



PHTY8306

Research Project and Seminar

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

Department of Health Sciences

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General Information

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Credit points

20

Prerequisites

PHTY819 or PHTY8303

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit will extend your research skills to successfully undertake and complete a research project, demonstrating the capacity to generate new knowledge and apply existing knowledge to answer a question relevant to physiotherapy. Working closely with a research supervisor you will integrate your professional, clinical and research skills to collect, evaluate and analyse data, and then interpret and disseminate the results.

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: Implement appropriate research methodology, skills and data analysis strategies to answer a research question relevant to physiotherapy practice and/or healthcare.

(Scientist and Scholar)

ULO2: Work effectively, independently and cooperatively with peers, academics and/or clinicians in a collaborative research environment to successfully complete a research project. (Professional)

ULO3: Effectively reflect and discuss research processes and communicate research findings in a professional manner. (Professional)

ULO4: Apply both independent and collaborative strategies to advance your research knowledge and skills relevant to your research project. (Scientist and Scholar)

General Assessment Information

Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the [Macquarie University Assessment Policy](#).

All final grades are determined by a grading committee, in accordance with the Macquarie University Assessment Policy, and are not the sole responsibility of the Unit Convenor.

Students will be awarded a final grade and a mark which must correspond to the grade descriptors specified in the [Assessment Procedure](#).

To pass this unit, you must demonstrate sufficient evidence of achievement of the learning outcomes, meet any ungraded requirements, and achieve a final mark of 50 or better. If there is a lack of sufficient evidence demonstrating you have met the required level of achievement in all learning outcomes you will be awarded a Fail grading with an assigned mark of 49 or less.

Further details for each assessment task will be available on iLearn.

You will receive a grade for each assessment within this unit. The grades awarded will reflect a holistic evaluation of the work against the criteria outlined within the corresponding assessment rubric.

Submission of an assessment task that is deemed by the unit convenor to be incomplete, or not a serious attempt may result in the Fail (F) grade to be awarded a numerical grade below 40%.

Grading of Assessments

You will receive a grade for each assessment within this unit. The grades awarded will reflect a holistic evaluation of the work against the criteria outlined within the corresponding assessment rubric. Numerical marks will be calculated for each assessment based on the following percentages, and rounded to the nearest full mark:

- High distinction (HD) – 95%
- Distinction (D) – 80%
- Credit (C) – 70%
- Pass (P) – 60%
- Pass threshold (P-) – 50%
- Fail (F) – 40%

Submission of an incomplete assessment task may result in the Fail (F) grade to be awarded a numerical grade below 40%.

Should you encounter any personal issues or concerns in regard to health and wellbeing during your studies you can also gain personal support and advice on campus. Please see the following link for further information: <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/personal>

Extensions for Assessment Tasks

Applications for assessment task extensions may be considered for short-term, unexpected, serious, and unavoidable circumstances affecting assessment. Applications must be submitted via [Service Connect | Macquarie University](#). For further details please refer to the [Special Considerations Policy](#). You can also find out more on the MQ Student Portal at the following link: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/special-consideration>

Should you encounter any personal issues or concerns in regard to health and wellbeing during your studies you can also gain personal support and advice on campus. Please see the following link for further information: <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/personal>

Late Submissions

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 example:

Number of days (hours) late	Total Possible Marks	Deduction	Raw mark	Final mark
1 day (1-24 hours)	100	5	75	70
2 days (24-48 hours)	100	10	75	65
3 days (48-72 hours)	100	15	75	60
7 days (144-168 hours)	100	35	75	40

>7 days (>168 hours)	100	-	75	0
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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 submit an application for Special Consideration.

To pass this unit, you must have attempted all assessment tasks and demonstrated sufficient evidence of achievement of all unit learning outcomes.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Research participation blog</u>	10%	No	Sunday June 15th (11.55 pm)
<u>Research Manuscript</u>	40%	No	Sunday June 15th (11.55 pm)
<u>Research skill development and reflection</u>	20%	No	Friday Wk 5 (11.55pm) of research block (Wk 10: internships)
<u>Oral Presentation</u>	30%	No	Week 16 (Thursday 26th June, date and time TBC)

Research participation blog

Assessment Type ¹: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 5 hours

Due: **Sunday June 15th (11.55 pm)**

Weighting: **10%**

You will provide evidence of effective participation in research project processes.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Work effectively, independently and cooperatively with peers, academics and/or clinicians in a collaborative research environment to successfully complete a research project. (Professional)
- Effectively reflect and discuss research processes and communicate research findings in a professional manner. (Professional)
- Apply both independent and collaborative strategies to advance your research

knowledge and skills relevant to your research project. (Scientist and Scholar)

Research Manuscript

Assessment Type ¹: Thesis

Indicative Time on Task ²: 75 hours

Due: **Sunday June 15th (11.55 pm)**

Weighting: **40%**

You will present your completed research project in the form of a manuscript as if for submission to a journal.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Implement appropriate research methodology, skills and data analysis strategies to answer a research question relevant to physiotherapy practice and/or healthcare. (Scientist and Scholar)
- Work effectively, independently and cooperatively with peers, academics and/or clinicians in a collaborative research environment to successfully complete a research project. (Professional)
- Effectively reflect and discuss research processes and communicate research findings in a professional manner. (Professional)
- Apply both independent and collaborative strategies to advance your research knowledge and skills relevant to your research project. (Scientist and Scholar)

