



MHHS8000

Research Foundations

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

Medicine, Health and Human Sciences Faculty level units

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Disclaimer

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to GradDipResFMHHS or GradCertResFMHHS, or by FMHHS MRes course director approval.

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

In this foundation unit, you will examine the framework for research in medicine, health and human science in Australia covering critical topics of ethics, integrity, funding and cultural safety. This unit will showcase the world class research conducted in the faculty, in Macquarie Medical School and the School of Psychological Sciences, in the three departments of Chiropractic, Health Sciences and Linguistics, as well as the Australian Institute of Health Innovation. The faculty has particular research strengths in neurosciences, cancer, cardiovascular diseases, clinical trials, hearing, linguistics, lifespan health and wellbeing and health systems research. In this unit you will explore the key capabilities needed for successful research.

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: Describe good practice, including ethics, integrity and leadership.

ULO2: Explain the fundamentals of different research approaches taken in different disciplines.

ULO3: Critique different methodologies that might be applied to address research questions.

ULO4: Pose effective research questions, and describe key components in research design.

General Assessment Information

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 that must correspond to the grade descriptors specified in the [Assessment Procedure](#) (clause 128).

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.

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

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. No further submissions will be accepted after the marked assignments are returned and feedback is released to students. 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 |

Late submission of time sensitive tasks, such as timetabled tests/exams, scheduled performance

assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs, will be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application.

Special Consideration

If you are unable to complete an assessment task on or by the specified date due to circumstances that are unexpected, unavoidable, significantly disruptive and beyond your control, you may apply for special consideration in accordance with the [special consideration policy](#). Applications for special consideration must be supported by appropriate evidence and submitted via ask.mq.edu.au.

Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Hurdle | Due |
|---|-----------|--------|-------------|
| Ethics reflection & role play | 20% | No | Weeks 3 & 6 |
| Journal Article Critical Review | 40% | No | Week 9 |
| Research Presentation | 40% | Yes | Week 13 |

Ethics reflection & role play

Assessment Type ¹: Simulation/role play

Indicative Time on Task ²: 16 hours

Due: **Weeks 3 & 6**

Weighting: **20%**

Communicate ideas and viewpoints about a scenario where ethics and integrity are key.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe good practice, including ethics, integrity and leadership.
- Explain the fundamentals of different research approaches taken in different disciplines.

Journal Article Critical Review

Assessment Type ¹: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Week 9**

Weighting: **40%**

Review and critically evaluate a journal article.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe good practice, including ethics, integrity and leadership.
- Explain the fundamentals of different research approaches taken in different disciplines.
- Critique different methodologies that might be applied to address research questions.

Research Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **40%**

This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

Students will critically review research via oral presentation demonstrating their understanding of the overall concepts covered in this unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe good practice, including ethics, integrity and leadership.
- Explain the fundamentals of different research approaches taken in different disciplines.
- Critique different methodologies that might be applied to address research questions.
- Pose effective research questions, and describe key components in research design.

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

As a student enrolled in this unit, you will engage in a range of face-to-face (F2F) or learning activities, including seminars, online modules, and practical activities. Details can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

Seminars: One 3-hour seminar weekly starting on Session week 1. Delivered F2F (Mondays 1-4pm, 01WW 105 Learning Studio). Recordings are made available via iLearn homepage

(Echo360).

Seminar classes all run on campus only. You should not attend on-campus classes if you are unwell or have any cold and flu-like symptoms.

For general information on unit versions, see this website <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/enrolling/choosing-units>

For readings, refer to recommendations made in the lectures and on iLearn.

Technology Used

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

You will need access to the internet for accessing the iLearn unit homepage for the following:

- Up-to-date information about the unit
- lecture recordings (Echo360)
- online submission of the assignment
- midsemester test (online)
- Discussion forum

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.

Inclusivity & 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 practical, laboratory, work-integrated learning (e.g., PACE placements), and team-based learning activities. Some learning activities are recorded (e.g., face-to-face lectures), 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.

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. 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.

Unit information based on version 2025.02 of the [Handbook](#)