### General Information

**Unit convenor and teaching staff**

**Unit convenor**
Shirley Wyver  
shirley.wyver@mq.edu.au  
Contact via Via iLearn  
Room 232 29WW  
Any time - appointments preferred

**Tutor**
Emma Sutherland  
emma.sutherland@mq.edu.au

Garry Jones  
garry.jones@mq.edu.au

**Credit points**
10

**Prerequisites**
40cp at 1000 level or above

**Corequisites**

**Co-badged status**

**Unit description**
This unit offers a critical overview of current theory, research and issues in child development from the preschool years through to late middle childhood and puberty. The unit covers the major aspects of children's cognitive, physical and social/emotional development, personality, gender and moral development. The unit also considers the influence of key relationships with siblings and peers for children's development. An understanding of factors that promote and attenuate optimal development and well-being and the unique contribution of child rearing contexts is integrated throughout. In addition, students develop knowledge of strategies for the promotion of good mental health for young children. During the course of the unit, students are encouraged to engage in active interpretation of the material covered and to consider both the implications and practical application in their professional contexts. Particular attention is paid to the implications for prior to school and primary school educators within the contemporary Australian social/cultural context.
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:** Demonstrate a thorough working knowledge of current research, theory and issues in child development.

**ULO2:** Explain the many and varying influences important to the development of a child.

**ULO3:** Understand the whole child by appreciating the links between different areas of development.

**ULO4:** Appreciate cultural, historical and contextual influences on development

**ULO5:** Appreciate the biological underpinnings of development.

**ULO6:** Examine the role of child development research for informing teaching practice.

General Assessment Information

- Students should be aware of and apply the University policy on academic honesty (see: https://policies.mq.edu.au/document/view.php?id=3)

- Unless a Special Consideration (see: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/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 11.59pm. 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.

- Please format assessments using 12-point font and 1.5 spacing.

- All assessments are submitted electronically. Turnitin plagiarism detection software is used to check all written assessments.

- It is important that submitted work does not report any content or ideas generated by
third parties or artificial intelligence sources.

- Students can use Turnitin's Originality Report as a learning tool to improve their academic writing if this option is made available in the unit.
- Students should carefully check that they submit the correct file for an assessment as no re-submissions will be accepted after the due date and time, including instances where students upload an incorrect file in error.
- Word limits are strictly applied. Work above the word limit will not be marked.
- All assessments are marked using a rubric.
- Marking of all assessments is moderated by the Unit Convenor.
- Applications for extensions must be made via AskMQ (https://ask.mq.edu.au/).
- It is **not the responsibility** of unit staff to contact students who have failed to submit assessments. If you have any missing items of assessment, it is your responsibility to make contact with the unit convenor.

**University policy on grading**

**Criteria for awarding grades for assessment tasks**

Assignments will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the University's Grading Policy. The following descriptive criteria are included for your information.

**Descriptive Criteria for awarding grades in the unit**

In order to meet the unit outcomes and successfully pass this unit, students must make a genuine attempt at all assessment tasks. Where any submitted assessment task is considered to be unsatisfactory in this regard, the highest possible final grade that can be awarded for the unit will be 45.


The following generic grade descriptors provide university-wide standards for awarding final grades.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HD (High Distinction)</td>
<td>Provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation to the learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying, generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problem-solving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and their implications; creativity in application as appropriate to the discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D (Distinction)</td>
<td>Provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Session 1 Exam Period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic Essay</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>9 April, 11.59pm (AEST)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exam**

Assessment Type 1: Examination

Indicative Time on Task 2: 50 hours

Due: Session 1 Exam Period

Weighting: 50%

A 2hr and 30min exam (plus 10mins reading time) that consists of a combination of multiple-choice, short answer and essay questions.
On successful completion you will be able to:

• Demonstrate a thorough working knowledge of current research, theory and issues in child development.
• Explain the many and varying influences important to the development of a child.
• Understand the whole child by appreciating the links between different areas of development.
• Appreciate cultural, historical and contextual influences on development

**Topic Essay**

**Assessment Type**: Essay

**Indicative Time on Task**: 50 hours

**Due**: 9 April, 11.59pm (AEST)

**Weighting**: 50%

1800wds. Discuss and critically evaluate the findings of at least five research studies related to specified area of development.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Explain the many and varying influences important to the development of a child.
• Understand the whole child by appreciating the links between different areas of development.
• Appreciate cultural, historical and contextual influences on development
• Appreciate the biological underpinnings of development.
• Examine the role of child development research for informing teaching 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**

**Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials**
Prescribed Text,


Students who have completed ECHE1180 should already have a copy of this textbook.

