



# STAT8990

## Master of Research - Statistics

Session 2, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

*Department of Mathematics and Statistics*

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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

#### Convenor

Catherine Penington

[catherine.penington@mq.edu.au](mailto:catherine.penington@mq.edu.au)

#### Contact via Email

12WW 718

Please refer to iLearn

#### Co-convenor

Richard Garner

[richard.garner@mq.edu.au](mailto:richard.garner@mq.edu.au)

#### Contact via Email

12WW 717

Please refer to iLearn

### Credit points

80

### Prerequisites

### Corequisites

### Co-badged status

### Unit description

The 8000-level components of the Master of Research (Year 2) are not designed around units. The thesis together with four core research activities form a single coherent research program based on individual research plans and will consist of the following: (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; and (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:

**ULO1:** develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.

**ULO2:** situate their individual research project within its broader research context, reviewing associated issues, debates and methodologies.

**ULO3:** make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.

**ULO4:** develop a major research plan, of up to 4 years scope, and with a pilot project that can be completed during the MRes year

**ULO5:** complete a research project in order to demonstrate individual research capability and the potential to conduct a major (PhD-scale) research project.

## Assessment Tasks

| Name  | Weighting | Hurdle | Due                           |
|---|-----------|--------|-------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Research Planning</a>                               | 0%        | Yes    | 18th September                |
| <a href="#">Literature Review</a>                               | 0%        | No     | 13th November                 |
| <a href="#">Poster Presentation</a>                             | 10%       | No     | Second week of December (TBC) |
| <a href="#">Participating in weekly departmental colloquium</a> | 0%        | Yes    | 18th December                 |
| <a href="#">Research Methods</a>                                | 0%        | Yes    | 28th February                 |
| <a href="#">MRes Thesis</a>                                     | 90%       | No     | Individual EWS date           |

## Research Planning

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

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 35 hours

Due: **18th September**

Weighting: **0%**

This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle

### assessment tasks)

Candidates will receive training in project management and plan a major research project.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- develop a major research plan, of up to 4 years scope, and with a pilot project that can be completed during the MRes year

## Literature Review

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Literature review

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 35 hours

Due: **13th November**

Weighting: **0%**

Candidates will survey the current literature relating to their individual research project.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.

## Poster Presentation

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

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 20 hours

Due: **Second week of December (TBC)**

Weighting: **10%**

Student will prepare a poster presentation explaining their current research.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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

## Participating in weekly departmental colloquium

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 26 hours

Due: **18th December**

Weighting: **0%**

**This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)**

Participation in colloquium will be assessed by departmental staff. Students must actively participate in at least 80% of the colloquium.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.
- situate their individual research project within its broader research context, reviewing associated issues, debates and methodologies.

## Research Methods

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 35 hours

Due: **28th February**

Weighting: **0%**

**This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)**

Departments will confirm candidates have adequately demonstrated their understanding and skills in appropriate research methodologies, and are able to critically analyse their use in comparison with alternative methods. Departments will report a satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade, as confirmation of your completion of this Activity.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.

## MRes Thesis

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

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 140 hours

Due: **Individual EWS date**

Weighting: **90%**

Candidates will complete an individual research project, incorporating all listed activities and culminating in a single coherent thesis. The thesis will be examined externally by two examiners.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.
- situate their individual research project within its broader research context, reviewing associated issues, debates and methodologies.
- make strategic decisions about how to approach their individual research problem.
- develop a major research plan, of up to 4 years scope, and with a pilot project that can be completed during the MRes year
- complete a research project in order to demonstrate individual research capability and the potential to conduct a major (PhD-scale) research project.

<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

There are no lectures or tutorials for this unit. All work is under the direction of the MRes advisor and thesis supervisor.

## 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](#) 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](#)

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.