PSYU3351

Research Methods in Psychology

Session 2, Special circumstance 2020

Department of Psychology

Contents

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Notice

As part of Phase 3 of our return to campus plan, most units will now run tutorials, seminars and ot her small group learning activities on campus for the second half-year, while keeping an online ver sion available for those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies onli ne.

To check the availability of face-to-face and onlin e activities for your unit, please go to timetable vi ewer. To check detailed information on unit asses sments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult yo ur unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit convenor

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Unit guide PSYU3351 Research Methods in Psychology

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Credit points
10

Prerequisites
((Admission to BPsych(Hons) and 60cp in PSY or PSYU or PSYX units at 2000 level including
(PSY248 or PSYU2248 or PSYX248 or PSYX2248)) OR ((60cp from PSY234 or PSYU2234
or PSYX234 or PSYX2234 or PSY235 or PSYU2235 or PSYX235 or PSYX2235 or PSY236
or PSYU2236 or PSYX236 or PSYX2236 or PSY246 or PSYU2246 or PSYX246 or
PSYX2246 or PSY247 or PSYU2247 or PSYX247 or PSYX2247 or PSY248 or PSYU2248 or
PSYX248 or PSYX2248) and (30p(Cr) from PSY234 or PSYU2234 or PSYX234 or PSYX2234
or PSY235 or PSYU2235 or PSYX235 or PSYX2235 or PSY236 or PSYU2236 or PSYX236
or PSYX2236 or PSY246 or PSYU2246 or PSYX246 or PSYX2246 or PSY247 or PSYU2247
or PSYX247 or PSYX2247 or PSY248 or PSYU2248 or PSYX248 or PSYX2248))

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is an introduction to research methods used in psychology and related disciplines.
Psychology uses the scientist-practitioner model as its basis. Successful completion of this
unit gives students an understanding of the range of methods that psychologists use to
answer their research questions, their strengths and weakness and the historical antecedents
of the science of psychology. One of the learning objectives of this unit is to provide insight
into the process of doing research: devising the question, selecting a research strategy,
conducting the study, evaluating the data, and reporting and interpreting the results, as well as
practical experience in doing research. Students learn important research terminology,
sampling strategies, measurement strategies, and how to write a research report.

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: Appropriately design a research project, including identification of the research
question and methodology, data analysis and interpretation of results.

ULO2: Demonstrate knowledge of research terminology, methodologies, sampling and
measurement strategies

ULO3: Effectively communicate the design and results of a research project via a research report

ULO4: Demonstrate an understanding of research ethics

ULO5: Critically evaluate and reflect on scientific practice

General Assessment Information

Note: Further information regarding assessment will be provided throughout the course. If you have questions about specific course components (e.g., specific lectures or workshops) then please contact the relevant teaching staff involved.

Weekly online quizzes: There will be 5 multiple choice questions available on iLearn each week. Questions will be based on the week's lecture and readings.

Final Exam: Note: Given that this is a research methods course, ALL material covered in the course (week 1-13) that is relevant to critical scientific reasoning is potentially assessable.

Given the current situation with COVID, please monitor your emails and iLearn for more details about the format and timing of the exam.

Requests for supplementary exams must be made via ask.mq.edu.au must be accompanied by appropriate documentation (such as a doctor's note or psychologist's report), and will be assessed according to the Special Consideration policy https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration

Students who are granted to sit for a supplementary exam must make themselves available to sit for the supplementary exam on the specified date. There will only be one time. It is the student's responsibility to email Student Centre to confirm attendance at the supplementary exam. You are advised that it is Macquarie University policy not to set early examinations for individuals or groups of students. All students are expected to ensure that they are available until the end of the teaching session, which is the final day of the official examination period.

