BIOL3640
PACE: Experience in Biological Sciences
Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2024
School of Natural Sciences

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Culum Brown
culum.brown@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
130cp at 1000 level or above including 40cp in BIOL units

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This PACE unit provides an opportunity for students to engage with the community through a variety of activities. Examples might include group activities with a regional or local focus on public-sector agencies, professional bodies, companies, industry partners and not-for-profit organisations. The unit promotes learning through participation with community partners as well as the development of Course Learning Outcomes and professional skills. Students will be encouraged to apply theory learnt through their degree to real-world situations. Student learning will be facilitated through orientation and induction activities, scaffolding for skill, and knowledge development and debriefing; supported throughout by rigorous academic assessment.

Visit Employability Connect for important information on this unit including required preparation and closing dates for PACE activities.

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: Critically reflect on the core knowledge and skills you have developed throughout your university course.
ULO2: Effectively communicate your professional capabilities to potential colleagues and employers.
ULO3: Apply your core knowledge and skills to real-life tasks.

ULO4: Articulate and demonstrate how engaging with others can contribute to the well-being of people, communities, and the planet.

ULO5: Identify how to integrate your discipline-specific knowledge and transferable skills to embark on your chosen career path.

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>iLearn Post</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 2 and week 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short essay</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>28/04/2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PACE Activity Report</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>26/05/2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host Supervisor Evaluation</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>26/05/2024</td>
</tr>
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**iLearn Post**

Assessment Type 1: Practice-based task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 3 hours
Due: Week 2 and week 11
Weighting: 15%

This assignment comprises an iLearn Post focusing on your learning journey.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Critically reflect on the core knowledge and skills you have developed throughout your university course.
- Articulate and demonstrate how engaging with others can contribute to the well-being of people, communities, and the planet.
- Identify how to integrate your discipline-specific knowledge and transferable skills to embark on your chosen career path.

**Short essay**

Assessment Type 1: Essay
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours
Due: 28/04/2024
Weighting: 30%
This assessment requires you to demonstrate your understanding of key theoretical content covered in the BIOL3640 workshops and online modules, then relate this content to yourself, your PACE activities, and your courses of study.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Critically reflect on the core knowledge and skills you have developed throughout your university course.
• Apply your core knowledge and skills to real-life tasks.
• Articulate and demonstrate how engaging with others can contribute to the well-being of people, communities, and the planet.

PACE Activity Report
Assessment Type: Reflective Writing
Indicative Time on Task: 10 hours
Due: 26/05/2024
Weighting: 30%

This final assessment synthesises all of the learning objectives and outcomes in this unit. You will need to critically reflect on what you have learned in the unit, and the experience gained through your PACE activity. Then effectively communicate your capabilities and how your perception of them has changed over the course of the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Critically reflect on the core knowledge and skills you have developed throughout your university course.
• Effectively communicate your professional capabilities to potential colleagues and employers.
• Apply your core knowledge and skills to real-life tasks.
• Articulate and demonstrate how engaging with others can contribute to the well-being of people, communities, and the planet.
• Identify how to integrate your discipline-specific knowledge and transferable skills to embark on your chosen career path.
Host Supervisor Evaluation

Assessment Type 1: Performance
Indicative Time on Task 2: 9 hours
Due: 26/05/2024
Weighting: 25%

Supervisors will provide a report on student performance, progress, abilities acquired and attendance throughout placement, however the unit convenor will grade performance.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Critically reflect on the core knowledge and skills you have developed throughout your university course.
• Effectively communicate your professional capabilities to potential colleagues and employers.
• Apply your core knowledge and skills to real-life tasks.
• Articulate and demonstrate how engaging with others can contribute to the well-being of people, communities, and the planet.

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

The tutorials/workshops for this unit are partially face to face and partially online. They switch to online because we assume you'll be hard at work doing your internships during that period.

We prefer that students find their own placement opportunities, but the PACE team will also post opportunities that we have pre-arranged. Students are expected to complete a min of 70 hours of work integrated learning with their host. Hours will be tracked and signed off by the project supervisor.

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](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](http://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto: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/](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.

Unit information based on version 2024.03 of the Handbook