



CHIR8201

Postgraduate Advanced Research I

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Department of Chiropractic

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Simon French

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Lecturer

Ben Brown

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

(CHIR8503 or CHIR918) and (CHIR8504 or CHIR919)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit, together with CHIR8202, develops a student's ability to critique, evaluate and synthesise biomedical research. These skills are crucial for life-long learning and are essential in evidence-informed clinical practice. In this unit, students will work in groups to develop and execute a medium term, capstone research project to answer a specific research question/s.

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:

ULO1: Critically appraise research literature on a specific clinically relevant topic and identify areas requiring further research

ULO2: Apply knowledge in research methods to analyse, interpret and assess research findings

ULO3: Effectively communicate the design of a research protocol to your peers and experienced academics using verbal and written methods

ULO4: Demonstrate knowledge of research methods by designing a research protocol to

answer a specific research question in a clinically relevant area

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult [iLearn](#) for revised unit information.

[Find out more about the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and potential impacts on staff and students](#)

General Assessment Information

Students will choose one of two assessment options:

Option 1) There will be a limited number of research projects available. These projects will be nominated by academics in the Department of Chiropractic. These projects will involve four students working together on the project for this unit and for CHIR8202 in S2. In CHIR8201 students will develop the research protocol, and in CHIR8202 students will carry out the research.

Option 2) Students will select one of their patients in the student clinic and write a detailed case report to inform their management. This case report will include a comprehensive evaluation of the literature related to the patient's clinical condition.

In-class exam #1

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

In-class exam #2

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

Research Plan Presentation

Option 1) In class, oral research presentation about the research protocol and some initial results (where available). Each student will present the research protocol for their research project: 10 minute presentation, 5 minute question time.

Option 2) In class, oral research presentation about the literature that informs the care of the student's patient: 10 minute presentation, 5 minute question time.

Research Plan Written Report

Option 1) The student research protocol will be written up in the format of a journal article (approximately 2000 words), ready for submission for publication in a peer reviewed journal. One research protocol report will be submitted per group, with contributions from each student.

Option 2) The student's case report will be written up in the format of a journal article (approximately 2000 words), ready for submission for publication in a peer reviewed journal.

Delivery and Resources

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.

Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Delivery mode

Students should approach the content of this unit through self-directed learning. Some students in this unit will be assigned to a research project group. Each research project is linked to an academic advisor who will provide mentorship and guidance on completing the research protocol and project over the entire year, continuing into CHIR8202. Learning in this aspect of the unit occurs via student/supervisor engagement. Other students working on a case report will need to select a patient from the student clinic to write up into an evidence-based case report.

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

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 or case report as both a presenter and audience participant. **Tutorial attendance and participation is required.**

Attendance and participation requirements

You must attend the tutorial in which you are enrolled, and you are required to attend and participate in 80% of tutorials. If you miss your assigned workshop in any week, you may request attendance at an alternative session, through email request and appropriate documentation to the unit convenor.

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

<https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2020/>

If you are part of a research project group, you are also required to meet with your project supervisor (face to face, or via Skype/Zoom) a **minimum of four times during the Session**.

The research plan report must include the meeting schedule and minutes of these meetings as an Appendix. Some tutorial time will be made available for you to meet with your supervisor, but other meeting times will be necessary.

Unit Web Page

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

<http://ilearn.mq.edu.au>

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

Unit Schedule

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult [iLearn](#) for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Date	Topic	Lecturer
L1: 27/2/20	Unit introduction; options for major project; students and supervisor expectations. Why Do Research? What is Research?	Simon French
T1: 27/2/20	No tutorials. Choose your project (available Friday 28 th February @ 11.00am)	
L2: 5/3/20	Framing the problem and formulating research questions	Simon French
T2: 5/3/20	Research question formulation	

Date	Topic	Lecturer
L3: 12/3/20	Clinical practice guidelines	Simon French
T3: 12/3/20	Appraising guidelines	
L4: 19/3/20	Library services and resources for chiropractic students	Fiona Jones, Abigail Baker, and Jo Hardy
T4: 19/3/20	Database searching tutorial	
L5: 26/3/20	Systematic and scoping reviews	Simon French
T5: 26/3/20	Critical appraisal of a systematic review	
L6: 2/4/20	Research Designs: Quantitative and Qualitative	Simon French
T6: 2/4/20	Quantitative research design activity	
L7: 9/4/20	In class exam #1	N/A
	No tutorials: Meet with supervisor/work on case study	
	Break: 16/4/20	
	Break: 23/4/20	
L8: 30/4/20	Ethics and research integrity	Kandy White, Director of MQ Research Ethics and Integrity
T8: 30/4/20	Meet with supervisor/work on case study	
L9: 7/5/20	Sampling, data collection and analysis; writing a case study	Simon French
T9: 7/5/20	Ethics and research integrity activity; Sampling, data collection and analysis activity	
L10: 14/5/20	Cochrane Risk of Bias & GRADE	Ben Brown
T10: 14/5/20	Cochrane Risk of Bias & GRADE activity	
L11: 21/5/20	Writing a journal article and making an excellent presentation	Simon French
T11: 21/5/20	No tutorial: Meet with supervisor/work on case study	
L12: 28/5/20	Knowledge translation and course summary	Simon French
T12: 28/5/20	Student presentations	

Date	Topic	Lecturer
L13: 4/6/ 20	In class exam #2	N/A
T13: 4/6/ 20	Student presentations	

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.*)

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) ([http://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 help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

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.