



# RSCH20001 *Prepare for Confirmation*

## Term 1 - 2024

Profile information current as at 02/05/2024 09:20 am

All details in this unit profile for RSCH20001 have been officially approved by CQU University 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

The unit has been designed specifically for provisional research candidates at either Masters or Doctoral level to develop the skills necessary to prepare a quality Confirmation of Candidature (CoC) document with the support of their supervisors. In this unit, candidates will be guided through research terminology, research ethics, and the steps required in the construction of a research proposal. Regardless of discipline area, this unit will provide the knowledge and skills necessary to critically analyse and synthesise relevant literature, explain various research methodologies, and justify proposed methods of data collection and analysis. The assessments in this unit are designed to create a quality literature review and construct a design for a research project.

### Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*

Unit Level: *Not Applicable*

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 - 2024

- Online

### 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 Postgraduate 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. **Literature Review or Systematic Review**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

#### 2. **Research Assignment**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

### Assessment Grading

This is a pass/fail (non-graded) unit. To pass the unit, you must pass all of the individual assessment tasks shown in the table above.

## 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 Student feedback

##### **Feedback**

A few science based exemplars would be good

##### **Recommendation**

Include more examples of quantitative and science based research within the teaching materials.

## Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify and justify the scope of the search used to select relevant literature for the research project
2. Appraise and synthesise relevant evidence to develop and support a research question
3. Integrate theory to identify and justify an overall research approach that aligns to the research question
4. Apply critical thinking, academic writing, and professional formatting to the development of a research proposal

None to note.

## Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



### Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
<b>1 - Literature Review or Systematic Review - 0%</b>	•	•		•
<b>2 - Research Assignment - 0%</b>		•	•	•

### Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
<b>1 - Knowledge</b>	○	○	○	○
<b>2 - Communication</b>	○	○	○	○
<b>3 - Cognitive, technical and creative skills</b>	○	○	○	○
<b>4 - Research</b>	○	○	○	○
<b>5 - Self-management</b>	○	○	○	○
<b>6 - Ethical and Professional Responsibility</b>	○	○	○	○
<b>7 - Leadership</b>		○	○	○
<b>8 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures</b>				

## 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)

## Referencing Style

**All submissions for this unit must use the referencing styles below:**

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)
- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

## Teaching Contacts

**Cheryl Bookallil** Unit Coordinator

[c.bookallil@cqu.edu.au](mailto:c.bookallil@cqu.edu.au)

**Barbra Zupan** Unit Coordinator

[b.zupan@cqu.edu.au](mailto:b.zupan@cqu.edu.au)

## Schedule

### Week 1 - 04 Mar 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The language of research and literature search strategies	O'Leary (2021) chapters 1 & 2 Plus embedded readings on Moodle	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm Library staff providing Session 1 on literature search techniques Thursday 1:00 pm

### Week 2 - 11 Mar 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Research ethics and integrity	O'Leary (2021) chapters 4 & 6 Plus embedded readings on Moodle	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm Library staff providing Session 2 on literature search techniques Thursday 1:00 pm

### Week 3 - 18 Mar 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Writing a literature review to support your research proposal	O'Leary (2021) chapters 3 & 6 Plus embedded readings on Moodle	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm

### Week 4 - 25 Mar 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Establishing a research question	O'Leary (2021) chapters 3 & 7 Plus embedded readings on Moodle	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm

**Week 5 - 01 Apr 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The role of theory in research design	O'Leary (2021) chapters 8, 9, & 10 Plus embedded readings on Moodle	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm

**Vacation Week - 08 Apr 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
--------------	---------	------------------------------

**Week 6 - 15 Apr 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Research design: understanding research methodologies	O'Leary (2021) chapters 8, 9, & 10 Plus embedded readings on Moodle	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm  <b>Initial literature review</b> Due: Week 6 Monday (15 Apr 2024) 11:45 pm AEST

**Week 7 - 22 Apr 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Research design: planning your research strategy	O'Leary (2021) chapters 5 & 7 Plus embedded readings on Moodle	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm

**Week 8 - 29 Apr 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Data collection: what, where, why, how and ethical considerations	O'Leary (2021) chapters 11 & 12 Plus embedded readings on Moodle	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm

**Week 9 - 06 May 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Types of data to suit your research question/s: Data handling and initial analysis	O'Leary (2021) chapters 12, 13 & 14 O'Leary (2021) chapters 15 & 16 Plus embedded readings on Moodle	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm

**Week 10 - 13 May 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Crafting the Confirmation of Candidature document (Part A)	O'Leary (2021) chapters 5 & 7 Plus embedded readings on Moodle	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm

**Week 11 - 20 May 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Compiling Part B of the Confirmation of Candidature document: presentation by the School of Graduate Research	Refer to the 'Research Moodle' site for guidance on inclusions and processes.	Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm

**Week 12 - 27 May 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Review of unit material and candidate discussions		Unit Zoom session Tuesday 1:00 pm  <b>Research methodology / design</b> Due: Week 12 Friday (31 May 2024) 11:45 pm AEST

**Review/Exam Week - 03 Jun 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
--------------	---------	------------------------------

**Exam Week - 10 Jun 2024**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
--------------	---------	------------------------------

## Term Specific Information

**Textbooks** - While no textbook is prescribed for this unit, candidates are encouraged to access a copy of the following text either by purchasing a copy from the CQUniversity Bookshop or by borrowing a copy from the CQUniversity Library. Chapters from this book are set as supplementary reading in the weekly schedule.

O'leary, Z 2021, *The essential guide to doing your research project*, 4th edn, Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks. ISBN: 9781529713466.

**Referencing style** - This Unit lists both APA and Harvard referencing style. However, there are many other referencing styles. You can choose the most appropriate referencing style for your discipline area or topic of research. For example: Harvard, APA, Vancouver, IEEE, Turabian, Australian Guide to Legal Citation. Discuss this with your supervisors to determine the referencing style that you will use when writing up your thesis, then use that referencing style for your assignments.

**Formatting style** - Each referencing style also has a specific style for format of documents. For example: If you choose Harvard referencing then refer to the Harvard formatting guide in preparing your assignments. If you choose APA referencing then refer to the APA formatting guide in preparing your assignments

**Feedback on assignments** - The assignments in this unit are designed to develop specific sections of your Confirmation of Candidature (CoC) document. Being awarded a passing grade on an individual assignment does not imply that section is ready for inclusion into your CoC without further refinements according to the feedback provided by the Unit Coordinator and/or your supervisor's direction.

**Turnitin** - All assignments will be checked by the Turnitin program on submission. The Turnitin program provides two reports. One report concerns any similarity matches with online content. The other report provides an indication of artificial Intelligence (AI) use in the text of the document. The Academic Learning Centre has provided guidelines for how to reference any use of AI programs such as ChatGPT. Use the link below to access these guidelines [Guidelines for referencing Large Language Models or Artificial Intelligence such as ChatGPT](#).

If you wish to check your score before final submission you can do this by uploading your assignment to the unit Moodle site as a draft. While in draft form you can still make any desired alterations to your assignment. Once you click the 'Submit' button no further alterations can be made. Please do not upload assignments to any other site to check the Turnitin score before submission as this will then result in a high percentage similarity when submitted to the RSCH20001 Moodle site. A high Turnitin score must be investigated before assessment can be undertaken and this can cause delays in the feedback process.

## Assessment Tasks

### 1 Initial literature review

#### Assessment Type

Literature Review or Systematic Review

#### Task Description

Write an initial literature review (~3,000 words) focusing on previous research related to your proposed study topic. Use the literature to support the identification of your research problem and to highlight the gaps in the existing research that need to be filled. It should document the connections you have made between the source texts that you draw upon and where you position your research among the extant literature. It should demonstrate to the reader that you have used an appropriate literature search strategy to extract the most current information relating to your topic and that you have engaged with, understood and responded to the relevant body of knowledge underpinning your proposed research project. This initial literature review is more than just documenting relevant information and what other researchers have discovered about your topic. You need to demonstrate your ability to critically evaluate and analyse the literature and explain how it is relevant to your proposed research topic. The review should be structured into relevant themes from the literature that should be addressed individually. The initial literature review should summarise, critically evaluate, synthesise, identify gaps in the knowledge on your topic, and provide a justification for your research project. The review of the literature should be conducted within an appropriate analytic framework to provide new knowledge (for example, a systematic, integrative, or meta-analysis review), rather than a simple descriptive summary.

**Note:** If you are using Grounded Theory or another methodological approach where literature reviews are not generally undertaken prior to conducting the research, then please complete this assignment by analysing references about the methodology itself. For example: articles and/or book chapters on the various types of Grounded Theory methodologies and use this to justify your approach.

**Work with your supervisors** - Make sure that you send a draft of your assessment to your supervisors **well before the Due Date** so they have time to provide you with feedback to improve the final draft of your assignment. Include on the cover page the date you first provided a draft of the assignment to your supervisor and any other subsequent dates.

