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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 activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face 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
Convener
Petra Graham
petra.graham@mq.edu.au
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
See iLearn for consultation hours.

Convenor
Alissa Beath
alissa.beath@mq.edu.au
Department of Psychology
See iLearn for consultation hours

Alissa Beath
alissa.beath@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit provides students with an introduction to research design and statistical analysis. In this unit, students will learn about common research methods used in psychology and related disciplines, critically analyse these methods, and be able to conduct their own analyses. Both experimental and non-experimental research methods are covered, as well as a variety of statistical tests, including t-tests, correlation, and chi square analyses.

Students will learn data management techniques and appropriate methods to summarise data, including both numeric and graphical summaries. Students will also gain hands-on experience using the statistical software Stata.

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: Describe common research designs in psychological science and draw appropriate conclusions consistent with the research design.

ULO2: Describe statistical techniques in psychological science, including both significance testing and effect sizes, and apply these tests appropriately to research designs.

ULO3: Conduct statistical tests appropriately, including using statistical software, and draw appropriate conclusions.

ULO4: Summarise data, both numerically and graphically, including using statistical software.

ULO5: Critically evaluate research, research designs, and statistical testing in psychological science.

ULO6: Effectively communicate research findings, both formally and informally.

General Assessment Information
You will be using the software package Stata throughout the unit including for all of the assessments and practical classes. Details are given on how to access Stata for free in Lecture 2 and in the iLearn Required Resources area of the Outline and Unit Orientation block.

ATTENDANCE and PARTICIPATION: Please contact the unit convenor as soon as possible if you have difficulty attending and participating in any classes. There may be alternatives available to make up the work. If there are circumstances that mean you will miss a class, you can apply for Special Consideration via ask.mq.edu.au.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION: Assignment submission will be online through the iLearn page.

Submit assignments online via the appropriate assignment link on the iLearn page. A personalised cover sheet is not required with online submissions. Read the submission statement carefully before accepting it as there are substantial penalties for making a false declaration.

- Assignment submission is via iLearn. You should upload this as a single scanned PDF file.
- Please note the quick guide on how to upload your assignments provided on the iLearn page.
- Please make sure that each page in your uploaded assignment corresponds to only one A4 page (do not upload an A3 page worth of content as an A4 page in landscape). If you are using an app like Clear Scanner, please make sure that the photos you are using are clear and shadow-free.
It is your responsibility to make sure your assignment submission is legible.
If there are technical obstructions to your submitting online, please email us to let us know.

You may submit as often as required prior to the due date/time. Please note that each submission will completely replace any previous submissions. It is in your interests to make frequent submissions of your partially completed work as insurance against technical or other problems near the submission deadline.

**LATE SUBMISSION OF WORK:** All assessment tasks must be submitted by the official due date and time. In the case of a late submission for a non-timed assessment (e.g. an assignment), if special consideration has NOT been granted, 20% of the earned mark will be deducted for each 24-hour period (or part thereof) that the submission is late for the first 2 days (including weekends and/or public holidays). For example, if an assignment is submitted 25 hours late, its mark will attract a penalty equal to 40% of the earned mark. After 2 days (including weekends and public holidays) a mark of 0% will be awarded. Timed assessment tasks (e.g. tests, examinations) do not fall under these rules.

**FINAL EXAM POLICY:** 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 semester, that is, the final day of the official examination period. The only excuse for not sitting an examination at the designated time is because of documented illness or unavoidable disruption. In these special circumstances, you may apply for special consideration via ask.mq.edu.au.

If you receive special consideration for the final exam, a supplementary exam will be scheduled in the interval between the regular exam period and the start of the next session. By making a special consideration application for the final exam you are declaring yourself available for a resit during this supplementary examination period and will not be eligible for a second special consideration approval based on pre-existing commitments. Please ensure you are familiar with the policy prior to submitting an application.

You can check the supplementary exam information page on FSE101 in iLearn (bit.ly/FSESupp) for dates, and approved applicants will receive an individual notification one week prior to the exam with the exact date and time of their supplementary examination.

### Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial Participation</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Participation</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Report part 1</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Report part 2</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Weighting</td>
<td>Hurdle</td>
<td>Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
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<td>--------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weeks 3, 8, 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>University exam period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tutorial Participation**

Assessment Type: Participatory task  
Indicative Time on Task: 0 hours  
Due: Weekly  
Weighting: 0%  
This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

Students are expected to demonstrate their ability to engage with the unit by participating in tutorial classes.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe common research designs in psychological science and draw appropriate conclusions consistent with the research design.
- Describe statistical techniques in psychological science, including both significance testing and effect sizes, and apply these tests appropriately to research designs.
- Conduct statistical tests appropriately, including using statistical software, and draw appropriate conclusions.
- Summarise data, both numerically and graphically, including using statistical software.
- Critically evaluate research, research designs, and statistical testing in psychological science.
- Effectively communicate research findings, both formally and informally.

**Practical Participation**

Assessment Type: Participatory task  
Indicative Time on Task: 0 hours  
Due: Weekly  
Weighting: 0%  
This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)
Students are expected to demonstrate their ability to engage with the unit by participating in practical classes.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe common research designs in psychological science and draw appropriate conclusions consistent with the research design.
- Describe statistical techniques in psychological science, including both significance testing and effect sizes, and apply these tests appropriately to research designs.
- Conduct statistical tests appropriately, including using statistical software, and draw appropriate conclusions.
- Summarise data, both numerically and graphically, including using statistical software.
- Critically evaluate research, research designs, and statistical testing in psychological science.
- Effectively communicate research findings, both formally and informally.

Research Report part 1
Assessment Type: Report
Indicative Time on Task: 15 hours
Due: Week 6
Weighting: 15%

Students will submit the first part of a psychology research report in APA format.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe common research designs in psychological science and draw appropriate conclusions consistent with the research design.
- Critically evaluate research, research designs, and statistical testing in psychological science.
- Effectively communicate research findings, both formally and informally.

Research Report part 2
Assessment Type: Report
Indicative Time on Task: 20 hours
Due: Week 11
Weighting: 25%
Students will submit the remainder of the psychology research report in APA format that they began in Part 1.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Describe common research designs in psychological science and draw appropriate conclusions consistent with the research design.
- Describe statistical techniques in psychological science, including both significance testing and effect sizes, and apply these tests appropriately to research designs.
- Conduct statistical tests appropriately, including using statistical software, and draw appropriate conclusions.
- Summarise data, both numerically and graphically, including using statistical software.
- Critically evaluate research, research designs, and statistical testing in psychological science.
- Effectively communicate research findings, both formally and informally.

Online quizzes
Assessment Type: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task: 10 hours
Due: Weeks 3, 8, 13
Weighting: 20%

Multiple online quizzes spread across the session containing short answer and/or multiple choice questions testing both conceptual understanding and practical application of skills.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Describe common research designs in psychological science and draw appropriate conclusions consistent with the research design.
- Describe statistical techniques in psychological science, including both significance testing and effect sizes, and apply these tests appropriately to research designs.
- Conduct statistical tests appropriately, including using statistical software, and draw appropriate conclusions.
- Summarise data, both numerically and graphically, including using statistical software.
- Critically evaluate research, research designs, and statistical testing in psychological science.
• Effectively communicate research findings, both formally and informally.

Final Examination
Assessment Type 1: Examination
Indicative Time on Task: 5 hours
Due: University exam period
Weighting: 40%

Formal examination testing the learning outcomes of the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Describe common research designs in psychological science and draw appropriate conclusions consistent with the research design.
• Describe statistical techniques in psychological science, including both significance testing and effect sizes, and apply these tests appropriately to research designs.
• Conduct statistical tests appropriately, including using statistical software, and draw appropriate conclusions.
• Summarise data, both numerically and graphically, including using statistical software.
• Critically evaluate research, research designs, and statistical testing in psychological science.
• Effectively communicate research findings, both formally and informally.

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

Delivery:
Lectures will be delivered online via the iLearn site.
Tutorials (labelled "SGTA" in the timetable) and practicals do not begin until week 2.
Resources:

Please see iLearn before purchasing these texts


Technology Used and Required: All unit material is delivered through iLearn. The link may be found at [http://ilearn.mq.edu.au](http://ilearn.mq.edu.au). This unit requires access to the statistical package Stata; information will be provided on iLearn and in lectures regarding access to Stata.

Unit Schedule

See iLearn for details of assessment delivery and timings. Note that this schedule is subject to change if necessary.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assessments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Research design and analysis; Stata demonstration</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hypothesis testing</td>
<td>Quiz 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Measurement</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>One-sample tests</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Non-experimental designs</td>
<td>Report part 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Mid-session break</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Experimental designs</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Categorical data analysis</td>
<td>Quiz 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Longitudinal designs</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Mixed methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Best practice in Psychological Science</td>
<td>Report part 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Putting it all together</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>Quiz 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 (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/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://stu...
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.

Changes since First Published

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/02/2021</td>
<td>Updated General Assessment information</td>
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