Research skill development and reflection

Assessment Type ¹: Practice-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Friday Wk 5 (11.55pm) of research block (Wk 10: internships)**

Weighting: **20%**

Provide evidence of advanced skill development and reflect on your performance in an online forum with peers and academic staff.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Work effectively, independently and cooperatively with peers, academics and/or clinicians in a collaborative research environment to successfully complete a research

project. (Professional)

- Effectively reflect and discuss research processes and communicate research findings in a professional manner. (Professional)
- Apply both independent and collaborative strategies to advance your research knowledge and skills relevant to your research project. (Scientist and Scholar)

Oral Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Week 16 (Thursday 26th June, date and time TBC)**

Weighting: **30%**

You will deliver an oral presentation of your research findings.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Implement appropriate research methodology, skills and data analysis strategies to answer a research question relevant to physiotherapy practice and/or healthcare. (Scientist and Scholar)
- Effectively reflect and discuss research processes and communicate research findings in a professional manner. (Professional)

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

Assumed knowledge

This unit builds upon and assumes that you have a good understanding of all content delivered in Advanced Research Training (PHTY8303).

Teaching and Learning Strategy

There are no specific lectures or online modules for this unit. This unit encompasses an active learning approach where you will be expected to actively engage in enhancing your own learning experience. Details can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

Your research projects are intended to comprise a **substantial body of independent** work. You will meet with your research supervisor/s on a regularly basis, either individually or in a group, to discuss your research.

You will also interact with academic staff and your peers online through forums and blog posts. You will be required to independently identify aspects of your research skills that require further development and engage active strategies to achieve these. The teaching approach will be based on you developing a deep understanding of the principles and the ability to independently solve problems. Also included within the unit will be a focus upon increasing your digital literacy and advanced communication skills, with creativity and innovation being embraced.

Writing feedback sessions will be provided to assist with scientific writing and online assessment support will also be available throughout the unit.

Unit Organisation

This is a 20 credit point unit. Overall, it is anticipated that you spend approximately 300 hours across the session on this unit. You will spend approximately 175 hours on your research activities including academic mentorship for your scientific writing and regular research meetings with your supervisor. You will need to allow approximately 125 hours for assessment based work.

Recommended readings

There is no compulsory textbook for this unit. You will be expected to independently search for resources relevant to your research project, and your research supervisor will provide guidance as required. Any generic information related to research and assessment, such as presentation guidelines, will be posted on iLearn.

Technology Used

Active participation in the learning activities throughout the unit will require students to have access to a tablet, laptop or similar device. Students who do not own their own laptop computer may borrow one from the university library.

On-campus

Teaching rooms are equipped with state of art audio-visual and ICT equipment including ipads, laptops, internet connection, high quality video cameras and multiple LCD screens. You will have

access to a range of physiotherapy specific equipment if required for use in your research projects.

Off-campus

To study optimally off campus you will need to have access to a reliable internet connection to retrieve unit information, undertake independent study, participate in online research meetings & to submit assessment tasks via iLearn.

Consultation with staff

All staff will be available for individual consultation. See iLearn for contact details and times.

Unit Schedule

Across the semester you will engage in: i) meetings with your research supervisor; ii) independent skill development; iii) research project implementation, which depending upon your project may include data collection, data management and analysis; and iv) research communication (e.g. scientific writing and oral communication). Detailed information pertaining to the unit schedule can be found on 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.

Changes from Previous Offering

There are no changes from the previous offering.

Inclusion and Diversity

Social inclusion at Macquarie University is about giving everyone who has the potential to benefit from higher education the opportunity to study at university, participate in campus life and flourish in their chosen field. The University has made significant moves to promote an equitable, diverse and exciting campus community for the benefit of staff and students. It is your responsibility to contribute towards the development of an inclusive culture and practice in the areas of learning and teaching, research, and service orientation and delivery. As a member of the Macquarie University community, you must not discriminate against or harass others based on their sex, gender, race, marital status, carers' responsibilities, disability, sexual orientation, age, political conviction or religious belief. All staff and students are expected to display appropriate behaviour that is conducive to a healthy learning environment for everyone.

Professionalism

In the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences, professionalism is a key capability embedded in all our courses.

As part of developing professionalism, students are expected to attend all small group interactive sessions, including research, practical, laboratory, and team-based learning activities. Some learning activities are recorded, however you are encouraged to avoid relying upon such material as they do not recreate the whole learning experience and technical issues can and do occur. As an adult learner, we respect your decision to choose how you engage with your learning, but we would remind you that the learning opportunities we create for you have been done so to enable your success, and that by not engaging you may impact your ability to successfully complete this unit. We equally expect that you show respect for the academic staff who have worked hard to develop meaningful activities and prioritise your learning by communicating with them in advance if you are unable to attend a small group interactive session (e.g., meetings with research supervisor).

Another dimension of professionalism is having respect for your peers. It is the right of every student to learn in an environment that is free of disruption and distraction. Please arrive to all learning activities on time, and if you are unavoidably detained, please join activity as quietly as possible to minimise disruption. Phones and other electronic devices that produce noise and other distractions must be turned off prior to entering class/meetings. Where your own device (e.g., laptop) is being used for class-related activities, you are asked to close down all other applications to avoid distraction to you and others. Please treat your fellow students with the utmost respect. If you are uncomfortable participating in any specific activity, please let the relevant academic know.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
09/01/2025	The submission of AT3 Research Skill Development and reflection has been updated to mid-way through research placement block

Unit information based on version 2025.01R of the [Handbook](#)