FOAR301
Special Interest Unit 1
S1 Day 2015
Arts Faculty level units

Contents

General Information ........................................................................................................................................................................ 2
Learning Outcomes ........................................................................................................................................................................ 2
Assessment Tasks ........................................................................................................................................................................... 3
Delivery and Resources ...................................................................................................................................................................... 5
Unit Schedule ................................................................................................................................................................................ 7
Policies and Procedures .................................................................................................................................................................... 8
Graduate Capabilities ..................................................................................................................................................................... 9

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Trudy Ambler
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W6A237
By Appointment

Credit points
1

Prerequisites
45cp and permission of Executive Dean of Faculty

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
Among the contexts for research in Australia is a federal policy designed to ensure that the human participants in research are treated ethically. The Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research establishes criteria for most types of research that involve human participants and it requires that researchers adhere to these criteria. When researchers are planning studies covered by this policy they must design their projects in ways that conform to its requirements. This unit aims to provide students with an introduction to ethics as an important part of research in the Arts.

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:

- Describe some historical issues in the responsible conduct of research involving humans, and their importance for current research conduct.
- Examine the key values and principles informing the Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2009).
- Identify and understand the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Guidelines for Ethical Research in Indigenous Studies.
Participate in online discussions and activities, to compare ideas, build on others’ ideas, provide and justify other points of view, and reach conclusions that take account of aspects of an issue.

Create a range of texts, such as leaflets, blogs, PowerPoint slides and reflective narrative to communicate information using the appropriate grammar, spelling, punctuation, syntax and referencing.

Develop an understanding of what it might mean to be an ethically informed citizen.

### Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Quiz</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>18th March 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics Leaflet</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>22nd May 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion and Activities</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>5th June 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Online Quiz**

**Due:** 18th March 2015  
**Weighting:** 20%  

Complete an online quiz about the Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe some historical issues in the responsible conduct of research involving humans, and their importance for current research conduct.
- Examine the key values and principles informing the Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2009).
- Identify and understand the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Guidelines for Ethical Research in Indigenous Studies.
- Develop an understanding of what it might mean to be an ethically informed citizen.

**Ethics Leaflet**

**Due:** 22nd May 2015  
**Weighting:** 50%  

Research, design and produce a leaflet that explains to other University students the key ethical values that inform research involving humans. Share your leaflet with a fellow student and reflect on the feedback that you receive about the effectiveness of your leaflet. See the information in iLearn for more details about the requirements for this assignment.
This task will be assessed by the following criteria: content, structure, design, writing style, referencing and reflection. A detailed rubric for this task will be supplied in the Assessment section in iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Examine the key values and principles informing the Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2009).
- Create a range of texts, such as leaflets, blogs, PowerPoint slides and reflective narrative to communicate information using the appropriate grammar, spelling, punctuation, syntax and referencing.
- Develop an understanding of what it might mean to be an ethically informed citizen.

**Discussion and Activities**

**Due: 5th June 2015**  
**Weighting: 30%**

Contribute to the ongoing online discussions, blogs and activities throughout the unit. All online discussions and activities should be completed by the due date.

This task will be assessed according to the following criteria: quantity and quality of initial as well as follow-up postings (incl. use of references to support views, clarity and style, interaction with others). A detailed rubric for this task will be supplied in the Assessment section in iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe some historical issues in the responsible conduct of research involving humans, and their importance for current research conduct.
- Examine the key values and principles informing the Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2009).
- Identify and understand the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Guidelines for Ethical Research in Indigenous Studies.
- Participate in online discussions and activities, to compare ideas, build on others’ ideas, provide and justify other points of view, and reach conclusions that take account of aspects of an issue.
- Create a range of texts, such as leaflets, blogs, PowerPoint slides and reflective narrative to communicate information using the appropriate grammar, spelling, punctuation, syntax and referencing.
- Develop an understanding of what it might mean to be an ethically informed citizen.
Delivery and Resources

Unit Requirements

During the unit students will be required to:

- Submit the required assessment tasks in a timely manner.
- Complete all the required readings for the unit.
- Contribute to online discussions and activities.

Online Participation Guidelines

A significant part of your online learning experience involves learning with and from other students and the teacher in the online discussions and activities. Active participation means sharing information and resources, posting your own ideas, and critiquing or expanding on the ideas of others in a respectful and collegial fashion. You are expected to follow accepted standards of English spelling, grammar and punctuation, when you are participating in web discussions or sending emails. These discussions are for you to exchange your reflections with your classmates and teacher about what you are learning. The discussions will be organised into forums around the particular themes you are studying.

As an online student, you will be taking a proactive approach to your learning. As the Unit Convener’s role is that of a learning guide, your role is that of the leader in your own learning. You will be managing your own time so that you can complete the readings, activities and assignments for the unit.

