MQBS8005
Research Communications in Business and Economics
Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2023

Macquarie Business School Faculty level units

Contents

General Information................2
Learning Outcomes..................2
General Assessment Information...3
Assessment Tasks...................3
Delivery and Resources..............5
Unit Schedule......................5
Policies and Procedures.............5

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
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Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Permission by special approval

Corequisites

Co-badge status

Unit description
The unit provides an introduction to the essential elements of the research process, including developing an effective research proposal. It is designed for students who are undertaking, or who are seeking to undertake, a major higher degree research based project or thesis. Students will explore the purpose of research and its role within the broader community. Topics also include the philosophical aspects of the scientific process and knowledge paradigms, developing a necessary researcher’s mindset, as well as various protocols associated with research conduct and academic writing. Students will acquire a deeper understanding of various elements of the research project/thesis, including effective and comprehensive literature reviews, approaches to research and research methodology, as well as how to make sense of, and report on, data results. Students will learn to discuss and contextualise research results with regard to what has been found in previous literature and their implications for the theoretical foundations of their chosen study. Finally, students will be guided through various aspects of the peer-review process including the submission of manuscripts to conferences and journals as well as addressing reviewer feedback.

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: Develop knowledge, academic literacy and strategies to write critical reviews of literature in the discipline of business and economics

ULO2: Develop knowledge, academic literacy and strategies to write the research article, thesis or protocol in the discipline section by section

ULO3: Reflect on language and academic communication convention styles to inform future academic practice and writing

ULO4: Receive and address feedback to improve the quality of their research

ULO5: Orally communicate research ideas to specialist and non-specialist audience

General Assessment Information

Late Assessment Submission Penalty (written assessments)

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 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.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing blogs weekly</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weekly submission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature review</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>End of Recess: 23/04/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral presentation of the research proposal</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 13: 31/05/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A research proposal</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Exams Week: 19/06/2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Writing blogs weekly

Assessment Type: 1. Non-academic writing

Indicative Time on Task: 2. 24 hours

Due: Weekly submission

Weighting: 10%

Requires students to choose to write six blogs (Maximum 500 words each) responding to the
writing tasks provided in the weekly sessions of the course (except for the last week).

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Reflect on language and academic communication convention styles to inform future academic practice and writing
• Receive and address feedback to improve the quality of their research

**Literature review**

Assessment Type ¹: Literature review  
Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours  
Due: **End of Recess: 23/04/2023**  
Weighting: **40%**

The literature review requires students to demonstrate their knowledge and stance on the literature pertinent to their preferred subject topic. Students should collect relevant theories and studies from reliable academic sources, and apply critical thinking to evaluate them and critical writing to synthesize arguments and theoretical propositions in their written work. The word limit of the assessment is 3,000 words.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Develop knowledge, academic literacy and strategies to write critical reviews of literature in the discipline of business and economics
• Reflect on language and academic communication convention styles to inform future academic practice and writing
• Receive and address feedback to improve the quality of their research

**Oral presentation of the research proposal**

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation  
Indicative Time on Task ²: 6 hours  
Due: **Week 13: 31/05/2023**  
Weighting: **15%**

Students make a 5-min presentation on their proposed study with aid of slides.

On successful completion you will be able to:
Receive and address feedback to improve the quality of their research
• Orally communicate research ideas to specialist and non-specialist audience

A research proposal
Assessment Type 1: Project
Indicative Time on Task 2: 25 hours
Due: Exams Week: 19/06/2023
Weighting: 35%

This assignment requires students to compose a compact-version of research proposal on their preferred topic, the one reviewed for the assignment of literature review. In the proposal, students should address only required elements rather than all elements typically seen in a proposal. The word limit of the assessment is 3,000 words.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Develop knowledge, academic literacy and strategies to write the research article, thesis or protocol in the discipline section by section
• Reflect on language and academic communication convention styles to inform future academic practice and writing
• Receive and address feedback to improve the quality of their research

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
Please see the iLearn site for details.

Unit Schedule
Please see the unit schedule in the course’s iLearn site.

Policies and Procedures
Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://policie
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 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 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/](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.