Research report:

The assignment will be a report based on data collected by the students in PSYU3351. You will have responsibility for collecting, organising and analysing data. More details about the assignment will be given in the tutorials. • The report must be submitted to Turnitin (via iLearn). You will be required to submit your assignment to Turnitin plagiarism detection software via the Internet. Your assignment will be automatically compared to work of other students in this unit, previous students in this unit and at other universities, and material available on the Internet in subscription-based journal format or otherwise freely accessible information. The results of the analysis will be sent only to the unit chair and tutoring staff, who will analyse the results in reference to the University's standard policy on plagiarism https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/academic-integrity • Marked reports will be returned to students within three weeks of submission. A copy of the assignment must be kept as proof that the assignment was completed and submitted.

Penalties: • Written work that exceeds the word count will be penalised 5% for every 100 words over. For example, the report is worth 40% of the overall assessment for the Unit and if the word

length is exceeded by 100 words, then 5% x 40 = 2. • Work that is submitted late (and without extension) will receive a 5% penalty for every day late. For example, the report is worth 40% of the overall assessment for the Unit and if one day late, then 5% x 40 = 2.

Extensions:

Requests for extensions for assignments MUST be submitted via ask.mq.edu.au and are granted by the Student Centre. Neither individual tutors nor the course convenor will grant extensions. Ordinarily, no extensions of time for submission of written work will be granted since ample time for preparation will have been given. If an extension is required for medical or other extenuating circumstances, students may request this in writing through ask.mq.edu.au with supporting documentary evidence (such as medical certificate, counsellor note, or similar). All requests for extensions must be made prior to the due date for the assignment. If an extension is granted, the approval must be uploaded to Turnitin as the first page of the assignment.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Research Report	40%	No	5pm Friday 2nd October
Final Examination	50%	No	Exam period
Weekly online quiz	10%	No	Weekly

Research Report

Assessment Type [1]: Report
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 40 hours
Due: **5pm Friday 2nd October**
Weighting: **40%**

Students will submit a 2000 word research report in APA format.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Appropriately design a research project, including identification of the research question and methodology, data analysis and interpretation of results.
- Demonstrate knowledge of research terminology, methodologies, sampling and measurement strategies
- Effectively communicate the design and results of a research project via a research report
- Demonstrate an understanding of research ethics

- Critically evaluate and reflect on scientific practice

Final Examination

Assessment Type [1]: Examination
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 42 hours
Due: **Exam period**
Weighting: **50%**

Final examination held within the University's formal exam period, in accordance with relevant requirements.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Appropriately design a research project, including identification of the research question and methodology, data analysis and interpretation of results.
- Demonstrate knowledge of research terminology, methodologies, sampling and measurement strategies
- Demonstrate an understanding of research ethics
- Critically evaluate and reflect on scientific practice

Weekly online quiz

Assessment Type [1]: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 12 hours
Due: **Weekly**
Weighting: **10%**

Weekly online multiple choice quizzes

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of research terminology, methodologies, sampling and measurement strategies
- Demonstrate an understanding of research ethics

[1] 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.

[2] 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 will be a weekly 1 hour lecture, plus 10x2 hour workshops. Due to COVID, all lectures will be delivered online.

Required textbook:

- Gravetter, F.J., & Forzano, L-A. B. (2018). *Research Methods for the Behavioral Sciences* (5th ed.). Belmont, C.A: Wadsworth.

OR

- Gravetter, F.J., & Forzano, L-A. B. (2015). *Research Methods for the Behavioral Sciences* (5th ed.). Belmont, C.A: Wadsworth.

There are copies of the textbook in the library. If you plan to buy the book, note that there is an ebook available that is cheaper than the hard copy (via cengage.com.au)

Recommended (especially for report writing):

- Bell, P. & Staines, P. (2001). *Logical psych: Reasoning, explanation and writing in psychology*. Sydney, NSW: UNSW Press. [especially Chapters 9 & 11]

Assessable textbooks reading:

Most assessable reading will be from the main textbook. Assessable readings will be listed on Leganto (access via 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). 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). 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 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.