FOAR7001

Research Communications

Session 2, Fully online/virtual 2021

Arts Faculty level units

Contents

Disclaimer

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Session 2 Learning and Teaching Update

The decision has been made to conduct study online for the remainder of Session 2 for all units WITHOUT mandatory on-campus learning activities. Exams for Session 2 will also be online where possible to do so.

This is due to the extension of the lockdown orders and to provide certainty around arrangements for the remainder of Session 2. We hope to return to campus beyond Session 2 as soon as it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Some classes/teaching activities cannot be moved online and must be taught on campus. You should already know if you are in one of these classes/teaching activities and your unit convenor will provide you with more information via iLearn. If you want to confirm, see the list of units with mandatory on-campus classes/teaching activities.

Visit the MQ COVID-19 information page for more detail.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor and Lecturer
Kirstin Mills
kirstin.mills@mq.edu.au
Contact via Email
Room B710, Level 7, 25 Wally's Walk
By appointment (email to set up a time to talk either in person or via Zoom)

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
FOAR7000

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit will prepare students for their transition into the second year of the MRES Degree. Through a combination of faculty-level and departmental seminars it will provide students with advanced disciplinary knowledge about research processes, practice and planning, with a particular focus on research writing and communication. Students will be exposed to leading research in their discipline and learn about the mindsets, habits and practices that shape the way researchers communicate knowledge for a range of different outputs and audiences. Through a variety of research-related communication activities students will have the opportunity to demonstrate competence in the application of generic research and communication skills to their area of research, and to produce written material that will provide an ideal foundation for their eventual second-year MRES research project and future academic writing.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

> **ULO1:** Display a high level of oral and written communication skills, with specialisation

for the specific needs of a discipline.

ULO2: Demonstrate an understanding of the key theories, principles and concepts in your area of specialisation

ULO3: Evaluate the research principles, practices and methods used within your discipline area.

ULO4: Identify appropriate research practices to support the development and completion of a research project.

General Assessment Information

PLEASE NOTE the new Late Assessment Submission Policy, effective from Session 2, 2021:

*Unless a **Special Consideration** request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – **10 marks out of 100 credit will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted seven days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline.***

Important Note on Final Marks:

All assessment results will be moderated during the teaching session in accordance with the assessment standards and criteria stipulated in the prescribed task rubrics. The first assessment, which practices communicating research to a general audience, is marked by the Unit Convenor, Dr Kirstin Mills. The Abstract task is marked by the Discipline Lecturers for the unit and moderated by the Unit Convenor. The Research Proposal is marked by the Discipline Lecturers and another member of your Department.

Please see the FOAR7001 iLearn site for the most up to date information about each assessment (including descriptions, marking criteria and due dates).

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Research Pitch	25%	No	23:59 05/09/2021
Research Abstract and Biography	25%	No	23:59 04/10/2021
Research Proposal	50%	No	23:59 14/11/2021

Research Pitch

Assessment Type [1]: Essay
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 25 hours
Due: **23:59 05/09/2021**
Weighting: **25%**

Write a brief exploratory overview of the research project you would like to explore for your MRes thesis. This research pitch should be written for a diverse audience including both specialist and non-specialist readers.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Display a high level of oral and written communication skills, with specialisation for the specific needs of a discipline.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the key theories, principles and concepts in your area of specialisation
- Evaluate the research principles, practices and methods used within your discipline area.
- Identify appropriate research practices to support the development and completion of a research project.

Research Abstract and Biography

Assessment Type [1]: Professional writing
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 25 hours
Due: **23:59 04/10/2021**
Weighting: **25%**

Write a 300 word abstract for the research project you would like to explore for your MRes thesis, and an accompanying 100 word (maximum) author biography.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Display a high level of oral and written communication skills, with specialisation for the specific needs of a discipline.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the key theories, principles and concepts in your area of specialisation
- Identify appropriate research practices to support the development and completion of a research project.

Research Proposal

Assessment Type [1]: Report
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 40 hours
Due: **23:59 14/11/2021**
Weighting: **50%**

Students will follow appropriate disciplinary requirements to write a formal research proposal for their Year 2 projects.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Display a high level of oral and written communication skills, with specialisation for the specific needs of a discipline.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the key theories, principles and concepts in your area of specialisation
- Identify appropriate research practices to support the development and completion of a research project.

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[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 Learning Skills Unit 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 in this unit are recorded and made available online. Students should complete each week's lecture, including the embedded writing tasks, before attending the tutorial.

Please see the FOAR7001 iLearn site for a schedule of lectures, tutorials, readings and learning activities.

Unit Schedule

This Unit is taught with a blend of Faculty and Department-led teaching:

Weeks 1-6 and 11-13 are taught centrally by the Unit Convenor, Dr Kirstin Mills and cover writing and research skills, how to use creative and critical thinking to write, developing a sustainable writing practice, peer-reviewing and more essential communication skills for researchers. You will practice and develop your writing craft through various writing activities both at home and in class.

During weeks 7-10 you will divide into departmental groups during which classes will be led by departmental lecturers. These department-led sessions consolidate the earlier weeks' content and apply it to discipline-specific contexts. You will practice the essential communication skills for your research discipline and further develop your research topics.

Schedule:

Week 1: Writing as a Researcher

Week 2: Developing a Research Question

Week 3: Crafting a Literature Review

Week 4: Academic Writing: Style and Craft I

Week 5: Academic Writing: Style and Craft II

Week 6: Abstracts and Presenting Research

Week 7-10: Discipline-led Weeks (class times may be different)

Week 11: Feedback, Editing and Peer Review

Week 12: Student Peer Review Sessions

Week 13: Research Planning (Preparation for Year 2)

Please see the FOAR7001 iLearn site for a more detailed weekly schedule.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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

Students seeking more policy resources can visit Student Policies (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the search tool.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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 Enquiry Service

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

Equity 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.

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.