



COGS3250

Advanced Research Experience and Training

Session 1, In person-scheduled-infrequent, North Ryde 2024

School of Psychological Sciences

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Bianca De Wit

bianca.dewit@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp and admission to BCogBrainSc and permission by special approval

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit will provide students with the opportunity to participate in an independent research project under a supervisor from the Department of Cognitive Science. Students will have the opportunity to participate in multiple stages of research which may include developing research plans, writing proposals, conducting experiments, analysing data, and reporting results. Especially ambitious and productive students may earn the opportunity to present their findings at a scientific conference, and in rare cases, may even earn authorship on a peer reviewed paper. Admission to the unit is subject to supervisor availability and approval.

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: Formulate an original research question and develop an appropriate experimental design.

ULO2: Develop and competently use practical laboratory skills and appropriate research methods to investigate a research question.

ULO3: Critically evaluate and synthesise the primary scientific literature relevant to their research topic.

ULO4: Communicate research in written form.

ULO5: Interact with research group members and develop peer networking skills.

General Assessment Information

This is a non-graded unit, as the learning outcomes are best achieved through a satisfactory/unsatisfactory assessment.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Research group participation	15%	No	Throughout the session
Research log book	20%	No	Week 13
Research report	45%	No	Week 13
Research presentation	20%	No	Week 13

Research group participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **Throughout the session**

Weighting: **15%**

Attendance at, and active engagement with, the relevant research group meetings and seminars. You will also have to participate in at least 3 student group meetings and/or seminars throughout the session.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Interact with research group members and develop peer networking skills.

Research log book

Assessment Type ¹: Log book

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **20%**

Create and maintain a research log book documenting supervisory meetings, research group meetings, as well as the development and conduct of your research. You will have to include an

annotated bibliography of relevant readings.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop and competently use practical laboratory skills and appropriate research methods to investigate a research question.
- Critically evaluate and synthesise the primary scientific literature relevant to their research topic.
- Communicate research in written form.

Research report

Assessment Type ¹: Report

Indicative Time on Task ²: 28 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **45%**

Research report similar to a short journal article to document your research. This report will include a description of the relevant literature, as well as the the methods and results of your research.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Formulate an original research question and develop an appropriate experimental design.
- Develop and competently use practical laboratory skills and appropriate research methods to investigate a research question.
- Critically evaluate and synthesise the primary scientific literature relevant to their research topic.
- Communicate research in written form.

Research presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 14 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **20%**

Presentation of your research, including your plan and results.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Formulate an original research question and develop an appropriate experimental design.
- Develop and competently use practical laboratory skills and appropriate research methods to investigate a research question.
- Critically evaluate and synthesise the primary scientific literature relevant to their research topic.
- Interact with research group members and develop peer networking skills.

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

Each student will work with an individual supervisor, and the details of participation and relevant meetings will be arranged individually. In addition, the students will participate in three group meetings with the convenor & other supervisors.

There will be an iLearn site for shared resources and discussions. The group meetings will be scheduled to be at a time convenient to the students - the dates for this will be organised through iLearn in Week 1.

The convenor is available for additional support if needed - please email (bianca.dewit@mq.edu.au) for an appointment.

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 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 2024.01R of the [Handbook](#)