



FOAR7001

Research Communications

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2022

Arts Faculty level units

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor, Lecturer and Tutor

Kirstin Mills

kirstin.mills@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

B710, Level 7, Arts Precinct, Macquarie University

Consultations welcome! Please email me to arrange a suitable time.

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

FOAR7000

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit focuses on the academic craft of research and writing, and will prepare students for their transition into the second year of the Master of Research 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 tailored specifically to the student's developing research project. Students will be exposed to leading research in their discipline and learn about the mindsets, habits and practices that shape the way researchers work and 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 advanced research and communication skills to their area of research, and to develop reading and writing habits and produce written material that will provide an ideal foundation for their eventual second-year MRes research project as well as future academic writing.

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: 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

Faculty of Arts Late Assessment Submission Penalty

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, **a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted**, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessment (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). **Late submission of time sensitive tasks** (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) **will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.**

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
<u>Research Pitch</u>	25%	No	11:55pm 11/09/2022
<u>Research Abstract and Biography</u>	25%	No	11:55pm 02/10/2022
<u>Research Proposal</u>	50%	No	11:55pm 13/11/2022

Research Pitch

Assessment Type ¹: Non-academic writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **11:55pm 11/09/2022**

Weighting: **25%**

Write a brief exploratory overview of the research project you would like to explore for your MRes thesis (or equivalent project if not progressing to MRes Year 2). 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: 20 hours

Due: **11:55pm 02/10/2022**

Weighting: **25%**

Write a short abstract for the research project you would like to explore for your MRes thesis (or equivalent project if not progressing to MRes Year 2), and a brief accompanying 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: Plan

Indicative Time on Task ²: 40 hours

Due: **11:55pm 13/11/2022**

Weighting: **50%**

Following appropriate disciplinary requirements, write a formal research proposal for your Year 2 MRes thesis project (or equivalent project if not progressing to MRes Year 2).

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.

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

This unit is taught through blended learning modes, involving a combination of online lectures and in person learning (via face-to-face classes or Zoom). Kirstin uses online lectures to help you consider research communication within the environment where you will most likely continue your research and writing throughout the semester (and onwards into MRes Year 2). Embedded learning activities within the lectures are designed to help you craft helpful writing habits and practices within this environment, so it is important to set time to do these before coming to the weekly live classes.

Weekly steps:

For most weeks (excluding those where students divide into department groups) students should:

- 1) Complete any readings set for that week.
- 2) Complete that week's recorded (online) lecture, including the embedded writing tasks.
- 3) Attend the live seminar/tutorial, where we will workshop writing and discuss the work you produced in response to the lectures.

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

Department-led weeks:

There will also be a four-week block where regular classes are replaced by department-led groups to cover discipline-specific approaches to research communication. Please see iLearn for more information and the schedule for these weeks.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](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 \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](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

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the 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

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

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.