



MQBS8980

Business Research Practice

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

Macquarie Business School Faculty level units

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

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Please make an appointment for an individual slot

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to GradDipResMQBS

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit offers students a hands-on opportunity to apply their theoretical and methodological knowledge to develop a research project that addresses relevant issues in business contexts. Through experiential learning and mentorship, students will gain valuable experiences in business research practice, preparing them for careers in academia, industry or consultancy. They will be guided through the various steps in developing a research project, including identifying the topic, reviewing existing literature, identifying research gaps and defining the research questions/objectives, selecting an appropriate methodology, developing an ethics application and a data management plan, defining (intended) contributions and, depending on the scope of the project, analysing a sample dataset and interpreting and discussing preliminary 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: Review literature relevant to a business problem, identify research gaps and develop research questions/objectives.

ULO2: Apply relevant theoretical frameworks (theories, models, concepts) to inform the development of a research model and hypotheses.

ULO3: Identify appropriate business research methods and tools necessary to conduct a research project.

ULO4: Demonstrate ethical awareness and integrity as well as judgement, adaptability and accountability as a researcher when designing a research proposal.

General Assessment Information

Late Assessment Submission Penalty (written assessments)

If you submit your assessment late, 5% of the total possible marks will be deducted for each day (including weekends), up to 7 days. Submissions more than 7 days late will receive a mark of 0.

Example 1 (out of 100): If you score 85/100 but submit 20 hours late, you will lose 5 marks and

receive 80/100. Example 2 (out of 30): If you score 27/30 but submit 20 hours late, you will lose 1.5 marks and receive 25.5/30.

Extensions:

Automatic short extension: Some assessments are eligible for automatic short extension. You can only apply for an automatic short extension before the due date.

Special Consideration: If you need more time due to serious issues and for any assessments that are not eligible for Short Extension, you must apply for Special Consideration. Need help? Review the [Special Consideration page](#) for further details.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Professional Practice: Research Proposal	50%	No	Consult iLearn for stream due date	Individual	No	Observed
Skills Development: Development of a Business Research Report	50%	No	Consult iLearn for stream due date	Individual	No	Open AI

Professional Practice: Research Proposal

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 36 hours

Due: **Consult iLearn for stream due date**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

The purpose of this assessment is for you to explore a relevant issue within your discipline by developing and presenting a research proposal. You will demonstrate your understanding of research design, including the identification of a research problem, theoretical frameworks, and methodology, through an oral presentation.

Skills in focus:

- Communication and collaboration
- Discipline knowledge

Deliverable: Oral Presentation (details provided on iLearn)

Individual Assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Review literature relevant to a business problem, identify research gaps and develop research questions/objectives.
- Apply relevant theoretical frameworks (theories, models, concepts) to inform the development of a research model and hypotheses.
- Identify appropriate business research methods and tools necessary to conduct a research project.
- Demonstrate ethical awareness and integrity as well as judgement, adaptability and accountability as a researcher when designing a research proposal.

Skills Development: Development of a Business Research Report

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 36 hours

Due: **Consult iLearn for stream due date**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open AI

The purpose of this assessment is for you to build on your research proposal by developing a comprehensive project report. You will incorporate feedback received during your oral presentation and demonstrate your understanding of research design, methodology, and analysis. The report should outline the research problem, theoretical framework, intended contributions, and, where applicable, data analysis, interpretation, and discussion of results.

Skills in focus:

- Discipline knowledge
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Global ethical and environmental citizenship

Deliverable: Written Report (details provided on iLearn)

Individual Assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Review literature relevant to a business problem, identify research gaps and develop research questions/objectives.
- Apply relevant theoretical frameworks (theories, models, concepts) to inform the

development of a research model and hypotheses.

- Identify appropriate business research methods and tools necessary to conduct a research project.
- Demonstrate ethical awareness and integrity as well as judgement, adaptability and accountability as a researcher when designing a research proposal.

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

This unit is delivered in weekly 3-hour seminars over 13 weeks.

For resources, please consult [iLearn](#).

Unit Schedule

For the discipline stream schedule, please consult [iLearn](#).

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) (<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 2026.03 of the [Handbook](#)