



GEOP2060

Geography and Planning Field School

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2026

School of Communication, Society and Culture

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Kate Lloyd

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

(GEOP1010 or GEOP111) and (GEOP2010 or GEOP201)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The Geography and Planning field school provides students with an opportunity to apply skills in a real-world environment. Students will develop theoretical and practical knowledge in the context of a specific field site and will participate in research exercises that prepare them for conducting future independent research. Working in a team, students will gain first-hand experience in applying research skills using different methods of data collection alongside assessing, analysing and presenting data. Students will also gain practical skills in assessing ethical implications, and considering the risks and hazards involved in doing fieldwork. On the basis of these activities, students will gain a clear understanding of the skills required for conducting geographic and planning research and have the capacity to see a research project through from start to finish.

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: Define, plan and execute a research project, incorporating practical and ethical elements of conducting research.

ULO2: Apply geographical and planning theory and methods to a specific field site.

ULO3: Demonstrate skills in project management, data collection, data analysis and communication of research findings.

ULO4: Work independently and as part of a team.

General Assessment Information

Assignment requirements and submission

Detailed requirements and marking rubrics for each assessment are available from the iLearn site. All written assignments should be submitted [online to Turnitin](#) via the relevant links provided in iLearn. You are **not** required to submit a hardcopy of any assignments or include a cover sheet.

Late Assessment Submission Penalty

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 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 assessment (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. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.**

Assessment feedback

All feedback for assignments will be made available online. The grade will be in the form of a letter as consistent with University policy (HD, D, Cr, P, F) alongside written feedback

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Field School Portfolio	50%	No	Week 13 Thursday 5th November 11:55pm	Individual and Group	No	Observed
Presentation	20%	No	Week 8 Friday 18th September 9am	Individual and Group	No	Observed
Field School Brief	30%	No	09/10/2026	Individual	Yes	Open

Field School Portfolio

Assessment Type ¹: Experiential task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Week 13 Thursday 5th November 11:55pm**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

A 2,500-word portfolio comprising a) group analysis of approaches and observations from the field in the context of the wider literature; and b) individual reflections based on a fieldwork diary compiled during the field trip.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Define, plan and execute a research project, incorporating practical and ethical elements of conducting research.
- Apply geographical and planning theory and methods to a specific field site.
- Demonstrate skills in project management, data collection, data analysis and communication of research findings.
- Work independently and as part of a team.

Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **Week 8 Friday 18th September 9am**

Weighting: **20%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

Students present their field school output in small groups and submit individual presentation scripts (600-800 words). Presentations will include the key observations made in the field, and a discussion and interpretation of these observations.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Define, plan and execute a research project, incorporating practical and ethical elements of conducting research.
- Apply geographical and planning theory and methods to a specific field site.
- Demonstrate skills in project management, data collection, data analysis and communication of research findings.
- Work independently and as part of a team.

Field School Brief

Assessment Type ¹: Written Submission

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **09/10/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

A 1,000-word project brief drawing on academic and policy literature related to the field site.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Define, plan and execute a research project, incorporating practical and ethical elements of conducting research.
- Apply geographical and planning theory and methods to a specific field site.

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
- [Academic Success](#) 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.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Delivery and Resources

Classes

The Geography and Planning field school will run on campus and at our field site locations, Sydney Olympic Park and Paramatta Square on Friday's from 9-12pm.

Given the nature of the unit students will not be able to complete the unit successfully if they do not attend all face-to-face workshops and field site visits.

Reading

Required reading (journal articles and chapters) will be listed on iLearn and available via Leganto.

Technology used and required

All enrolled students have access to the GEOP2060 website via iLearn. iLearn will provide access to unit resources (powerpoint presentations for download) as well as readings, links and forum discussions. Regular access to iLearn is required in order to complete the unit.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au/>)

[s.mq.edu.au](https://students.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 <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [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 <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

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 2026.02 of the [Handbook](#)