PSYU3351

Research Methods in Psychology

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2023

School of Psychological Sciences

Contents

General Information

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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

General assessment Information Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the Macquarie University Assessment Policy.

All final grades are determined by a grading committee, in accordance with the Macquarie University Assessment Policy, and are not the sole responsibility of the Unit Convenor.

Students will be awarded a final grade and a mark which must correspond to the grade descriptors specified in the Assessment Procedure (clause 128).

To pass this unit, you must demonstrate sufficient evidence of achievement of the learning outcomes, meet any ungraded requirements, and achieve a final mark of 50 or better.

Further details for each assessment task will be available on iLearn.

Late Submissions

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 grade of '0' 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 concern.

For example:

Number of days (hours) late	Total Possible Marks	Deduction	Raw mark	Final mark
1 day (1-24 hours)	100	5	75	70
2 days (24-48 hours)	100	10	75	65
3 days (48-72 hours)	100	15	75	60
7 days (144-168 hours)	100	35	75	40
>7 days (>168 hours)	100	-	75	0

For any late submissions of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for Special Consideration

Research Report:

This will be based on data collected by PSYU3351 students. 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). 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 analysis will be sent only to the unit chair and tutoring staff, who will examine 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, if the word length is exceeded by 100 words, then 2 marks will be deducted (the report is worth 40% of the overall assessment for the Unit and 5% x 40 = 2). An additional 99 words beyond the limit can be written without penalty.

Extensions: Ordinarily, extensions of time for submission of written work will not be granted since ample time for preparation will have been given. If an extension is required because of medical or other extenuating circumstances, students may request this in writing through ask.mq.edu.au with supporting documentary evidence (such as a medical certificate), as for all other instances of Special Consideration. These will be assessed by administrative staff: neither individual tutors nor the course convenor will be involved. If an extension is granted, the approval must be uploaded to Turnitin as the first page of the assignment. Letter grades, not numeric marks, will be released for written assessment tasks.

Weekly Online Quizzes:

Assessed quizzes, featuring 5 multiple choice questions based on the week's lecture and readings, will be delivered via iLearn each week.

Final Exam:

ALL material covered in the course that is relevant to critical scientific reasoning is assessable.

The final exam for this unit is currently scheduled to occur on Macquarie University campus. Students are expected to make themselves available for the exam at the date and time set by the University, in line with the Assessment Policy and Procedure. Given the current situation with COVID, please monitor your emails and iLearn for more details about the format and timing of the exam, which is subject to change.

Requests for supplementary exams must be made via ask.mq.edu.au must be accompanied by appropriate documentation (such as a medical certificate), 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 a supplementary exam must make themselves available to sit for the supplementary exam on the specified date. 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.

Sitting the final exam is compulsory to be eligible to pass the unit. Any student who does not attempt the final exam will be granted a Fail Absent grade.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Weekly online quiz	10%	No	10am Tuesday, weekly (one week after the lecture)
Final Examination	50%	No	S2 Exam Period
Research report	40%	No	11.55pm, Friday 29th Sept.

Weekly online quiz

Assessment Type [1]: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 12 hours
Due: **10am Tuesday, weekly (one week after the lecture)**
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

Final Examination

Assessment Type [1]: Examination
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 42 hours
Due: **S2 Exam Period**
Weighting: **50%**

The examination will comprise of multiple choice and short answer questions to be completed in 2 hours

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

Research report

Assessment Type [1]: Report
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 40 hours
Due: **11.55pm, Friday 29th Sept.**
Weighting: **40%**

Students will write up a 2000 word research report in APA format based on a study completed in tutorials.

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

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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 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

Unit Versions

Two versions of this unit exist:

"In person-scheduled-weekday," also known as "F2F-DAY"

and

"Online-scheduled-In person assessment," also known as "ONL-S-F2FX"

For general information on unit versions, see this website https://students.mq.edu.au/study/enrolling/choosing-units

In person-scheduled-weekday (F2F)

This version of the unit has on-campus tutorial/practical classes only. Students should not attend on-campus classes if they are unwell or have any cold and flu-like symptoms. Ensure you follow the most recent University COVID-19 advice https://www.mq.edu.au/about/coronavirus-faqs

Online-scheduled-In person assessment (ONL-S-F2FX)

For this offering, all learning activities can be undertaken fully online. However, certain assessment tasks (for example, final exams) are scheduled to have compulsory on-campus attendance.

