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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research group participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Throughout the session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research log book</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research report</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**: Report  
**Indicative Time on Task**: 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 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**: Presentation  
**Indicative Time on Task**: 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). 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.

Unit information based on version 2024.01R of the [Handbook](https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/162982/unit_guide/print)