**Introduction (~10% of word limit)** - Introduce your proposed research project, define the purpose of your study and scope of the literature review. Highlight the gap/s in the literature that provide the justification for your study. Outline the structure of the body of the literature review by providing a short paragraph at the end of your introduction that indicates the structure of the document and the themes identified in the literature review.

**Literature search framework (~250 words)** - Provide a short description of the analytical framework outlining the process followed and the criteria used for your literature selection. You can attach a diagram demonstrating your framework as an appendix.

**Literature review (~80-85% of word limit)** - In the body of the literature review you should use appropriate headings and sub-headings to break the text into subsections. Each sub-section should identify and discuss a different theme identified from your readings that is relevant to your research project. To do this, you will need to synthesise several of your references into each sub-section by critically analysing and describing how each reference contributes to the theme you are discussing. Consider the main agreements and disagreements between the different authors. Each theme should conclude with a clear link and an explanation of how the findings in the theme will inform your own research project. The literature review should be written in academic prose (paragraph structure). Avoid dot points.

**Conclusion (~5-10% of word limit)** - Conclude by reminding the reader of your research topic and the purpose of conducting a literature review. Summarise the major contributions in the literature and the themes identified, gaps or areas for further research and your overall perspective on the topic. Identify the significance of your research topic in relation to the literature and how the literature will inform your proposed research project.

**Reference list** - Provide a list all references cited in-text. Format this list according to your chosen referencing style indicated on your title page. The reference list should commence on a separate page after your conclusion section.

#### **Assessment Due Date**

Week 6 Monday (15 Apr 2024) 11:45 pm AEST

#### **Return Date to Students**

Week 8 Monday (29 Apr 2024)

Assignments will be returned in the order of marking. Earliest submissions will be marked first.

#### **Weighting**

Pass/Fail

#### **Assessment Criteria**

Overview of the assessment criteria. (**Note:** All assessments will be checked for plagiarism and use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) program use)

#### **Title page:**

- Includes all required information
- Justifies the choice of referencing style
- Provides the date/s assignment was shared with supervisor/s
- Acknowledges use of previous work (if applicable)

#### **Introduction:**

- Briefly introduces your proposed research project to provide the context for your literature review
- Defines the purpose of the literature (identifying gaps on the literature or justifying the study and establishing prior background on the topic area)
- Outlines the structure of the body of the literature review

#### **literature search strategy and framework (~250 words)**

- Summarises the literature search strategy and key words used
- Names the databases and/or Journals searched
- Quantifies the number of articles extracted at each stage of the process (append a diagram)
- Outlines the inclusion/exclusion criteria applied

### Literature review:

- Is divided into logical themes highlighting key aspects or background studies
- Demonstrates critical analysis of the literature presented in your own words
- Identifies influential studies and/or mainstream versus alternative viewpoints
- Discusses agreements and disagreements among the reviewed literature
- Uses strong topic sentences to begin each paragraph clearly identifying the theme being discussed
- Concludes each theme with a clear summary of the main arguments presented and provides links to your proposed research project

### Conclusion:

- Summarises succinctly the major contributions in the literature with respect to your topic, the main agreements and disagreements and any gaps or areas for further research signalling the significance of your project and your overall perspective

### References:

- In-text citations acknowledging other author's work
- List of all references cited in-text
- Formatted using the style indicated on your title page
- Reference list commences on a separate page

**Writing:** Clear, concise academic writing style with correct grammar and spelling

**Referencing and formatting style:** Is consistent with the referencing style stated on the title page and uses appropriate referencing conventions

**Grading:** Both assignments in this unit must attract a passing grade to pass the unit overall. Individual assignments will initially be assessed as 'Satisfactory' or 'Resubmit'.

- A satisfactory evaluation is provided if the assignment is generally meeting the standards of the unit to attract a passing grade. However, there may still be refinements to be made to the work and this will be listed on the feedback sheet.
- A resubmit grade will indicate that the work requires revision and re-submission before final grading. Re-submission is due within seven days of notification. Only one opportunity for revision and re-submission will be allowed in order to attract a passing grade. If the re-submission is still not meeting the unit standard a failure grade will apply.

**Feedback on assignments** - The assignments in this unit are designed to develop specific sections of your Confirmation of Candidature (CoC) document. Being awarded a passing grade on an individual assignment **does not imply that section is ready for inclusion into your CoC without further refinements** according to the feedback provided by the Unit Coordinator and/or your supervisor's direction.

### Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)
- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

### Submission

Online

### Submission Instructions

Upload using the assessment link on the unit Moodle site

### Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Identify and justify the scope of the search used to select relevant literature for the research project
- Appraise and synthesise relevant evidence to develop and support a research question
- Apply critical thinking, academic writing, and professional formatting to the development of a research proposal

## 2 Research methodology / design

### Assessment Type

Research Assignment

### Task Description

This assessment item (~4,000 words) requires you to build on the research foundations, research processes, research methods and practices that you have explored in this unit. Guided by theory, and in consultation with your research



supervisor(s), apply a research methodology to formulate a clearly described research design for your proposed project. In this assignment you need to outline the overall research strategy that you will employ to integrate the various components of your proposed research project in a logical and coherent manner. The research design must ensure that you will effectively address the research problem you have identified. It must include the research aims and objectives, the research questions (and/or hypotheses if appropriate) you propose to answer, and your philosophical positioning. Explain the research paradigm, methodology, research methods and techniques you intend to use to collect and analyse data for your proposed research project. If your project involves animals and/or human participants please address the ethical statement.

A research design (or methodological approach) is a detailed framework or plan to guide you through the research process with the aim of achieving your research objectives. Research designs can range from phenomenology, experimental, simulation studies, population studies, phased sequential mixed methods, narrative inquiry, ethnography to name just a few. Research methods are the different techniques used for collecting and analysing data. Examples are: focus groups, interviews, observations that could be subjected to qualitative analysis. You might use experiments or collect quantitative data via a survey and then subject the data to statistical analysis.

**Work with your supervisors** - Your design will depend upon the research question and the discipline you are working in so it is important to work closely with your supervisors during development. *Make sure that you send a draft of your assessment to your supervisors **well before the Due Date** so they have time to provide you with feedback to improve the final draft of your assessment. Include on the assignment cover page the date you first provided a draft of the assignment to your supervisor and any other subsequent dates.*

### **Presentation and format**

The document should be formatted using formatting style (margins, line spacing, font type and size, etc.) in accordance with the referencing style you are using. For example: Harvard has 1.5 line spacing and APA has double line spacing. Other styles are different again. Formatting manuals for the most popular styles can be found on the Moodle site. If using Arial then font size 11 is fine. Times New Roman needs to be 12 point.

Pages should be numbered in the footer as follows:

- Title page has no page number
- Table of contents page, and any other front matter, should have Roman numerals
- Pages containing the text of your assignment should have Arabic numerals commencing at 1

### **Structure**

The structure of this assignment should include a title page, a table of contents, an introduction preceding the main sections of the document, and a conclusion at the end. As every candidate will have a unique project you should confer with your supervisors about an appropriate format that is suitable for your specific discipline area. A suggested structure would be as follows:

#### **Title page**

A cover page with the unit code, assessment number proposed thesis title (no more than 25 words, descriptive and unambiguous), your name, student number, email address, name of the course you are enrolled in (Masters, Professional Doctorate or Doctor of Philosophy), referencing style, assessment due date, names of your Research Supervisors and Unit Coordinator. Date/s on which you shared a draft of your assignment with your supervisor/s. If you have been granted an approved extension then note this on the title page. Also add acknowledgements if re-using previous work.

**Table of Contents** (Also a Table of Tables and/or Table of figures if applicable). Auto-generated using styles in Word

#### **Introduction (~10% of word limit)**

Present the research problem, and the context for your proposed project, with reference to the identified gaps in the literature. Include some background highlighting the significance of your project. Outline the structure of the document by providing a short paragraph at the end of your introduction that indicates the flow of the sections of your research design.

#### **Research aims and objectives**

Describe and explain the research aims and objectives of your proposed project. Aims are general statements of what the research sets out to achieve. Objectives are specific statements that describe how you are going to achieve those aims. This should lead into your specific research questions (or hypotheses).

#### **Research questions** and/or hypotheses (whichever is appropriate)

The research questions should guide and focus your research and enable you to address the research problem. They

should be clear, focused and feasible.

A hypothesis should offer a clear and concise statement of what you expect to find in relation to your variables, and what you plan to test. It is a statement of the proposition that you intend to verify through the application of statistical procedures.

### **Methodology, Methods and Research design (~70% of word limit)**

This section should provide the framework for your research design and include the rationale behind your chosen research approach (methodology). Commence with discussing your philosophical positioning. This should lead into a discussion of relevant research methods that you propose to use to support your research design. Analyse the advantages and disadvantages of each one and describe how they will allow you to answer the research questions and/or confirm/refute the hypotheses. Justify the research methods by describing how they align with your research approach and research design.

