



SSCI3003

PACE: Enacting Social Sciences

Session 2, Online-scheduled-weekday 2026

School of Communication, Society and Culture

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Jaap Timmer jaap.timmer@mq.edu.au
Credit points 10
Prerequisites 130cp at 1000 level or above and admission to BSocSci
Corequisites
Co-badged status
Unit description Skills in the social sciences can be applied in diverse circumstances, opening opportunities across a range of employment, civic and activism sites. In this unit, students work with a variety of types of organisations on a project which addresses a real-world issue. This opportunity provides students with practical experience and the chance to work directly with advocacy groups, non-governmental organisations, think tanks, and other public or private organisations. Students will demonstrate their ability to conceptualise and execute a social science project in response to stakeholder concerns. On completion of this unit, students will possess tangible skills and experience of working in a professional setting that they can apply in their future careers.

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: Apply leadership and organisational skills to successfully complete a project in a professional context.

ULO2: Determine and apply appropriate social science concepts and methods adopting an ethical and evidence-based approach to address an important issue or problem.

ULO3: Collaborate with stakeholders to accurately determine their needs in relation to an issue or project.

ULO4: Communicate project, findings and recommendations in an effective and persuasive manner to stakeholders.

General Assessment Information

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-time 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 Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
<u>Reflective writing</u>	30%	No	16/10/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
<u>Project management plan</u>	50%	No	28/08/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
<u>Presentation</u>	20%	No	06/11/2026	Individual	No	Observed

Reflective writing

Assessment Type ¹: Reflection task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **16/10/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

Reflections on professional experience. 1500 words.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply leadership and organisational skills to successfully complete a project in a professional context.
- Determine and apply appropriate social science concepts and methods adopting an ethical and evidence-based approach to address an important issue or problem.

Project management plan

Assessment Type ¹: Practice-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **28/08/2026**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

Project management plan. 3000 words.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply leadership and organisational skills to successfully complete a project in a professional context.
- Determine and apply appropriate social science concepts and methods adopting an ethical and evidence-based approach to address an important issue or problem.
- Collaborate with stakeholders to accurately determine their needs in relation to an issue or project.
- Communicate project, findings and recommendations in an effective and persuasive manner to stakeholders.

Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **06/11/2026**

Weighting: **20%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

Presentation of project findings. 5 minutes.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Collaborate with stakeholders to accurately determine their needs in relation to an issue or project.
- Communicate project, findings and recommendations in an effective and persuasive manner to stakeholders.

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](#).

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#) (<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>). 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>) 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/>

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 2026.04 of the [Handbook](#)