



MQBS8900

Business Research Communication

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2025

Macquarie Business School Faculty level units

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

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Lecturer

Terry Royce

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Please email the lecturer any question you might have.

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to Graduate Certificate of Research in Business, Graduate Diploma of Research in Business

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The unit helps students to develop a researcher's mindset by introducing the essential elements of the research process, including a critical review, research proposal and research communication. The unit will cover the philosophical aspects of the scientific process and knowledge paradigms, the purpose of research and its role within academic and corporate communities and research integrity. In particular, it focuses on developing a coherent and comprehensive review of existing knowledge and insights, identifying relevant research questions, proposing research approaches and methodologies, contextualising research contributions and communicating to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

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: Critically review existing knowledge and insights in your discipline.

ULO2: Develop a research proposal to address a relevant gap identified in the critical review.

ULO3: Communicate research ideas, proposals, findings and implications to academic, corporate and non-specialist audiences using appropriate communication styles.

General Assessment Information

All written assessments must be submitted via turnitin in ilearn no later than 11:55pm on the specified submission date.

Late Assessment Submission Penalty (written assessments)

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 grade of '0' 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 concern.

For any late submissions of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to apply for [Special Consideration](#).

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Critical review	40%	No	21/04/2025
Presentation of research proposal	20%	No	02/06/2025
Written research proposal	40%	No	13/06/2025

Critical review

Assessment Type ¹: Literature review

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **21/04/2025**

Weighting: **40%**

Students write a critical review of a discipline-specific topic using existing knowledge and insights. Length: 3,000 words.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically review existing knowledge and insights in your discipline.

Presentation of research proposal

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **02/06/2025**

Weighting: **20%**

Students present a research proposal addressing the relevant gap identified in the critical review.
Length: 10 minutes

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop a research proposal to address a relevant gap identified in the critical review.
- Communicate research ideas, proposals, findings and implications to academic, corporate and non-specialist audiences using appropriate communication styles.

Written research proposal

Assessment Type ¹: Report

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **13/06/2025**

Weighting: **40%**

Students write a research proposal addressing the relevant gap identified in the critical review and taking into account the feedback received from the presentation. Length: 3,000 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop a research proposal to address a relevant gap identified in the critical review.
- Communicate research ideas, proposals, findings and implications to academic, corporate and non-specialist audiences using appropriate communication styles.

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

Delivery: 3-hour seminar each week, on-campus as per timetable.

Resources: Please see [iLearn](#) for weekly resources.

Unit Schedule

Week 1 Fundamental Knowledge for Starting a Research Project

Week 2 How to Write a Critical Literature Review

Week 3 Library Skills and Information Literacy Support for Research

Week 4 Critiquing Literature and Developing Research Questions

Week 5 Working with Theory in Research

Week 6 Citation & Writing Style & A Rigorous Description & Justification of Methods

Week 7 Literature Review Rhetorical Structure & Interpret Results and Draw Implications

Week 8 Communicating Research to Specialist and non-Specialist Audiences & Develop Arguments and Write with Good Flow

Week 9 The research proposal / research 'story'

Week 10 Abstracts & introductions: how to set the stage for your reader(s)

Week 11 Methodology revisited (for the question) & results (the answers)

Week 12 Discussion & Conclusion

Week 13 Presentation of Research Proposal

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 2025.02 of the [Handbook](#)