



PSYM7740

Psychology of Driving

Session 2, Special circumstance 2020

Department of Psychology

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Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

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

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Lecturer

Mel Taylor

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit is concerned with the application of various psychological theories in the context of driving. How do theories of perception, attention and risk-taking explain why some road accidents occur? What effect does a driver's age have on their risk of having an accident, and why? How do drugs: prescribed or 'recreational' affect driving? How can we develop methods to change risky attitudes and behaviours?

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: Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users

ULO2: Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes

ULO3: Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors

ULO4: Articulate the strengths and weaknesses of different techniques for studying road user behaviours

ULO5: Appraise the technological advances in transport and how they change our travel options and behaviours

General Assessment Information

Attendance to all the lectures during the 4 days of the course is compulsory. In the event of unavoidable non-attendance then students must submit an “Application for Special Consideration” which requires documentation after 3 days of absence. See relevant course administrator for the appropriate form to complete (Donna Keeley).

The essay will be submitted via Turnitin link on iLearn page. Requests for extensions should be made via ask.mq.edu.au

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Online quiz	10%	No	Throughout the session
Seminar presentation	35%	No	Week 12 - October 26
Essay	55%	No	Week 13 2nd November

Online quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **Throughout the session**

Weighting: **10%**

There will be an online quiz relating to the lecture content in the course.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users

- Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes
- Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors
- Articulate the strengths and weaknesses of different techniques for studying road user behaviours
- Appraise the technological advances in transport and how they change our travel options and behaviours

Seminar presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 40 hours

Due: **Week 12 - October 26**

Weighting: **35%**

Give a 20 minute talk on a pre-approved chosen topic relevant to the content of the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
- Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes
- Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors
- Articulate the strengths and weaknesses of different techniques for studying road user behaviours
- Appraise the technological advances in transport and how they change our travel options and behaviours

Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 49 hours

Due: **Week 13 2nd November**

Weighting: **55%**

A 2500 word essay in which the student writes an evaluative review of two journal articles on a

topic relevant to those covered in the course. This review will examine each article's methods, conclusions and contribution to our knowledge of traffic psychology

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the human factors that contribute to road crashes among different road users
- Appreciate the interaction between human, road environment and vehicle factors contributing to road crashes
- Distinguish the role of psychomotor, perceptual and cognitive skills in road use and the influence of drugs, developmental, attitudinal and motivational factors
- Articulate the strengths and weaknesses of different techniques for studying road user behaviours
- Appraise the technological advances in transport and how they change our travel options and behaviours

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

Lectures will be presented on three continuous days of the unit (June 29, June 30 & July 1). Powerpoint slides of the lectures and any relevant additional readings will be available on the iLearn website. Zoom recordings of the lectures will be available in Echo on 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](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 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.

Changes from Previous Offering

The face to face lectures have been replaced by Zoom lectures