Please see iLearn for use of other editions of this textbook.

Note that you are allowed to take your textbook to your exam. You will be disadvantaged if you don't have a copy of the textbook.

*Macquarie University researcher.

Recommended Resources

In the Macquarie School of Education, students are required to use the American Psychological Association (APA) referencing procedures.

The library provides a range of resources and referencing information:


This unit has a full web presence through iLearn.

Students will need regular access to a computer and the Internet to complete this unit.

Weekly access to iLearn is compulsory for all students. Important assessment information will be posted here, as will other relevant unit notices and materials.

Various activities and materials for discussion and critical reflection are included as a core component of this unit. Electronic links and suggested references will be included in the Resources section. Please check the iLearn unit regularly.

Weekly lectures are available on the web through the ECHO360 lecture component. You must listen to all lectures.

PowerPoint slides are available in iLearn in advance of the weekly lecture and/or are available in the Active Learning Tool.

Access and technical assistance

Information for students about access to the online component of this unit is available at https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/index.php. You will need to enter your student username and password.

Please do NOT contact the Unit Convenor regarding iLearn technical help.

Assistance is available from IT Helpdesk

Ph: 9850 4357 or 1800 67 4357

Email: help.mq.edu.au.

On Campus: Ground floor at 18 Wally’s Walk
Unit Schedule

Your weekly unit schedule is available from 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 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](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

**Attendance for undergraduate units**

See the university timetable for information about when classes begin in this unit. [https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2024/](https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2024/)

Activities completed during weekly tutorials (internal) or on campus days (external) are essential for building the core knowledge and/or skills required to demonstrate the learning outcomes of this unit [and to meet the AITSL Graduate Teacher Standards and/or ACECQA requirements]. Attendance at all tutorials or on campus days is expected and the roll will be taken. Make up tasks may be given if attendance is missed to ensure all content is covered to meet accreditation requirements.

Students are required to attend the tutorial in which they are enrolled. Any changes to tutorial enrolments must be completed officially through e-student. Please do not contact the unit convenor requesting a change.

**Electronic Communication**

It is the student’s responsibility to check all electronic communication on a regular weekly basis. Communication may occur via:

- Official MQ Student Email Address
- The Dialogue function on iLearn
- Other iLearn communication functions

**Unit Expectations**

- Students are expected to read weekly readings before completing tasks and attending tutorials
- Students are expected to listen/attend weekly lectures before completing tasks and attending tutorials Note: It is not the responsibility of unit staff to contact students who have failed to submit assignments. If you have any missing items of assessment, it is your responsibility to make contact with the unit convenor. **Electronic Communication** It is the student’s responsibility to check all electronic communication on a regular weekly basis. Communication may occur via:
  - Official MQ Student Email Address
  - The Dialogue function on iLearn
  - Other iLearn communication functions if you are an External Student
● Please make effective use of the online component of the unit and access iLearn regularly. Keep up to date with listening to the lectures on a weekly basis.

**Fail Rule (For Initial Teacher Education Students)**

This unit is a part of a professional course listed on Schedules 2 and 3 of the Academic Progression Policy. This course has additional requirements that are applicable for the full duration of the course, including course-specific inherent requirements, Fitness to Practice requirements and other compulsory course requirements. It also has rigorous academic progression standards. Inability to meet these requirements may result in a withdrawal of offer of admission and/or permanent exclusion from the course in accordance with the General Coursework Rules.

**Changes from Previous Offering**

There are two assignments rather than three following student feedback.

The on-campus offering (2 Saturdays of intensive tutorials) available in previous years has been removed due to low enrolments. Online classes early in the evening and during lunchtime have been added for those who are working and/or unable to attend the Wallamattagul campus during week days.

**5Rs Framework**

The 5Rs Framework, developed by the School of Education at Macquarie University, is embedded throughout your teacher education course.

Your use of the 5Rs Framework will help you develop the capabilities that will make your teaching career sustainable and fulfilling.

In this unit, you will learn using the 5Rs framework, particularly in terms of becoming Responsive and Research Engaged. The unit commences with an overview of research in education and subsequent lectures include examples of high quality research to support critical reading of research. Tutorials will highlight how research can be used to support responsive practice in educational contexts. Assessments and tutorials provide opportunities to demonstrate understanding of Research Engaged and Responsive practice.

Unit information based on version 2024.02 of the Handbook.