ESSC11004 *Study and Research Skills for Health Science*

Term 1 - 2018

Profile information current as at 13/12/2025 03:59 pm

All details in this unit profile for ESSC11004 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student).The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This unit is a foundation level unit to help you develop the academic study and research skills necessary for success in tertiary level education. During this unit you will learn how to use bibliographical software, search scientific research databases, and appraise the quality of evidence presented in scientific and other literature. You will also learn about research ethics and integrity, and develop a foundational understanding of the use of statistics in research. Finally, you will learn fundamental concepts of scientific writing to ensure you can articulate the information you retrieve and appraise, in a clear and concise manner.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*
Unit Level: *Level 1*
Credit Points: *6*
Student Contribution Band: *8*
Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.125*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

There are no requisites for this unit.
Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)](#).

Offerings For Term 1 - 2018

- Brisbane
- Cairns
- Distance
- Mackay
- Rockhampton
- Sydney

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment
Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

Regional Campuses
Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

Metropolitan Campuses
Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview
1. **Online Test**
Weighting: 30%
2. **Written Assessment**
Weighting: 70%

Assessment Grading
This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the University's Grades and Results Policy for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the CQUniversity Policy site.
You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the CQUniversity Policy site.

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Email

Feedback

Many distance students liked the added use of ZOOM to provide live access to lectures.

Recommendation

The addition of using ZOOM to access lectures live for distance students will remain.

Feedback from Email, phone, ZOOM

Feedback

Students liked the opportunity to have a permanent day long drop in session via ZOOM to assist with any aspect of the unit. ...especially software related issues with Endnote.

Recommendation

The permanent ZOOM drop in session will remain for future deliveries of this unit.
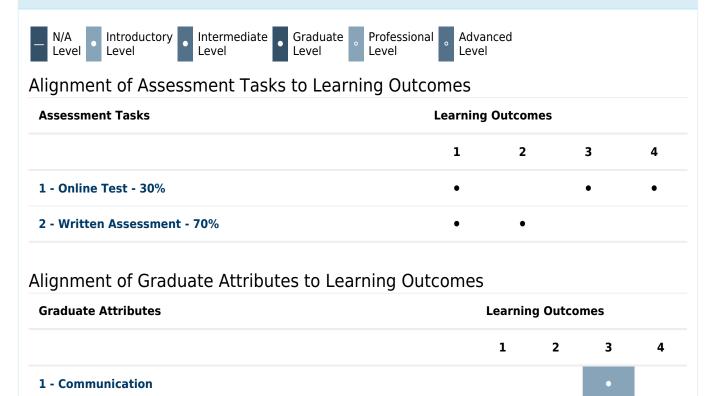
Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Source and critically evaluate scholarly research information
2. Demonstrate effective scientific research writing skills
3. Identify appropriate study designs and statistical tests to answer various research questions
4. Distinguish between ethical and unethical practices in research.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

— N/A Level ∘ Introductory Level ∘ Intermediate Level ● Graduate Level ∘ Professional Level ∘ Advanced Level

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Online Test - 30%	●		●	●
2 - Written Assessment - 70%	●	●		

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Communication			∘	
2 - Problem Solving				

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
3 - Critical Thinking	•	•		
4 - Information Literacy	•	•		
5 - Team Work				
6 - Information Technology Competence	•	•	•	
7 - Cross Cultural Competence				
8 - Ethical practice				•
9 - Social Innovation				
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures				

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 - Online Test - 30%	•					•		•		
2 - Written Assessment - 70%			•	•		•				

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- Endnote bibliographic software. This is optional for formatting references. Some training will be provided on its use but it is NOT mandatory.
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (or similar) software for viewing PDF documents.

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: American Psychological Association 6th Edition (APA 6th edition)
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Robert Stanton Unit Coordinator
r.stanton@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 05 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
You want me to do what? Unit overview and introduction to critical thinking.		

Week 2 - 12 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
If it hasn't been done yet, why is it called 'research'?		

Week 3 - 19 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The good, the bad, and the ugly: Finding the research you need.		

Week 4 - 26 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
So you have your papers, now what? Dissecting a research paper.		

Week 5 - 02 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Evaluating the evidence.		Online Test 1 will be available from Week 5 Monday (2 April 2018) 08:00 am AEST until Week 5 Sunday (8 April 2018) 11:55 pm AEST.

Vacation Week - 09 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
No lectures this week.		

Week 6 - 16 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Strategies for effective scientific writing and communication.		Written Assessment Part A is due Week 6 Monday (16 April 2018) 8:00 am AEST.