Submission of Assignment

All work is to be submitted via the Turnitin function inside the ilearn site.

Return of marked work

Marked work will be returned to students electronically via ilearn.

Electronic Submissions

Information about how to submit work online can be accessed through the ilearn unit.

Examinations

Important: There are no examinations in this unit.

Extensions

Please email the unit convenor if you find yourself unable to meet the submission dates for assessments.

Technology

Online units can be accessed at: https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/

1. For technical support with passwords or to check if the Learning Management System (LMS) is down, go to http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/
2. To complete this fully online unit you require internet connection and access to a computer (mobile technology such as iphones and ipads are not sufficient for those studying this unit).

2. For Learning & Teaching issues e.g. how to access your online materials such as readings, i-lecture, please contact your unit tutor.

3. For basic training in how to use the LMS, please go to http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/index.htm

**Academic Honesty Policy**

Academic honesty is an integral part of the core values and principles contained in the Macquarie University Ethics Statement (http://www.mq.edu.au/ethics/ethic-statement-final.html). Its fundamental principle is that all staff and students act with integrity in the creation, development, application and use of ideas and information. This means that:

- All academic work claimed as original is the work of the author making the claim.
- All academic collaborations are acknowledged.
- Academic work is not falsified in any way
- When the ideas of others are used, these ideas are acknowledged appropriately.

The link below has more details about the policy, procedure and schedule of penalties that will apply to breaches of the Academic Honesty policy.

http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

**University Grading Policy**


The grade a student receives will signify their overall performance in meeting the learning outcomes of a unit of study. Grades will not be awarded by reference to the achievement of other students nor allocated to fit a predetermined distribution. In determining a grade, due weight will be given to the learning outcomes and level of a unit (ie 100, 200, 300, 800 etc). Graded units will use the following grades:

- HD High Distinction 85-100
- D Distinction 75-84
- Cr Credit 65-74
- P Pass 50-64
- F Fail 0-49

**REQUIRED READING**


Unit Schedule

This unit of study consists of a series of seven modules (some of which are sub-divided into smaller sections). Each module is developed to provide the resources, knowledge, and information – including historical background and critical terminology – that you’ll need to know in order to demonstrate a reasonable degree of understanding related to the ethical issues underpinning research in Australia. It is assumed that no student in the course will have had much experience studying ethics in the context of research.
Overall, the total time you are expected to devote to your coursework for this unit is 39 hours. If for some reason you find yourself falling behind or unable to complete an assignment on schedule you should *immediately* notify the Unit Convenor.

| Module 1 | Introducing Ethics |
| Module 2 | The ethical principles underpinning the *Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research*. |
| Module 3 | The historical context for ethics and the ethical review of human research in Australia. |
| Module 4 | Values and Principles of Ethical Research in Action – Section 1 |
| | • Research merit and integrity |
| | • Justice |
| | • Beneficence |
| | • Respect |
| Module 5 | Values and Ethical Research Principles in Action – Section 2 |
| | • Conflict of Interests |
| | • Intellectual Property |
| | • Privacy |
| Module 6 | Ethical considerations for research involving particular categories of human participants. |
| Module 7 | Guidelines for Ethical Research in Australian Indigenous Studies |

### Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:


In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/) of Policy Central.

### Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of

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Unit guide FOAR301 Special Interest Unit 1

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/48735/unit_guide/print

8
Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcome

- Create a range of texts, such as leaflets, blogs, PowerPoint slides and reflective narrative to communicate information using the appropriate grammar, spelling, punctuation, syntax and referencing.

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Describe some historical issues in the responsible conduct of research involving humans, and their importance for current research conduct.
- Examine the key values and principles informing the Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2009).
- Identify and understand the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Guidelines for Ethical Research in Indigenous Studies.

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Describe some historical issues in the responsible conduct of research involving humans, and their importance for current research conduct.
- Examine the key values and principles informing the Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2009).
- Participate in online discussions and activities, to compare ideas, build on others’ ideas, provide and justify other points of view, and reach conclusions that take account of aspects of an issue.
Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Examine the key values and principles informing the Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2009).
- Create a range of texts, such as leaflets, blogs, PowerPoint slides and reflective narrative to communicate information using the appropriate grammar, spelling, punctuation, syntax and referencing.

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Participate in online discussions and activities, to compare ideas, build on others’ ideas, provide and justify other points of view, and reach conclusions that take account of aspects of an issue.
- Create a range of texts, such as leaflets, blogs, PowerPoint slides and reflective narrative to communicate information using the appropriate grammar, spelling, punctuation, syntax and referencing.

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation’s historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcomes

• Describe some historical issues in the responsible conduct of research involving humans, and their importance for current research conduct.
• Identify and understand the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Guidelines for Ethical Research in Indigenous Studies.
• Develop an understanding of what it might mean to be an ethically informed citizen.