ECHE8270
Learning Through Mathematics, Science and Technology in Early Childhood Settings
Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2024

Macquarie School of Education

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https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/163192/unit_guide/print
General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor, Lecturer, Tutor
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By appointment

Tutor, marker
Bridgeen Pritchard
bridgeen.pritchard@mq.edu.au
Contact via email

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
[Admission to (MTeach(0-5) or GradCertEChild) and (ECED600 or ECHE6000)) or [admission to MEChild or MEd or MELead or MIndigenousEd or MSpecEd or GradCertEdS]

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit explores theories of learning in mathematics, science and technology for young children (birth to five years). Students will examine the specialist role of play and conceptual development in a range of early childhood settings. Current issues in research and practice will be investigated through independent study. Students acquire autonomy and expert knowledge of pedagogy and content for mathematics, science and technology as they design and evaluate learning experiences for young children.

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 fundamental understanding of the major theoretical developments
in early childhood mathematics, science and technology education.

**ULO2:** Examine the role of play in children’s mathematics, science and technology in early learning settings.

**ULO3:** Evaluate a number of mathematics, science and technology resources.

**ULO4:** Engage in the multi-faceted task of early childhood curriculum design with an emphasis on mathematics, science and technology.

**ULO5:** Locate and synthesise a wide range of contemporary research literature relating to mathematics, science and technology in early learning.

### 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](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](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 23:55. 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.

- 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.
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. For Professional Experience units the PE Report is marked as satisfactory or unsatisfactory and the Teaching Performance Assessment (in final PE units) is marked as not meets, meets or exceeds. 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.

<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>
<tr>
<td>Cr (Credit)</td>
<td>Provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; convincing argumentation with appropriate coherent justification; communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P (Pass)</td>
<td>Provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; routine argumentation with acceptable justification; communication of information and ideas adequately in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the specified outcomes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
F (Fail)

Does not provide evidence of attainment of learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; missing, undeveloped, inappropriate or confusing argumentation; incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little attention to the conventions of the discipline.

Note: If you fail a unit with a professional experience component, the fail grade will be on your transcript irrespective of the timing of the placement.

**Academic Integrity**

In accordance with the Academic Integrity Policy a student must take responsibility, be proactive, take ownership and hold oneself responsible for ensuring all information and content, including citations and references in their assessment, have been generated and communicated in an ethical, honest and responsible manner. Failure to show responsibility by checking the accuracy and integrity of your own content, citations and references, or the submission of falsified content, is a breach of the Academic Integrity Policy.

**Academic Integrity and Generative AI**

In accordance with the Academic Integrity Policy a student must take responsibility, be proactive, take ownership and hold oneself responsible for ensuring all information and content, including citations and references in their assessment, have been generated and communicated in an ethical, honest and responsible manner. Failure to show responsibility by checking the accuracy and integrity of your own content, citations and references, or the submission of falsified content, is a breach of the Academic Integrity Policy.

**Withdrawing from this unit**

If you are considering withdrawing from this unit, please seek academic advice via [https://ask.mq.edu.au](https://ask.mq.edu.au) before doing so as this unit may be a co-requisite or prerequisite for units in the following sessions and may impact your course progression.

**Results**

Results shown in iLearn, 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](https://ask.mq.edu.au).

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Task 1: Develop a mind map from a provocation and design learning experiences.</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>23:55 22/09/2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Assessment Task 2: Literature and resource review

**Assessment Type**: Literature review  
**Indicative Time on Task**: 31 hours  
**Due**: 23:55 13/10/2024  
**Weighting**: 45%

Literature review of contemporary research informing a review of technological resources that can support mathematical and scientific thinking and learning in young children (2500 words).

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### Assessment Task 1: Develop a mind map from a provocation and design learning experiences.

**Assessment Type**: Programming Task  
**Indicative Time on Task**: 30 hours  
**Due**: 23:55 22/09/2024  
**Weighting**: 45%

Develop a mind map from a provocation and design learning experiences based on Mathematical and Scientific concepts and processes (2500 words).

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the major theoretical developments in early childhood mathematics, science and technology education.
- Examine the role of play in children's mathematics, science and technology in early learning settings.
- Engage in the multi-faceted task of early childhood curriculum design with an emphasis on mathematics, science and technology.
- Locate and synthesise a wide range of contemporary research literature relating to mathematics, science and technology in early learning.

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### Tutorial Participation

**Weighting**: 10%  
**Hurdle**: No  
**Due**: ongoing

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**Unit guide** ECHE8270 Learning Through Mathematics, Science and Technology in Early Childhood Settings

[https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/163192/unit_guide/print](https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/163192/unit_guide/print)
On successful completion you will be able to:

• Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the major theoretical developments in early childhood mathematics, science and technology education.
• Examine the role of play in children's mathematics, science and technology in early learning settings.
• Evaluate a number of mathematics, science and technology resources.
• Engage in the multi-faceted task of early childhood curriculum design with an emphasis on mathematics, science and technology.
• Locate and synthesise a wide range of contemporary research literature relating to mathematics, science and technology in early learning.

**Tutorial Participation**

Assessment Type 1: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task 2: 5 hours

Due: **ongoing**

Weighting: **10%**

There will be a compulsory participation tasks for all students

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the major theoretical developments in early childhood mathematics, science and technology education.
• Examine the role of play in children's mathematics, science and technology in early learning settings.

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](https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/163192/unit_guide/print) 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 text


Information about the unit iLearn site

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, including a reading template and guide to lecture note taking to assist your studies.

Various activities and materials for discussion and critical reflection are included and students enrolled in INFQ mode are especially encouraged to use this web component. 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.

Modified PowerPoint slides are available in iLearn. These are to guide students through the lecture, not offered as a replacement.

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](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

Structure

The unit structure can be found in the university timetable [https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2024/](https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2024/) In the tutorial students will discuss issues and questions arising from the lectures and prescribed readings. They are expected to base their arguments/discussions on evidence from published research and other relevant material. There will be a supporting iLearn site for the unit providing additional readings, links and materials.

The weekly program for the course with the accompanying readings/ preparation is available on [https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/163192/unit_guide/print](https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/163192/unit_guide/print)
the unit iLearn site.

**Unit Schedule**
The weekly program for the course with the accompanying readings and preparation is available on the unit iLearn site.

**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](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.
School of Education Procedures

The following policies and procedures of the School of Education are applicable in this unit.

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/DAY mode) or on campus days (external/INFQ mode) 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. This is dependent on Special Considerations application being approved.

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.

Attendance for Postgraduate 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 are essential for building the core knowledge and/or skills required to demonstrate the learning outcomes of this unit.

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

Infrequent Attendance Students

Information about the dates of the on-campus sessions can be found in the university timetable. [https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2024/](https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2024/)

- The on-campus sessions are essential to student engagement and learning and attendance on all days is expected. Failure to attend or to have an approved Special Consideration may result in a Fail grade for the unit. Please see attendance
requirements in this unit guide.

- Prior to the on-campus sessions, you should have read the prescribed readings and listened to the lectures. Summarise the main points and make a note of the key terms and definitions. Prepare any discussion questions of your own that you wish to share.

- 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.

- Further specific details and any updates about times and locations will be posted on iLearn as an Announcement during first half of the semester.

**Fail Rule**

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.

**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:
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.

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 in the following important ways:

Resilience: engaging strongly with intellectually challenging content relevant to teaching mathematics

Reflexive: development and focus on critical thinking skills that develop professional discernment when teaching mathematics

Research engaged: use research to discuss and justify approaches to teaching and learning mathematics

Unit information based on version 2024.01R of the Handbook