



MEDI7007

Unlocking the Mechanisms of Human Disease

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2024

Macquarie Medical School

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to BPhil/MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

In this unit you will explore the aetiology, pathogenesis and risk factors involved in common human diseases, including cancer and neurodegenerative conditions. Disease processes will be studied with a focus on cell biology, genetics, and immunology. You will gain an in depth understanding of fundamental biological mechanisms governing human disease pathogenesis. Current treatments and clinical trials will be reviewed and the impact of disease on the individual and on society will be discussed. The latest research into treatment response and resistance, liquid biopsies, and biomarker discovery will be incorporated throughout the unit, and the reality and promise of personalised therapy will be considered.

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:** Identify the mechanisms and risk factors that contribute to disease.
- ULO2:** Critically review contemporary research in human disease processes.
- ULO3:** Evaluate current treatment strategies and the role of personalised therapy.
- ULO4:** Interpret and communicate research concepts and results.

Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Hurdle | Due |
|------------------------------------|-----------|--------|--------------------|
| Final exam | 45% | No | 4-22 November 2024 |
| Oral Presentation | 30% | No | 26 August 2024 |
| Written Assessment | 25% | No | 11 October 2024 |

Final exam

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 22 hours

Due: **4-22 November 2024**

Weighting: **45%**

Assessment of unit knowledge.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify the mechanisms and risk factors that contribute to disease.
- Critically review contemporary research in human disease processes.
- Evaluate current treatment strategies and the role of personalised therapy.

Oral Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Debate

Indicative Time on Task ²: 24 hours

Due: **26 August 2024**

Weighting: **30%**

Face to face debate on a current research topic

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify the mechanisms and risk factors that contribute to disease.
- Critically review contemporary research in human disease processes.
- Evaluate current treatment strategies and the role of personalised therapy.
- Interpret and communicate research concepts and results.

Written Assessment

Assessment Type ¹: Summary

Indicative Time on Task ²: 24 hours

Due: **11 October 2024**

Weighting: **25%**

Prepare a structured research abstract

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify the mechanisms and risk factors that contribute to disease.
- Critically review contemporary research in human disease processes.
- Evaluate current treatment strategies and the role of personalised therapy.
- Interpret and communicate research concepts and results.

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

GraphPad Prism - access provided during unit

Recommended reading material in iLearn

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 connect.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 the [Service Connect Portal](#), 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](#)