



# PSYM7768

## Advanced Issues in Developmental Psychology: Development Problems across the Lifespan

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

*Department of Psychology*

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Cathy McMahon

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

PSYH4468

Unit description

This unit will enable students to apply developmental theories to real-world problems across the lifespan. A series of developmental predicaments will be presented and students will be required to integrate multiple theoretical perspectives to analyse the biological, psychological and social aspects of the problem and predict developmental trajectories. The topics are based on five cases each of which will run over two weeks. Students work in small groups. The unit will introduce students to the clinical reasoning process from assessment through to theoretically informed models of intervention and the identification of potential research topics that underpin evidence-based practice.

## 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:** Apply a range of developmental theories to real-world problems.

**ULO2:** Identify contextual factors that facilitate or impede development at different life-stages.

**ULO3:** Integrate/synthesise multiple theoretical perspectives and systems to explain complex behaviours or predicaments.

**ULO4:** Respond thoughtfully and compassionately to a range of human predicaments and contexts, as well as demonstrating objectivity, critical reflection and scientific

enquiry.

**ULO5:** Undertake research on specific developmental problems and evidence based treatment approaches.

**ULO6:** Present assessment and management plans and research findings succinctly and clearly in written and oral formats.

## 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

In class presentation

Assessment Type 1: Presentation Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours Due: random dates to be assigned Weighting: 10%

Students are required to research a specific question, present their findings succinctly and cogently in a four minute PowerPoint presentation

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Undertake research on specific developmental problems and evidence based treatment approaches.
- Present assessment and management plans and research findings succinctly and clearly in written (case report) and oral (PowerPoint presentation) formats.

Case analysis

Assessment Type 1: Case study/analysis Indicative Time on Task 2: 55 hours Due: Week 8 27/4/20 Weighting: 50%

Students prepare a 1500 word case report on a topic related to issues covered in class

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply a range of developmental theories to real-world problems.
- Identify contextual factors that facilitate or impede development at different life-stages.

- Respond thoughtfully and compassionately to a range of human predicaments and contexts, as well as demonstrating objectivity, critical reflection and scientific enquiry.
- Integrate/synthesise multiple theoretical perspectives and systems to explain complex behaviours or predicaments.
- Undertake research on specific developmental problems and evidence based treatment approaches.
- Present assessment and management plans and research findings succinctly and clearly in written (case report) and oral (PowerPoint presentation) formats.

Short Answer examination

Assessment Type 1: Examination Indicative Time on Task 2: 41 hours Due: Week 13 1/6/20 Weighting: 40%

- Seven Short Answer Questions

## 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](https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status)

Classes are run as two-hour seminars. Students work in small groups on 5 case problems, using a problem based learning approach. Each case runs over two weeks. There is an introductory lecture and a final review lecture. None of the classes are recorded and students need to attend. In recognition of health and other issues, students will be eligible to sit the final examination if they attend at least 11 of the 13 classes (85%).

## 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](https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status)

UNIT SCHEDULE 2020		
24/2/20	Introduction	Theoretical Overview/PBL
02/3/20	Case 1 Infancy/Transition to Parenthood	Part 1
09/3/20	Case 1	Part 2 & Presentations (Group 1)
16/3/20	Case 2 Early School Years	Part 1
23/3/20	Case 2	Part 2 & Presentations (Group 2)
30/3/20	Case 3 Adolescence/Early Adulthood	Part 1
06/4/20	Case 3	Part 2 & Presentations (Group 2)

	Mid-Session/Easter Break 13 <sup>th</sup> April - 27 <sup>th</sup> April	
27/4/20	Case 4 Middle Adulthood	Part 1
04/5/20	Case 4	Part 2 & Presentations (Group 4)
11/5/20	Case 5 Older Adulthood	Part 1
18/5/20	Case 5	Part 2 & Presentations (Group 5)
25/5/20	Course Review	
01/6/16	Final Examination (in class)	

## 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-centr](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-centr)

al). 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](http://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>).

## 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](http://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto: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](http://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](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

If you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto: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/](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.