make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.
- Candidates will engage in communication of their research plans and budget outlines in written and other forms.

MRes Thesis

Due: **Oct 2019**
Weighting: **90%**

Candidates will complete a substantial thesis subject to disciplinary standards

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Candidates will develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.
- Candidates will be able to situate their individual research project within its broader research context, reviewing associated issues, debates and methodologies.
- Candidates will be fully equipped to make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.
- Candidates will engage in communication of their research plans and budget outlines in written and other forms.

Delivery and Resources

See BIOL899 iLearn site for further information.

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 - 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

- Candidates will develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.
- Candidates will be fully equipped to make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.

Assessment task

- MRes Thesis

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

- Candidates will develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.
- Candidates will be able to situate their individual research project within its broader research context, reviewing associated issues, debates and methodologies.
- Candidates will engage in communication of their research plans and budget outlines in written and other forms.

Assessment tasks

- Present research poster
- Seminar attendance
- Literature review
- MRes Thesis

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

- Candidates will develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.
- Candidates will be able to situate their individual research project within its broader research context, reviewing associated issues, debates and methodologies.
- Candidates will be fully equipped to make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.
- Candidates will engage in communication of their research plans and budget outlines in written and other forms.

Assessment tasks

- Present research poster
- Seminar attendance
- Literature review

- MRes Thesis

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

- Candidates will develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.
- Candidates will be able to situate their individual research project within its broader research context, reviewing associated issues, debates and methodologies.
- Candidates will be fully equipped to make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.
- Candidates will engage in communication of their research plans and budget outlines in written and other forms.

Assessment tasks

- Present research poster
- Seminar attendance
- Literature review
- MRes Thesis

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 outcome

- Candidates will engage in communication of their research plans and budget outlines in written and other forms.

Assessment tasks

- Present research poster
- Literature review

- MRes Thesis

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 outcome

- Candidates will be fully equipped to make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.

Assessment task

- Seminar attendance