### **Ethics (Human and/or animal)**

Provide a brief statement regarding the need for Animal and/or Human Ethics clearance (but not the application). Include brief details of logistics, resources and compliance. If you believe you will not require ethical clearance then provide a brief statement justifying this.

### **Conclusion (~5% of word limit)**

The conclusion should remind the reader of your research question/s, provide a summary of your research design and outline how the proposed design will allow you to address the research question/s and/or hypotheses to achieve your research aims and objectives. No new information should be included in the conclusion section that is not already discussed in the body of your document.

### **References**

List all references cited in the text of your document (as per the referencing style stated on your title page). References should start on a new page. Only those references cited in your writing to be included in the reference list.

### **Assessment Due Date**

Week 12 Friday (31 May 2024) 11:45 pm AEST

### **Return Date to Students**

Exam Week Friday (14 June 2024)

Assignments will be marked in order of submission. Earliest submissions will be marked and returned first.

### **Weighting**

Pass/Fail

### **Assessment Criteria**

**Title page:** Includes all requested information (Refer to instructions on the unit Moodle site).

### **Table of contents** (Also Table of Tables and/or Table of figures as appropriate):

- Main headings sub-headings with corresponding page numbers
- Formatted so hierarchy of topics is clear
- Auto-generated using MS Word

### **Introduction:**

- Outlines the research problem or main focus of the proposed research project
- Provides context and background for the project
- Explains reasons for, and significance of, undertaking the project
- Outlines the structure and flow of the document

### **Research aims and objectives:**

- Provides clearly stated outline of the project aims and objectives
- Aims and objectives are clear, concise, and relevant to the chosen topic

### **Research questions** and/or hypotheses (as appropriate):

- Lists appropriate research questions and/or hypotheses that flow from the aims and objectives
- Demonstrates the linkage between the proposed research topic and the aims and objectives of the research project

### **Philosophical positioning:**

- Discusses ontology and epistemology being followed and how this supports your choice of research paradigm
- Explains qualitative (inductive) and/or quantitative (deductive) and justifies reasoning with respect to the project

### **Methodology, methods, and research design:**

- Demonstrates linkage between the proposed research topic, research design/research methodology and research methods/techniques
- Discusses the alignment of each research method to your research design/methodology and research methods
- Justifies how the research design will allow you to address the research problem to answer the research question/s and/or prove or disprove your hypotheses

### **Ethical statement:**

- Clearly identifies if you need to seek ethical clearance and how that will be accomplished (low risk pathway or full application)
- States relevant committee from which ethical approval will be sought
- Or justifies why ethical clearance will not be required

### **Conclusion:**

- Reminds the reader of the research question/s
- Summarises the research design and the suitability of the methods/techniques to the proposed research project
- States the expected outcomes and significance of the research project

### **References:**

- In-text citations acknowledging other author's work
- List of all references cited in-text
- Formatted using the style indicated on your title page
- Reference list commences on a separate page

### **Academic writing style:**

- Within the expected word length (~4,000 words)
- Uses correct spelling, grammar and paragraphing style
- Presentation style and format appropriate for a RHD research design

**Grading:** Both assignments in this unit must attract a passing grade to pass the unit overall. Individual assignments will initially be assessed as 'Satisfactory' or 'Resubmit'.

- A satisfactory evaluation is provided if the assignment is generally meeting the standards of the unit to attract a passing grade. However, there may still be refinements to be made to the work and this will be listed on the feedback sheet.
- A resubmit grade will indicate that the work requires revision and re-submission before final grading. Re-submission is due within seven days of notification. Only one opportunity for revision and re-submission will be allowed in order to attract a passing grade. If the re-submission is still not meeting the unit standard a failure grade will apply.

**Feedback on assignments** - The assignments in this unit are designed to develop specific sections of your Confirmation of Candidature (CoC) document. Being awarded a passing grade on an individual assignment **does not imply that section is ready for inclusion into your CoC without further refinements** according to the feedback provided by the Unit Coordinator and/or your supervisor's direction.

### **Referencing Style**

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)
- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

### **Submission**

Online

## Submission Instructions

Upload using the assessment link on the unit Moodle site

## Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Appraise and synthesise relevant evidence to develop and support a research question
- Integrate theory to identify and justify an overall research approach that aligns to the research question
- Apply critical thinking, academic writing, and professional formatting to the development of a research proposal

## 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