Unit Overview

As a student enrolled in this unit, you will engage in a range of EITHER online OR face-to-face learning activities, including lectures, workshops, and assigned reading.

The 12 lectures are currently scheduled to be delivered on campus, with recordings available via Echo360. However, given the COVID situation, they may be moved to Zoom.

There are 10 compulsory workshops, with both on-campus and online class options. At the time of publishing this unit guide, most workshops are scheduled to be held on campus. Class availability can be seen via eStudent class enrolment: the location of the class indicates if it is an online class or an on-campus class. However, in line with Public Health guidelines and University policy, this approach will be revised if and when necessary due to the COVID pandemic. Changes or updates will be communicated via iLearn and/or emails sent to student email accounts. Students should stay up to date with the latest University advice at the following website: https://www.mq.edu.au/about/coronavirus-faqs

Further details can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

Technology Used

Active participation in the learning activities throughout the unit will require students to have access to a tablet, laptop or similar device. Students who do not own their own laptop computer may borrow one from the university library.

Required Textbook

- Gravetter, F.J., & Forzano, L-A. B. (2018). *Research Methods for the Behavioral Sciences* (6th 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)

Additional Assessable Reading

Most assessable reading will be from the main textbook. Additional assessable readings will be assigned by individual lecturers where required, and will be listed on Leganto (access via iLearn).

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
- 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). 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

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 an d maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

Grading

Macquarie University, and Psychology undergraduate courses, follow standards-based assessment of student performance. All individual assessment tasks are subject to moderation, consistent with the Assessment Policy and Procedure. A student's final mark for this unit, and associated grade, must reflect their attainment of the unit learning outcomes, and isn't necessarily a simple summation of their individual assessment items.

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 Advocacy provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

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.

Inclusion and Diversity

Social inclusion at Macquarie University is about giving everyone who has the potential to benefit from higher education the opportunity to study at university, participate in campus life and flourish in their chosen field. The University has made significant moves to promote an equitable, diverse and exciting campus community for the benefit of staff and students. It is your responsibility to contribute towards the development of an inclusive culture and practice in the areas of learning and teaching, research, and service orientation and delivery. As a member of the Macquarie University community, you must not discriminate against or harass others based on their sex, gender, race, marital status, carers' responsibilities, disability, sexual orientation, age, political conviction or religious belief. All staff and students are expected to display appropriate behaviour that is conducive to a healthy learning environment for everyone.

Professionalism

In the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences, professionalism is a key capability embedded in all our courses.

As part of developing professionalism, students are expected to attend all small group interactive sessions including clinical, practical, laboratory, work-integrated learning (e.g., PACE placements), and team-based learning activities. Some learning activities are recorded (e.g., face-to-face lectures), however you are encouraged to avoid relying upon such material as they

do not recreate the whole learning experience and technical issues can and do occur. As an adult learner, we respect your decision to choose how you engage with your learning, but we would remind you that the learning opportunities we create for you have been done so to enable your success, and that by not engaging you may impact your ability to successfully complete this unit. We equally expect that you show respect for the academic staff who have worked hard to develop meaningful activities and prioritise your learning by communicating with them in advance if you are unable to attend a small group interactive session.

Another dimension of professionalism is having respect for your peers. It is the right of every student to learn in an environment that is free of disruption and distraction. Please arrive to all learning activities on time, and if you are unavoidably detained, please join activity as quietly as possible to minimise disruption. Phones and other electronic devices that produce noise and other distractions must be turned off prior to entering class. Where your own device (e.g., laptop) is being used for class-related activities, you are asked to close down all other applications to avoid distraction to you and others. Please treat your fellow students with the utmost respect. If you are uncomfortable participating in any specific activity, please let the relevant academic know.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
23/07/2023	Changed Karina Chan's role to Lecturer/Head Tutor

Unit information based on version 2023.03 of the Handbook