



MEDI700

Research Communications

S2 Day 2019

Medicine and Health Sciences Faculty level units

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Jennifer Rowland jen.rowland@mq.edu.au
Credit points 4
Prerequisites Admission to MRes
Corequisites
Co-badged status
Unit description All Master of Research students in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences will take the MEDI700 unit "Research Communications". This unit aims to equip new research students with skills to communicate academic research effectively, and with a heightened appreciation of the relationship between research communications and disciplinary knowledge creation. Students will analyse, critique and practise academic communication conventions from different research genres in a variety of modes (written, oral and visual), across disciplines. Students will develop communication skills to present a clear and coherent exposition of research concepts to a variety of audiences.

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:

1. Develop a clear overview of the range of communications required as an active academic research professional.
2. Practice written, oral, and visual communications.
3. Explain the structure and style of various types of research communications.
4. Identify different approaches taken to present your data and communicate your research.
5. Describe how to communicate research ethically and avoiding plagiarism or misconduct.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Structural analysis</u>	15%	No	Week 3
<u>Research Pitch</u>	20%	No	Week 6
<u>Oral Presentation Critique</u>	25%	No	Week 9
<u>Symposium Presentation</u>	40%	No	Week 13

Structural analysis

Due: **Week 3**

Weighting: **15%**

Structural analysis of the literature in your discipline of interest.

This is a formative assessment due in week 3.

Review two research articles to assess their language, structure, and style.

Create an outline of the requirements relating to their instructions to authors, and submit:

- a 2 page overview (up to 800 words) that outlines the main format used in your target journals. At least half a page of this content (approx. 200 words) will be required to contrast the structure and style of your two articles.
- two printed/digital/scanned journal articles marked up with underlines and highlights.
- Copy of, or links to instructions to authors for the two target journals.

1: Select two journal articles from different discipline target journals and seek approval from the course convenor to use these.

2: Download the instructions to authors for each of these articles

3: Print and mark-up the journal articles for language and style in the various sections.

- Layout of sections
- Active/Passive language (Voice)
- Tense
- English type (US/UK/Aus)
- Reference style
- Punctuation

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Research Pitch

Due: **Week 6**

Weighting: **20%**

Pitch a research idea to a general audience, using persuasive writing and ensuring to include an outline of the background concepts leading to the research idea, the key issue that will be addressed, and how the research will be pursued. This should be understandable to the lay person.

- Research you want to do
- Research you've done
- Research that is published
- Research that is done, but not published

This should represent approximately 1000 words and include key references from the discipline.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 1. Develop a clear overview of the range of communications required as an active academic research professional.
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- 5. Describe how to communicate research ethically and avoiding plagiarism or misconduct.

Oral Presentation Critique

Due: **Week 9**

Weighting: **25%**

There is much to learn from observing presentations made by your peers and established professionals. This assessment requires you to observe three talks to assess the presentations' strengths and weaknesses.

You are required to propose the talks that you wish to review for approval by the course convenor. Please email jen.rowland@mq.edu.au with the subject line MRES700 with the list of talks, or individual talks you wish to review.

Expected talks

- 1: A 3MT presentation from the FMHS Heats
- 2: An MQ 3MT finalist presentation
- 3: A departmental talk in your discipline of interest. Please confirm that this talk is acceptable for this assessment task with your unit convenor prior to reviewing.

Talk Review

- Review the talks to gauge how effectively the presenters communicate their research. Keep a journal of the strengths and weaknesses of these presentations. What did you like or dislike about them? What would you do differently?
- Compare the strengths and weaknesses of the talks that you review.

You will deliver:

1. A rough journal of notes made whilst observing the 3 talks, preferably taken by hand. (may be scanned or photographed for submission). No less than one page per talk
2. A Critical Review of the individual presenters. Include perspectives on: Clarity; Personal presentation style; Slide quality; Body language; Intonation; Audience engagement.
3. A comparison of the speakers, contrasting their style, clarity and engagement, noting their individual strengths and weaknesses in communicating their research.

Parts 2 and 3 will be no longer than 2000 words in length.

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Symposium Presentation

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **40%**

Choose **one** of the following:

Oral Presentation Present a 5-minute talk on a piece of completed research in your field. Your talk may report on a research project in which you were involved, or it may be based on a research article you have read (if the latter, submit the article). Present and submit at least one slide (in addition to a title slide) to accompany your talk. *No limit on slide number.

OR

Poster Produce a conference poster on completed research in your field. Your poster may report on a research project in which you were involved, or it may be based on a research article you have read (if the latter, submit the article with your poster).

Imagine your poster will be printed on **A3** sized paper (either portrait or landscape orientation).

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 1. Develop a clear overview of the range of communications required as an active academic research professional.
- 2. Practice written, oral, and visual communications.
- 4. Identify different approaches taken to present your data and communicate your research.

Delivery and Resources

As a student enrolled in MEDI700 Research Communications, you will engage in a range of online and face-to-face learning activities, including readings, presentations, workshops, and a weekly seminar. Details can be found on the MEDI700 iLearn site.

There is no textbook for this unit and reading details will be provided in class and on iLearn.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>). 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](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4*

December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/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 ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

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.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Develop a clear overview of the range of communications required as an active academic research professional.
- 2. Practice written, oral, and visual communications.
- 3. Explain the structure and style of various types of research communications.
- 4. Identify different approaches taken to present your data and communicate your research.
- 5. Describe how to communicate research ethically and avoiding plagiarism or misconduct.

Assessment tasks

- Structural analysis
- Research Pitch
- Oral Presentation Critique
- Symposium Presentation

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Develop a clear overview of the range of communications required as an active academic research professional.
- 2. Practice written, oral, and visual communications.

- 3. Explain the structure and style of various types of research communications.
- 4. Identify different approaches taken to present your data and communicate your research.
- 5. Describe how to communicate research ethically and avoiding plagiarism or misconduct.

Assessment tasks

- Research Pitch
- Symposium Presentation

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Develop a clear overview of the range of communications required as an active academic research professional.
- 2. Practice written, oral, and visual communications.
- 3. Explain the structure and style of various types of research communications.
- 4. Identify different approaches taken to present your data and communicate your research.
- 5. Describe how to communicate research ethically and avoiding plagiarism or misconduct.

Assessment tasks

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- Research Pitch
- Oral Presentation Critique
- Symposium Presentation

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Develop a clear overview of the range of communications required as an active academic research professional.
- 2. Practice written, oral, and visual communications.
- 3. Explain the structure and style of various types of research communications.
- 4. Identify different approaches taken to present your data and communicate your research.
- 5. Describe how to communicate research ethically and avoiding plagiarism or misconduct.

Assessment tasks

- Research Pitch
- Symposium Presentation

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Develop a clear overview of the range of communications required as an active academic research professional.
- 2. Practice written, oral, and visual communications.
- 3. Explain the structure and style of various types of research communications.
- 4. Identify different approaches taken to present your data and communicate your research.
- 5. Describe how to communicate research ethically and avoiding plagiarism or misconduct.

Assessment tasks

- Structural analysis
- Research Pitch
- Oral Presentation Critique
- Symposium Presentation

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Develop a clear overview of the range of communications required as an active academic research professional.
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- 4. Identify different approaches taken to present your data and communicate your research.
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Assessment tasks

- Structural analysis
- Research Pitch
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- Symposium Presentation