



# ECHE8200

## Families in Context

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

*Macquarie School of Education*

### Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	4
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	6
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	7
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	7

#### **Disclaimer**

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Nicole Jamison

[nicole.jamison@mq.edu.au](mailto:nicole.jamison@mq.edu.au)

Unit Convenor

Dr Jennifer Skattebol

Contact via iLearn Dialogue

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MTeach(0-5) or MEChild or MEd or MEdLead or MIndigenousEd or GradDipIndigenousEd or MSpecEd or GradCertEChild or GradCertEdS

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The overarching aim of this unit is to examine the implications of diversity in family values and the value of family across a range of contexts. Over the course of the unit, we will consider the role of socio-cultural, economic and political contexts in shaping family life and family values in the 21st century. Drawing on a variety of resources, including diverse media, academic publications and reflections on personal experiences, we will explore changing family lives and the extent to which traditional, largely Western-based, images of 'family' life reflect contemporary experiences and practices of families and children in Australia and abroad.

## 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:** Explore diverse contexts in and perspectives on ways in which families function.

**ULO2:** Reflect on personal experiences and how these shape perspectives.

**ULO3:** Source credible and scholarly research concerning families to inform practice and generate new understandings and knowledge.

**ULO4:** Highlight and critically analyse a range of social, cultural and political

perspectives/influences on family life.

**ULO5:** Consider ways in which awareness of families in context can facilitate/support early childhood teaching practice.

**ULO6:** Engage in active and critical reflective practice about working with diverse families

## General Assessment Information

### General Submission Information

Please format assessments using 12-point font and 1.5 spacing.

All assessments must be submitted electronically. Turnitin plagiarism detection software is used to check all written assessments. It is the responsibility of all students to ensure that their submitted work is in a format compatible with Turnitin software for plagiarism checking. Submissions must meet the required file type and formatting specifications outlined in the assessment guidelines. Failure to submit work in an acceptable format may result in delays in processing your submission and potential penalties for non-compliance with assessment requirements. If you are unsure about the file format or have technical difficulties, it is your responsibility to seek assistance before the submission deadline. Students should be careful to 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. It is not the responsibility of unit staff to contact students who have failed to submit assessments. If you have any missing items of assessment, it is your responsibility to contact the unit convenor.

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.

Word limits are strictly applied. Work above the word limit will not be marked.

### Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Students should be aware of and apply the University policy on academic integrity (see: <https://policies.mq.edu.au/document/view.php?id=3>). Any student suspected of using unauthorised AI in an assignment will be referred to the Faculty of Arts Discipline Committee. Penalties can include reduced marks for an assessment, being awarded '0' for a task, failing an entire unit, being excluded from a course of study. Please see each assessment task description/rubric for expectations about AI.

### Special Consideration / Late Penalties

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day an assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends) (see: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/special-consideration>). Applications for extensions must be made via [Service Connect](#). 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 assessments (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. A Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.

## Marking

All assessments are marked using a rubric.

Marking of all assessments is moderated by the Unit Convenor.

## University Policy on Grading

Assignments will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the [University's Grading System](#) and [University Assessment Policy](#).

To attain a pass or higher grade in Professional Experience a student must obtain a satisfactory in both the Professional Experience component and a pass or higher grade in the academic component. For Professional Experience units the Professional Experience Evaluation Report is marked as Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory. The Macquarie Teaching Performance Assessment (MQTPA - in final WIL/PEX units) is marked as Not met, Met or Exceeds.

## Results

Results shown in iLearn, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed because 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 [Service Connect](#).

## Withdrawing from this unit

If you are considering withdrawing from this unit, please seek academic advice via [Service Connect](#) 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.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<a href="#">Assessment 1</a>	20%	No	Part 1: 08/03/2025; Part 2: 18/05/2025
<a href="#">Assessment 2</a>	40%	No	17/04/2025
<a href="#">Assessment 3</a>	40%	No	29/05/2025

## Assessment 1

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 20 hours

Due: **Part 1: 08/03/2025; Part 2: 18/05/2025**

Weighting: **20%**

Reflective writing. 1000 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explore diverse contexts in and perspectives on ways in which families function.
- Reflect on personal experiences and how these shape perspectives.
- Highlight and critically analyse a range of social, cultural and political perspectives/ influences on family life.
- Engage in active and critical reflective practice about working with diverse families

## Assessment 2

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Essay

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 35 hours

Due: **17/04/2025**

Weighting: **40%**

Analysis of selected family topic. 2000 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explore diverse contexts in and perspectives on ways in which families function.
- Source credible and scholarly research concerning families to inform practice and generate new understandings and knowledge.
- Highlight and critically analyse a range of social, cultural and political perspectives/ influences on family life.
- Engage in active and critical reflective practice about working with diverse families

## Assessment 3

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Report

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 35 hours

Due: **29/05/2025**

Weighting: **40%**

Philosophy paper. 2000 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explore diverse contexts in and perspectives on ways in which families function.
- Reflect on personal experiences and how these shape perspectives.
- Source credible and scholarly research concerning families to inform practice and generate new understandings and knowledge.
- Consider ways in which awareness of families in context can facilitate/support early childhood teaching practice.
- Engage in active and critical reflective practice about working with diverse families

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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

### Recommended text

Grace, R., Bowes, J., & Woodrow, C. (eds. ). (2022). *Children, Families and Communities* (6th edition). Oxford University Press.

### Information about the unit iLearn site

This unit has a full web presence through iLearn. Information for students about access to the online component of this unit is available at <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: via email [onehelp@mq.edu.au](mailto:onehelp@mq.edu.au) or Ph: 9850 4357 or 1800 67 4357. On Campus: Ground floor at 18 Wally's Walk.

## Unit Schedule

A detailed unit schedule can be found on the unit iLearn site. Topics to be covered are:

- Role of socio-cultural, economic and political contexts in shaping family life and values in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Changing family lives and the extent to which traditional, largely Western-based, images of “family” life reflect the daily experiences/practices of families and children in Australia and abroad

## 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](https://connect.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto: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

In addition, the following policies and procedures for the Macquarie School of Education apply to this unit.

## Academic Progression Policy

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.

## Communication

It is the student's responsibility to check all electronic communication on a weekly basis. Communication may occur via:

- Official MQ Student Email Address
- The Dialogue function on iLearn
- Other iLearn communication functions

## Attendance and Participation

See the University timetable for information about when classes begin in this unit. [Creating your timetable - Enrolling | Macquarie University, Sydney \(mq.edu.au\)](#)

Attendance at all synchronous activities, completion of non-synchronous formative/diagnostic class tasks and involvement in professional forums is expected as the Master of Teaching (Birth to Five) is a professional qualification. Activities completed during weekly tutorials (DAY or ONLINE DAY mode) or on campus days (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 and/or on campus days is expected and will be recorded. Make up tasks may be given if attendance is missed to ensure all content is covered to meet accreditation requirements.

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 to request a change.

## Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

## Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) 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/](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 2025.03 of the [Handbook](#)