FOAR7002
Research Frontiers
Full year 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2024
Arts Faculty level units

Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Information</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Assessment Information</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Tasks</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery and Resources</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policies and Procedures</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor
Kirstin Mills
kirstin.mills@mq.edu.au
Contact via Email
Room 752, Level 7, 25B Wally’s Walk (Arts Precinct)
By appointment (please email to set up a time to meet on campus or online)

Credit points
20

Prerequisites
Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
Research Frontiers 1 is a year-long unit that will expose Bachelor of Philosophy students to the range of topics that are currently dominating their chosen disciplines and the Humanities and Social Sciences more broadly. It will equip students with the skills to critically appraise the emerging research trends in their area of study, and prepare students to undertake independent research by allowing them to craft their own study program, tailored to their developing research ideas, and which incorporates the reading and thinking time necessary for the development of a research topic. Students will also participate in Department and Faculty research communities and cultures by attending research seminars, and deepen their learning through critical reflection on their developing skills, knowledge and experiences. Students will acquire disciplinary knowledge at a high level and learn how research is carried out in the disciplinary area of their choice so that by the end of the course they can demonstrate competence in articulating and applying key research skills in their field.

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: Explain the relevant research questions and approaches to research in their
chosen discipline area.

**ULO2:** Apply a high level of oral, written and technological communication skills in the preparation of a portfolio documenting their learning.

**ULO3:** Use well developed judgement to responsibly ask research questions.

**ULO4:** Provide evidence of the ability to be an independent learner.

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**General Assessment Information**

**Late Assessment Submission Penalty**

University Assessment Policy is as follows:

Unless a 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 11.55pm. 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.

*As this is a Pass/Fail unit, the usual 5% penalty does not apply in the same way; please contact the Unit Convenor, Dr Kirstin Mills, if you are experiencing problems that will result in late submission of your assessment, and/or submit a Special Consideration.*

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**Assessment Tasks**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reflections on Learning Experiences</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>02/06/2024; 01/09/2024; 07/10/2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End-of-year poster reflection</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>17/11/2024</td>
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</tbody>
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**Reflections on Learning Experiences**

Assessment Type: Reflective Writing
Indicative Time on Task: 15 hours
Due: 02/06/2024; 01/09/2024; 07/10/2024
Weighting: 75%

Students will write brief reflections of their learning journeys in response to prompts. Each reflection should communicate the value of activities undertaken for the students’ learning.
journey and developing research ideas (see rubric under the 'Assessments' tab on the iLearn site for precise details of what is expected).

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Explain the relevant research questions and approaches to research in their chosen discipline area.
• Apply a high level of oral, written and technological communication skills in the preparation of a portfolio documenting their learning.
• Use well developed judgement to responsibly ask research questions.

End-of-year poster reflection

Assessment Type: Poster
Indicative Time on Task: 15 hours
Due: 17/11/2024
Weighting: 25%

Students will create a poster that depicts their learning journey throughout the year towards their research topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Apply a high level of oral, written and technological communication skills in the preparation of a portfolio documenting their learning.
• Use well developed judgement to responsibly ask research questions.
• Provide evidence of the ability to be an independent learner.

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.

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

FOAR7002 is a year long unit focused on researcher development. Students will attend 2
introductory lectures at the start of Session 1, which will explain how the unit and assessments work, and another at the end of Session 1 in preparation for moving into Session 2. Students will also undertake a personalised program of activities throughout the year designed to support the transition from undergraduate to postgraduate research, developing this program from a list of department-specified options that suit their own research needs (including department research seminars, reading groups or auditing a unit, development workshops, research skills workshops and independent reading).

Full details of each department's program for this unit are on the FOAR7002 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**.

**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/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/)
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.