Week 7 - 23 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
What do science and Hollywood have in common? Telling a good story.		

Week 8 - 30 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Avoiding the fatal 4: Plagiarism, fake research, outdated research, and not following the guidelines.		

Week 9 - 07 May 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Doing it right, doing it safe: Risk management and ethical concepts in research.		Online Test 2 will be available from Week 9 Monday (7 May 2018) at 8:00 am AEST until Week 9 Sunday (13 May 2018) at 11:55 pm AEST.

Week 10 - 14 May 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Lies, more lies, and statistics.		

Week 11 - 21 May 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
All these statistical tests! How do I know what test to use?		

Week 12 - 28 May 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Going backward - moving forward: How to apply all this to your future studies.		Online Test 3 will be available from Week 12 Monday (28 May 2018) at 8:00 am AEST until Week 12 Sunday (3 June 2018) at 11:55 pm AEST. Written Assessment Part B is due Week 12 Friday (1 June 2018) 12:00 pm (noon) AEST.

Review/Exam Week - 04 Jun 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Exam Week - 11 Jun 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Term Specific Information

You must obtain an overall mark for this unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'Pass' in order to pass this unit.

Assessment Tasks

1 Online test

Assessment Type
Online Test

Task Description
The Online Test will comprise three (3) separate Online Tests made up of multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank questions. Each Online Test is to be completed on your own using multiple resources to help answer the questions. It is your responsibility to log on to Moodle and complete each Online Test during the time the test is available. In the absence of an approved extension there will be no late submissions allowed for any of the Online Tests that make up this assessment item.

Online Test 1 (10% of final grade)

Online Test 1 will be held in Week 5 and will assess content from Weeks 1 – 4 (inclusive). Online Test 1 questions will be related to lectures, tutorials, and compulsory readings associated with Weeks 1 – 4 (inclusive). Online Test 1 will contain 20 questions and you will have 30 minutes to complete this Online Test.
You can only attempt Online Test 1 once and it must be completed in a single session. You cannot save your answers and return to this Online Test at a later time.
Online Test 1 will be available from Week 5 Monday (2 April 2018) at 8:00 am AEST until Week 5 Sunday (8 April 2018) at 11:55 pm AEST. You must log into Moodle during this time period to complete Online Test 1.

Online Test 2 (10% of final grade)

Online Test 2 will be held in Week 9 and will assess content from Weeks 5 – 8 (inclusive). Online Test 2 questions will be related to lectures, tutorials, and compulsory readings associated with Weeks 5 – 8 (inclusive). Online Test 2 will contain 20 questions and you will have 30 minutes to complete this Online Test.
You can only attempt Online Test 2 once and it must be completed in a single session. You cannot save your answers and return to this Online Test at a later time.
Online Test 2 will be available from Week 9 Monday (7 May 2018) at 8:00 am AEST until Week 9 Sunday (13 May 2018) at 11:55 pm AEST. You must log into Moodle during this time period to complete Online Test 2.

Online Test 3 (10% of final grade)

Online Test 3 will be held in Week 12 and will assess content from Weeks 9 – 11 (inclusive). Online Test 3 questions will be related to lectures, tutorials, and compulsory readings associated with Weeks 9 – 11 (inclusive). Online Test 3 will contain 20 questions and you will have 30 minutes to complete this Online Test.
You can only attempt Online Test 3 once and it must be completed in a single session. You cannot save your answers and return to this Online Test at a later time.
Online Test 3 will be available from Week 12 Monday (28 May 2018) at 8:00 am AEST until Week 12 Sunday (3 June 2018) at 11:55 pm AEST. You must log into Moodle during this time period to complete Online Test 3.

Assessment Due Date

The three (3) Online Tests will be administered at various time points as described in the Task Description.

Return Date to Students

Marks will be available on completion of each Online Test.

Weighting
30%

Assessment Criteria
Responses to Online Test questions will be marked as correct or incorrect by the Moodle Online Quiz System, and tabulated to give your mark for each Online Test. For questions with text-based responses (e.g. fill in the blank) you should take care with spelling (Australian English) and grammar, as answers are spelling and grammar sensitive.

