



# SPED8912

## Independent Project in Sensory Disability

Session 2, Fully online/virtual 2020

*Macquarie School of Education*

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#### **Disclaimer**

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#### **Notice**

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group learning activities on campus for the second half-year, while keeping an online version available for those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face and online activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

## General Information

### Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Susan Silveira

[susan.silveira@mq.edu.au](mailto:susan.silveira@mq.edu.au)

Contact via 0298720248

RIDBC Renwick Centre

8-5 Monday to Friday

Lecturer

Gregory Leigh

[gregory.leigh@mq.edu.au](mailto:gregory.leigh@mq.edu.au)

Contact via 0298720303

RIDBC Renwick Centre

9-5 Monday to Friday

Administration

Lena Karam

[lana.karam@mq.edu.au](mailto:lana.karam@mq.edu.au)

Contact via 0298720303

RIDBC Renwick Centre

8-4 Monday to Friday

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MDisabilityStud and 20cp from SPED8909-SPED8935 and permission by special approval

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The unit is intended for students interested in studying a specialised topic with the close direction of a Renwick Centre faculty member. This is an advanced course with flexible goals and assessments organised around an individual project. Consent of the unit convenor is required prior to enrolling and approval is contingent on available supervision.

## 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:** Analyse key issues, research literature, and/or practical initiatives in an area of interest (education, therapy or service approach) relating to individuals with sensory impairment;

**ULO2:** Demonstrate skill in undertaking and reporting reviews of the literature and in applying research results to professional practice with individuals who are deaf/hard of hearing or blind/have a vision impairment;

**ULO3:** Demonstrate critical thinking and knowledge synthesis;

**ULO4:** Devise a research proposal or practical resource targeting a question of interest

## General Assessment Information

### Assessment Presentation and Submission Guidelines

Please follow these guidelines when you submit each assignment:

- The assignment title page should include the student name, student number, unit code, title of the assessment and submitted word count.
- Allow a left and right-hand margin of at least 2cm in all assignments.
- Please type all assignments using Arial, 12-point font and 1.5 spacing.
- All assignments must be submitted through Turnitin as an **accessible word document - do not submit as a pdf**.
- It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all assessments are successfully submitted through Turnitin (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/tools-and-resources/ilearn/ilearn-quick-guides-for-students/assignments-and-grades>).

### Draft Submissions & Turnitin Originality Reports

Students are strongly advised to use Turnitin's Originality Report as a learning tool to improve their academic writing (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/tools-and-resources/ilearn/ilearn-quick-guides-for-students/assignments-and-grades>).

Students are strongly encouraged to upload a draft copy of each assignment to Turnitin at least one week prior to the due date to obtain an Originality Report. The Originality Report provides students with a similarity index that may indicate if plagiarism has occurred. Students should refer to the Originality Report and make amendments to their drafts prior to their final submission on the due date. Generally, one Originality Report is generated every 24 hours up to the due

date.

Students should regularly save a copy of all assignments before submission. Students are responsible for checking that their assignment submission has been successful, and has been submitted by the due date and time.

### **Assignment extensions and late penalties**

In general, there should be no need for extensions except through illness or misadventure that would be categorise as serious and unavoidable disruption according to the University definition of same: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration>

Applications for extensions must be made via AskMQ according to the Special Consideration policy. Extensions can only be granted if they meet the Special Considerations policy and are submitted via <https://ask.mq.edu.au/>. This will ensure consistency in the consideration of such requests is maintained.

Late submissions: Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests. Late penalties are applied by unit convenors or their delegates after tasks are assessed.

If a student is still permitted to submit on the basis of unavoidable disruption, an alternative topic may be set.

Students should keep an electronic file of all assessments. Claims regarding "lost" assessments cannot be made if the file cannot be produced. It is also advisable to keep an electronic file of all drafts and the final submission on a USB untouched/unopened after submission. This can be used to demonstrate easily that the assessment has not been amended after the submission date.

### **Requesting a re-assessment of an assignment**

If a student has **evidence** that their task has been incorrectly assessed against the grade descriptors, a re-mark can be requested. To request a re-mark you need to contact the unit convenor within **7 days** of the date of return of the assignment and provide **a detailed assessment of your script against the task criteria**. Evidence from your assignment must be provided to support your judgements.

Note: Failed assessments cannot be re-marked as they are all double-marked as a part of the moderation process.

Note: The outcome of a re-mark may be a **higher/lower or unchanged grade**. Grades are standards referenced and effort is NOT a criterion.

## University policy on grading

### Criteria for awarding grades for assessment tasks

Assignments will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the University's Grading Policy. The following descriptive criteria are included for your information.

### Descriptive Criteria for awarding grades in the unit

In order to meet the unit outcomes and successfully pass this unit, students must make a genuine attempt at all assessment tasks. Where any submitted assessment task is considered to be unsatisfactory in this regard, the highest possible final grade that can be awarded for the unit will be 45.

Students will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the policy: <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/assessment-in-effect-from-session-2-2016>

The following generic grade descriptors provide university-wide standards for awarding final grades.

Grade	Descriptor
<b>HD</b> (High Distinction)	Provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation to the learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying, generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problem solving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and their implications; creativity in application as appropriate to the discipline.
<b>D</b> (Distinction)	Provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience.
<b>Cr</b> (Credit)	Provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; convincing argumentation with appropriate coherent justification; communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.
<b>P</b> (Pass).	Provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; routine argumentation with acceptable justification; communication of information and ideas adequately in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the specified outcomes
<b>F</b> (Fail)	Does not provide evidence of attainment of learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; missing, undeveloped, inappropriate or confusing argumentation; incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little attention to the conventions of the discipline.

### Withdrawing from this PG Unit

If you are considering withdrawing from this unit, please seek academic advice via <https://ask.mq.edu.au> before doing so as this unit may be a co-requisite or prerequisite for units in the following sessions and may impact on your progression through the degree. Please also contact

Claire Farrington on 0298720811 or [claire.farrington@ridbc.org.au](mailto:claire.farrington@ridbc.org.au) prior to withdrawing and for advice related to your progression.

## Results

Results shown in iLearn, 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](#).

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<a href="#">Essay / literature review</a>	50%	No	Friday 11th September 2020
<a href="#">Research paper</a>	50%	No	Friday 6th November 2020

### Essay / literature review

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Essay

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 50 hours

Due: **Friday 11th September 2020**

Weighting: **50%**

Provide a detailed literature review of the chosen research topic. (2000 words)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse key issues, research literature, and/or practical initiatives in an area of interest (education, therapy or service approach) relating to individuals with sensory impairment;
- Demonstrate skill in undertaking and reporting reviews of the literature and in applying research results to professional practice with individuals who are deaf/hard of hearing or blind/have a vision impairment;
- Demonstrate critical thinking and knowledge synthesis;

### Research paper

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Essay

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 50 hours

Due: **Friday 6th November 2020**

Weighting: **50%**

Present a research proposal or practical application based on research. (2000 words)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate critical thinking and knowledge synthesis;
  - Devise a research proposal or practical resource targeting a question of interest
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<sup>1</sup> If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

<sup>2</sup> Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

## Delivery and Resources

### Delivery and Resources

SPED8912 has a full web presence through iLearn. All requirements for this unit begin Session 2 Week 1, 2020. Students are expected to access the iLearn site and engage with unit materials regularly during session 2.

### Contact with Unit Lecturer

It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Unit Lecturer by the end of week 1, session 2, 2020, to discuss the unit requirements. Failure to do this could jeopardise the time available to the unit requirements.

### Support resources

Macquarie University has a range of services for students. If you are struggling with any aspect of academic life or career trajectory and skills, we have great supports within the university. Please refer to the comprehensive list of support services [here](#).

### Access and technical assistance

Information for students about access to the online component of this unit is available at <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/tools-and-resources/ilearn>. You will need to enter your student username and password.

Please do **NOT** contact the Unit Convenor regarding iLearn technical help. No extensions will be given for any technical issues. Allow enough time for your submissions. Assistance is available from IT Helpdesk ph: 1800 67 4357, or log a request at [help.mq.edu.au](http://help.mq.edu.au). OneHelp is the online IT support service for both students and staff. This unit requires students to use several ICT and software skills:

- Internet access: The iLearn site contains materials for this unit; it is also required for the online submission of all Assessment Tasks, and for the use of Turnitin submission for ALL tasks.
- Word processing, visual representations, and document formatting: You are required to

use an appropriate form of software to present your assignments.

- Uploading of assessment tasks to 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) (<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) (<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](https://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

## Electronic Communication

It is the student's responsibility to check all electronic communication on a regular weekly basis. Communication may occur via:

- Official MQ Student Email Address



- The Dialogue function on iLearn
- Other iLearn communication functions

## 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.