Referencing Style

- American Psychological Association 6th Edition (APA 6th edition)

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
You must log in to Moodle to complete the Online Test. A link to each Online Test can be found in the 'Online Test' block on Moodle. Once you have completed the Online Test, you must click the 'Submit' button to submit your responses. If you do not answer all 20 questions within the 30 minute time period, there will be a 3 minutes grace period during which you can submit your Online Test responses, but you will not be able to attempt any further questions.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Source and critically evaluate scholarly research information
- Identify appropriate study designs and statistical tests to answer various research questions
- Distinguish between ethical and unethical practices in research.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Information Technology Competence
- Ethical practice

2 Written assessment

Assessment Type
Written Assessment

Task Description
This assessment task comprises two (2) parts; **Part A**, and **Part B**.
Part A. Due date: Week 6 Monday (16 April 2018) 8:00 am AEST. Part A is worth 30% of your overall grade.

For **Part A**, you will prepare an annotated bibliography. An annotated bibliography is a brief account of the peer-reviewed literature on a specific topic, where you reflect on, summarise, critique, or otherwise evaluate the literature. For this task, you will select three (3) peer-reviewed manuscripts (original studies only, not reviews) on a specific topic related to your discipline. You will be free to choose a topic which interests you, but all three (3) peer-reviewed manuscripts must be on the same topic, and the topic must be related to the discipline area in which your are enrolled. For example, if you are enrolled in the Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Sciences course (CG85), you should choose a topic related to exercise and sport sciences. Your annotated bibliography will comprise the citation for each peer-reviewed manuscript, followed by 1-2 sentences on each of the following points:

1. Introduction (What is the research about?)
2. Aims and research methods (What were the researchers trying to achieve and how did the researchers gather their data?)
3. Scope (What were the variables of interest in the research?)
4. Usefulness or relevance to your topic (How does the peer-reviewed manuscript relate to your topic of choice?)
5. Limitations (Were there any limitations related to how the research was conducted?)
6. Conclusions (What did the researchers conclude from their findings?)
7. Reflection (Explain how this research illuminates your topic or how it will fit in with your research.)

The annotation for each manuscript should be between 150 - 200 words in length, not including the words contained in the citation. Specific examples of annotated bibliographies will be provided on Moodle. In the absence of an approved extension, any submissions received after the due date will incur penalties in accordance with University policy.
Written Assessment Part A must be submitted as a Microsoft Word document (.doc or .docx).
Part B. Due date Week 12 Friday (1 June 2018) 12:00 pm (noon) AEST. Part B is worth 40% of your overall grade.
Part B is an extension of your annotated bibliography. You will source three (3) additional peer-reviewed manuscripts (original studies, not reviews) on the same topic and then write a brief summary of between 500 - 700 words which compares and contrasts all six (6) peer-reviewed manuscripts that you have found. The words contained in the title and the references do not count toward the word limit. This summary will be written under six (6) headings:

1. Title (A name for your summary.)
2. Introduction (A brief description of the topic.)
3. Methods (What databases did you search and what search terms or key words did you use?)
4. Discussion (Compare and contrast the results from all six (6) included peer-reviewed manuscripts.)
5. Conclusion (What can you conclude from your comparison of the literature?)
6. References (A list of the peer-reviewed manuscripts included in this assessment item, formatted according to APA guidelines.)

A sample template with instructions will be available on Moodle as a PDF file, so you can see how Part B of this assessment item should be presented. In the absence of an approved extension, any submissions received after the due date will incur penalties in accordance with University policy.
Written Assessment Part B must be submitted as a Microsoft Word document (.doc or .docx).

Assessment Due Date

Written Assessment Part A is due Week 6 Monday (16 April 2018) 8:00 am AEST. Written Asessment Part B is due Week 12 Friday (1 June 2018) 12:00 pm (noon) AEST.

Return Date to Students

Marks for each part of this assesssment item will be available two (2) weeks after the submission due date.

Weighting
70%

Assessment Criteria
For **Part A**, marks will be awarded according to whether or not each point has been addressed, and on writing style, presentation, grammar and spelling, and appropriate formatting of citations. Marks will be awarded using a marking rubric which is available on Moodle.

For **Part B**, marks will be awarded based on adherence to the submission instructions, content for each section of the summary (particularly the comparison of the studies you have found), writing style, and appropriate formatting of in-text citations and accuracy in referencing. Marks will be awarded using a marking rubric which is available on Moodle.

Referencing Style

- American Psychological Association 6th Edition (APA 6th edition)

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
Submit Written Assesment Part A and Part B via the respective assessment item submission links on Moodle.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Source and critically evaluate scholarly research information
- Demonstrate effective scientific research writing skills

Graduate Attributes

- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the **Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure**. This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?
A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?
A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?
For academic advice and guidance, the Academic Learning Centre (ALC) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?

Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own

Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)

Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem