THE UNIVERSITY of ADELAIDE

Honours, MPH & HDR Student Research Projects

School of Public Health
2024

make history.

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About the School of Public Health

The School of Public Health at the University of Adelaide aims to prevent disease and promote health in populations. We practise public health through our engagement as a community of leading scientists, educators, and students to advance innovative ideas to change individual behaviours, public policies, and health care practices.

We are recognised locally, nationally and internationally for our teaching and research. Our senior academic staff are leaders in their fields— in areas such as child health and development, life course epidemiology, genetic epidemiology, health technology assessment, economic modelling, health impacts of climate change, indigenous health, community engagement, and the use of deliberative methods in health research. Our teaching and research inform each other in a creative and productive relationship: all our top researchers teach and our top teachers' research.

Our core academic staff work closely with colleagues in government, non-government organisations, and industry, many of whom are academic title holders within the School. Our titleholders help us to ensure that our teaching, research and community engagement remain grounded in the identification, analysis, and resolution of real world problems.

This document contains a snapshot of currently available research projects suitable for students interested in undertaking supervised research within our School. As evidenced by the descriptions and requirements of each, it indicates the diversity of research topics and methodologies encompassed with Public Health, providing a wide range of potential topics for research.

Projects are listed under these major research groups within our School:

- **Adelaide Health Technology Assessment**
- **BetterStart | Child Health and Development**
- **Telethon Kids Institute**
- **RMNCAH Continuum of Care**
- **Communities, People and Health Research**
- **Communities, People and Health**
- **Communities, People and Health: Counselling and Psychotherapy**
- **Communities, People and Health: International Health**
- **Communities, People and Health: SAHMRI Health Policy Centre**
- **Environment and Health Research Group**
- **Health Workforce Planning Group**
- **Genetic Epidemiology**
- **Machine Learning**
- **Health Evidence Synthesis, Recommendations**
- **CSIRO**
- **Stretton Health Equity**

School Honours Coordinator: Dr Clare Hume clare.hume@adelaide.edu.au

School Higher Degree by Research Postgraduate Co-ordinator is:
Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott. jaklin.eliott@adelaide.edu.au

We prefer to supervise projects that fit within the overall framework of our established research programs; more information on these can be found here. https://health.adelaide.edu.au/public-health/research

Although projects listed here target these areas, we can consider other research topics or projects, and enquiries should be directed to the persons listed above.

Adelaide Health Technology Assessment

Lead researcher: Professor Tracy Merlin

http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/tracy.merlin

Adelaide Health Technology Assessment | University of Adelaide

Email: tracy.merlin@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

Adelaide Health Technology Assessment (AHTA) is an applied research group with a national and international reputation in providing evidence-based research to governments and help them develop health policy and make funding decisions for new medicines and medical services. This type of research is known as Health Technology Assessment (HTA). It is about making a difference to the health of the whole Australian population.

AHTA has undertaken over $60 million in applied/contract research since its inception, primarily for the Australian Government Department of Health but also for the Singapore Ministry of Health and the World Health Organisation. This research assesses the safety, effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of medical services that are being considered for Medicare funding; and the appraisal of pharmaceuticals to determine whether they warrant funding under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. AHTA also assess medical devices and cancer medicines for the Therapeutic Goods Administration. We also work on clinical trials and methodological projects.

Our research interests include:

- Assessing the safety, clinical benefit and value for money of any type of new (or existing) health intervention, but particularly diagnostic tests, disruptive or digital health technologies, and cancer medicines, to inform policy decisions about whether the health intervention should be made available in the health system and for which patients,
- Evaluating medical services or health interventions to inform health professionals and clinicians make the best choice when diagnosing or treating a patient,
- Developing new methods for translating clinical evidence into policy or decision-making,
- Exploring how people make decisions about the safety, effectiveness and funding of health technologies.

Health Technology Assessment offers a number of research opportunities for students at a variety of levels.

Assessing biomedical technologies to inform health policy decisions: what evidence is needed?

Project description:

Health technology assessment is the science of evaluating health interventions to inform health policy - this includes making decisions on whether new health interventions should be available in the health system and whether they should be publicly funded. Health technology assessments (HTAs) come in all shapes and sizes in terms of the information that is included and the rigour with which they are developed – some are rapid reviews, some are mini-HTAs, some are full HTA reports and there are various others that fall between these categories.
What is not clearly understood or recognised are the risks associated with applying the incorrect analysis to the policy question. One form of HTA – the rapid review – has been gaining prominence in recent years. Many policy makers like the timeliness of the information provided by a rapid review but there are concerns that the information may, at times, be misleading because it has not been comprehensively or systematically acquired.

Clear guidance is needed on what type of information is needed to inform different types of health policy decisions. Are the requirements different for a national funding decision? A market access decision? A hospital use decision? In other words, does this differ according to the perceived risks and scope of the policy decision?

This project aims to provide the evidence to support this guidance.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Previous exposure to Health Technology Assessment would be an advantage but is not required
Nature of data: qualitative and quantitative.
Analytic techniques involved: critical appraisal and synthesis/systematic review, retrospective review of health technology assessment and policy development, interviews and surveys.

Supervisor names:

Prof Tracy Merlin: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/tracy.merlin

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

When does the use of 'Real World Evidence' become an impediment to decision making?

Project description:

Health technology assessment (HTA) involves providing information to policy makers so that they can make decisions on whether new medicines and medical services should be made available to patients. Large pharmaceutical companies and other industry organisations have been insistent that 'real world evidence' (observational evidence not obtained through randomised controlled trials) should be used to inform health policy decisions and, in fact, may be more useful than evidence obtained from randomised controlled trials.

This project aims to investigate whether this 'Real World Evidence' agenda is affecting the decisions made by governments about the funding of new medicines. You would attempt to answer the following questions:

1. What countries use Real World Evidence in HTA decision-making?
2. Is it used for specific areas of an HTA?
3. Has it had an impact on decision-making?
4. When is real world evidence useful in decision-making?

The project would use data from key decision-making bodies in Australia, the UK and Canada to answer these questions; and may involve surveys/interviews with decision-makers.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Understanding of study designs would be an advantage but is not a necessity.
Nature of data: qualitative and quantitative.
Analytic techniques involved: Synthesis/systematic literature review, data extraction and statistical analysis, critical appraisal, surveys/interviews, Delphi process.

Supervisor names:

Prof Tracy Merlin: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/tracy.merlin

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Assessing the clinical utility of diagnostic tests

Project description:
Diagnostic tests are incredibly important as they identify who should or should not be treated for a particular disease or condition.

Unfortunately, there is a lot of information published on different tests that is often quite misleading, while there is often minimal evidence on whether a test will actually change the health outcomes of a patient.

This research program is about identifying tests where the information is not helpful for clinical practice and to pull it together in a way that will guide clinical decision-making and inform public policy.

The research could be conducted in any disease area.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☒ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Previous exposure to Health Technology Assessment would be an advantage but is not required
Nature of data: qualitative and quantitative.
Analytic techniques involved (one or more depending on final scope of the project): literature review and synthesis/systematic review, document and citation analysis, assessment of utilisation data, interviews and surveys of stakeholders (patients, industry, health professionals and policy makers).

Supervisor names:

Prof Tracy Merlin: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/tracy.merlin

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Impact of the world-first ‘personalised medicine evaluation framework’ on decision making in Australia and overseas.

Project description:

In 2013, Professor Tracy Merlin and colleagues developed the first methodological framework in the world for evaluating personalised medicines (a companion diagnostic genetic test and targeted cancer medicine) so that governments can decide whether they warrant funding by the tax payer and so lessen the burden on patients for whom many of these cancer medicines are unaffordable.

This framework was further developed over the ensuing years and adopted by the Australian government, and now the Belgian government.

As the creators of this framework we would like to know:

- whether the framework has allowed greater access to cancer medicines and their companion diagnostic tests in Australia.
- whether it is problematic or reasonably straight forward to implement by drug and genetic test companies who are seeking funding for their personalised medicine,
- whether it is problematic or reasonably straight forward for decision makers and evaluators to apply,
- how has it affected how assessments are conducted internationally,
- can the framework can be improved or extended.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☒ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Previous exposure to Health Technology Assessment would be an advantage but is not required
Nature of data: qualitative and quantitative.
Analytic techniques involved (one or more depending on final scope of the project): literature review and synthesis/systematic review, document and citation analysis, assessment of utilisation data, interviews and surveys of stakeholders (patients, industry and policy makers).

Supervisor names:

Prof Tracy Merlin: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/tracy.merlin

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1

☒ Semester 2

☒ Semester 1 and 2

The digital revolution and its impact on the evaluation and funding of health technologies

Project description:

As the range of digital technologies - and their application to health - has expanded, the methods used by regulators and funders to assess the value of these technologies to the health system are having to shift. Tried and true methods of determining the safety, effectiveness and value for money of these technologies are having to adapt because the technologies themselves are now so different. The impact of artificial intelligence, machine learning, digital twinning and in silico clinical trials on evaluation processes and technology funding decisions needs to be scoped, so that evaluations are fit-for-purpose and can protect the public from digital technologies that may be potentially harmful. This project aims to identify the likely impacts of different digital technologies on the methods used by health technology assessment agencies in Australia and internationally, and on the decision-making processes of government and health insurers. We work closely with the Technology Assessment and Access Division of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and also with the Therapeutic Goods Administration and so can access people dealing with these issues at the coal face.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Nature of data: quantitative +/- qualitative. Analytic techniques that may be involved: critical appraisal and synthesis/systematic review, retrospective review of health technology assessment and policy documents, interviews and/or surveys. An understanding of clinical epidemiology/study design or health technology assessment would be helpful but is not a requirement.

Supervisor names:

Professor Tracy Merlin: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/tracy.merlin
Associate Professor Sharyn Gaskin: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/sharyn.gaskin
Dr Mah-Laka: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/mah.laka

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Determining when and how sustainability should be included as a criterion in the evaluation of health technologies for a funding decision.

Project description:

Health technology assessment (HTA) typically involves the assessment of the clinical safety, effectiveness, and cost-effectiveness of technologies, along with consideration of ethical and organisational implications. As we all become more conscious of the environmental impacts of global warming, and noting that the medical/health technology sector has one of the biggest carbon footprints and is a major contributor to medical waste, consideration needs to be given as to how and when the assessment of the carbon footprint of a technology should be determined before policy makers allow the technology into the health system and have it publicly funded through the Medicare Benefits Schedule or Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. This research would look at identifying and prioritising specific technology types for a formal eco-HTA assessment, and also determine best practice for how the evaluation should be done. We work closely with the Technology Assessment and Access Division of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and also with the Therapeutic Goods Administration and so can access policy-makers who have to deal with these issues at the coal face.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Nature of data: quantitative +/- qualitative. Analytic techniques that may be involved: critical appraisal and synthesis/systematic review, retrospective review of health technology assessment and policy documents, interviews and/or surveys. An understanding of environmental health or health technology assessment would be helpful but is not a requirement.

Supervisor names:

Professor Tracy Merlin: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/tracy.merlin
Dr Mah-Laka: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/mah.laka

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

What is the overlap between the Federal and State government in consideration of medicines for funding decisions? What bearing do two factors have on funding decisions – patient engagement and high unmet medical need?"

Project description:

Although the federal government's Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule (PBS) provides subsidised medicines for all Australians, many drugs have not been considered by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) for reimbursement. There are many reasons for this: the long-term clinical benefit of the drug may be uncertain, the drug may be too costly for its clinical benefit, or if the target patient population is small, pharmaceutical companies may not even bother lodging an application for reimbursement. Even if a medicine is reimbursed by the PBS, it is usually restricted to a very narrow patient population (known as an indication) where the PBAC can be certain the medicine represents good value for money. In these cases, decision makers in state health departments and hospitals, such as the South Australian Medicines Evaluation Panel (SAMEP), must decide whether they will fund medicines for uses outside the PBS indication.

While the safety, clinical benefit, cost-effectiveness and budget impact of a medicine is typically what is assessed for reimbursement, recently decision-making bodies have considered other factors, namely patient engagement and high unmet clinical need, when determining their final decision. We are interested in the impact of these two factors on the final decision (to recommend for reimbursement or not). This will help decision making bodies with the reimbursement of medicines where the level of conventional benefit (i.e. safety, clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness) is uncertain.

Reviewing policy documents, this research project involves:

- Reviewing drug indication pairs that were considered by SAMEP and subsequently the PBAC.
- Identifying funding approval conditions or restrictions placed on drug-indication pairs by SAMEP or PBAC.
- Reviewing patient or patient group engagement to the decision-making bodies for each drug-indication pair.
- Determining how often high unmet clinical need (i.e. no other treatment options) informed funding decisions.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☒ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Understanding of study designs would be an advantage but is not a necessity. Nature of data: qualitative and quantitative. Analytic techniques involved: Synthesis/systematic literature review, retrospective review of health technology assessment and policy development, interviews, and surveys.

Supervisor names:

Isaiah Luc: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/isaiah.luc
Dr Drew Carter: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/drew.carter
Professor Tracy Merlin: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/tracy.merlin

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

BetterStart | Health and Development

Lead researcher: Professor John Lynch

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/john.lynch

https://health.adelaide.edu.au/betterstart/

Email: betterstart@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

Research conducted by the BetterStart group aims to generate better evidence to inform policy and practice to improve health, well being and development outcomes.

We have an interdisciplinary team with backgrounds in epidemiology, public health, nutrition, criminology, paediatrics, social work, biostatistics, and psychology. The BetterStart group have expertise in observational studies, randomised controlled trials, pragmatic trials, data linkage and translational research activities in South Australia, nationally and internationally.

Members of the group also conduct methodological research in biostatistics and epidemiology.

Systematic review of interventions to reduce child maltreatment. eg. including achieved power of studies.

Project description:
Child maltreatment is associated with adverse outcomes for child health and development. As such, it is key to identify potential preventative interventions. This project will involve a literature review of studies evaluating interventions designed to reduce child maltreatment.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Desirable to have skills in critical appraisal and a familiarity with searching online bibliographic databases.

Supervisor name:

Pease contact the School of Public Health: sphadmin@adelaide.edu.au for information regarding supervision for this project.

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Parental time investments in children: examining trends over time.

Project description:

This project will use the 1992, 1997 and 2006 Australian Time Use surveys to quantify how much time parents spend in different activities with their children, and whether this has changed over time and changed differentially by socioeconomic group.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Students will have completed epidemiological and/or biostatistics courses, as relevant to this project.

Familiarity with statistical software packages such as STATA.

Supervisor name:

Pease contact the School of Public Health: sphadmin@adelaide.edu.au for information regarding supervision for this project.

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Does high quality childcare at age 2-3 years affect cognitive and socioemotional outcomes in adolescence?

Project description:

This project will used data from the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC) to investigate whether the quality of formal childcare at age 2-3 years is associated with academic achievement and socioemotional behaviours at age 15 years and beyond.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

To gain access to LSAC data, you will first need to: register with the ADA Dataverse using the Dataverse registration form. This will be done together with supervisor.

Supervisor name:

Dr Angela Gialamas: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/angela.gialamas#

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Telethon Kids Institute

At the Telethon Kids Institute our researchers are searching for answers to improve the health and wellbeing of children and families affected by some of the most devastating, complex and common diseases and issues. At any one time we have more than 200 active research projects and 700 staff and students that include laboratory scientists, clinicians, epidemiologists, bioinformaticians, statisticians, public health professionals and social scientists.

The grandparent effect – in what ways does grandparent care, support children's development and wellbeing.

Project description:

Research has identified a positive effect on children's development associated with having spent some time in grandparent care before centre based care or preschool. While grandparent effects have been associated with social, financial and caregiving support, there is limited research that explores what grandparents do when caregiving that creates better outcomes for children. Using a device to measure children's language environments, this research will explore child-grandparent interactions and compare these to other care environments (e.g., parent and early education and care).

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

- Interest in early child development,
- Undergraduate degree in psychology, public health or related field,
- Qualitative and/or quantitative skills.

Supervisor names:

Dr Yasmin Harman-Smith: https://www.telethonkids.org.au/contact-us/our-people/h/dr-yasmin-harman-smith/

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☒ Other: Telethon Kids Institute (108 North Terrace, Adelaide)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Trauma informed education systems – validating measures to inform school policy and practices for supporting children impacted by complex trauma.

Project description:

There has been increasing recognition of the impact of trauma on children and young people's development and the implications this has for engagement in learning and wellbeing within education settings. In South Australia, the Department for Education provided access to training to support schools to develop and understanding of trauma, the impacts on children's development and effective practices within education settings to create inclusive education environments for children and young people impacted by trauma. An evaluation of this initiative explored the way schools implemented these learnings, and barriers and facilitators to shifting whole of school practices. The evaluation employed a mixed-methods design incorporating surveys, focus groups and interviews with leadership, educators and corporate staff. Surveys were designed to measure changes in self-reported confidence, skill and knowledge in the area of trauma-informed practice; the extent to which trauma-informed practices were present in the school and classroom environment; and participants' perceptions of working with children who have experienced trauma and their support needs. There is potential to draw on this survey data to develop a standardised measure that schools can use to self-assess how well they are placed to support children impacted by complex trauma.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

None

Supervisor names:

Yasmin Harman-Smith: Dr Yasmin Harman-Smith | Telethon Kids Institute
Tess Gregory: Dr Tess Gregory | Telethon Kids Institute

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☒ Other: Telethon Kids Institute (108 North Terrace, Adelaide)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1

☐ Semester 2

☒ Semester 1 and 2

Investigating the relationship between food insecurity and early child development.

Project description:

Increasingly, Australian families are experiencing financial challenges accessing food. Lack of adequate nutrition in childhood is linked with a number of health, development, and educational outcomes. One particular consequence for young children as a result of the current cost of living crisis is lack of access to breakfast. This project will utilise data from the Australian Early Development Census, a triennial national census monitoring the development of all children in their first year of full time school (ages 4-6 years) across the country. Analysis will explore the association between arriving at school hungry and children's development across five domains; Physical Health and Wellbeing, Social Competence, Emotional Maturity, Language and Cognitive Skills, and Communication Skills and General Knowledge.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

- Interest in child health and development
- Undergraduate degree in public health, psychology or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

Supervisor names:

Alanna Sincovich: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/alanna.sincovich
Mary Brushe: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/mary.brushe

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☒ Other: Telethon Kids Institute (108 North Terrace, Adelaide)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Reducing breakfast skipping: A mixed methods exploration of School Breakfast Program attendance and implementation.

Project description:

Breakfast is a key component of nutritional wellbeing throughout childhood and adolescence. A growing body of evidence has shown that children and adolescents who regularly skip breakfast are more likely to have poor engagement in learning at school, academic performance, as well as dietary and physical activity behaviours which go on to have negative consequences throughout the life course. Recent research in South Australia has highlighted that more than 1 in 3 children do not benefit from daily breakfast. Modifying this behaviour through School Breakfast Programs, which offer free or reduced-cost breakfast to children at school, has become a popular strategy in working to reduce food insecurity and health inequalities internationally. Investment into such programs in Australia is expanding, however there is limited understanding of participation in and implementation of School Breakfast Programs among in Australia. This project will conduct a mixed methods exploration of School Breakfast Programs in Australia, which may include a combination of analysis of existing quantitative data on program attendance, a desktop review of program implementation, and qualitative data collection regarding family and service provider experiences. Findings will seek to contribute knowledge regarding School Breakfast Programs are reaching children as intended and how implementation may be improved.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

- Interest in child health and development
- Undergraduate degree in public health, psychology or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

Supervisor names:

Alanna Sincovich: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/alanna.sincovich
Mary Brushe: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/mary.brushe

Location:

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☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☒ Other: Telethon Kids Institute (108 North Terrace, Adelaide)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1

☐ Semester 2

☒ Semester 1 and 2

Supporting healthy screen time among children and families: an international policy review.

Project description:
The World Health Organisation currently recommends zero screen time for children under the age of 2 years, 1 hour for children aged 2-5 years, and no more than 2 hours of recreational screen time for children aged 5–17 years. Nonetheless, internationally, children are exceeding these recommendations with very little guidance and support in how to balance children's screen time with the potential negative consequences (i.e., physical inactivity, poorer nutrition, poorer mental health, reduced parent-child interactions, and poorer attention). This challenge requires not only supports at the child- and family-level, but at the policy level too. This project aims to investigate differing policies across the world for children's screen time and associated regulation that has been put in place. This review will aim to identify key strengths and gaps in current policy positions in varying countries and recommend future directions for policymakers. Within this project, the student will work with the supervisors to identify a particular area of focus for the review (e.g., early childhood, adolescence), they will gain an understanding of government policy and regulation, undertake a desktop review, synthesis academic literature and government policy, identify critical gaps and make recommendations. This project will inform both the academic literature and the development of policy position statements.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

- Interest in child health and development
- Undergraduate degree in public health, psychology or related field
- Experience with literature synthesis
- Basic understanding of policy documents (or interest in learning)
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

Supervisors Names:

Mary Brushe: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/mary.brushe

Alanna Sincovich: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/alanna.sincovich

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☒ Other: Telethon Kids Institute (108 North Terrace, Adelaide)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1

☐ Semester 2

☒ Semester 1 and 2

Using electronic devices in the hour before bed and the relationship with children's mental health and wellbeing: a cross-sectional population-level study.

Project description:
The Australian Government recommends no screen time in the hour before bed for all children and adolescents. Nonetheless, recent estimates suggest 90% of children aged 8-18 years are using an electronic device at least one night per week. While the evidence suggests this has clear impacts on children's sleep quality, it is less clear how this may affect other aspects of children's health and wellbeing. This project will use data from a population-level census, the Wellbeing and Engagement Collection, where students in South Australian school's self-report their electronic device use before bed, as well as their mental health, well-being and school engagement. The student will undertake a literature review on the relationship between screen time before bed and children's mental health and well-being. The analysis will focus on understanding the association between screen time before bed and children's social and emotional well-being (e.g., sadness, worries, happiness, life satisfaction). Ultimately, these findings will inform recommendations for policymakers, schools and families, on the importance of setting boundaries around screen use before bed.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

- Interest in child health and development
- Undergraduate degree in public health, psychology or related field
- Basic quantitative skills and understanding of Stata (preferred)
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

Supervisors Names:

Mary Brushe: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/mary.brushe
Alanna Sincovich: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/alanna.sincovich

Location:

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☒ Other: Telethon Kids Institute (108 North Terrace, Adelaide)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1

☐ Semester 2

☒ Semester 1 and 2

RMNCAH Continuum of Care

Positive Youth Development Programs for Improved Health Outcomes in Australia

Project description:

This project will elucidate the impact of Positive Youth Development (PYD) programs on health outcomes among Australian adolescents. This comprehensive investigation seeks to dissect the interplay of PYD principles with physical, mental, and social well-being. This in-depth analysis aims to unravel the foundational tenets of PYD, elucidating interventions designed to holistically cultivate the personal, social, and health-related facets of youth development. From the instillation of resilience and self-efficacy to the promotion of health-conscious behaviours and positive social relationships, these programs represent a comprehensive approach to youth development. Discover the empirical underpinnings of these initiatives, transcending conventional health interventions to provide comprehensive determinants influencing overall adolescent wellness. Through meticulously designed activities, mentorship frameworks, and skill-building exercises, PYD programs desire to provide adolescents with the cognitive tools necessary for informed decision-making about health and lifestyle choices. Partake in an exploration through evidence-based practices, innovative methodologies, and community-driven initiatives that underscore tangible enhancements in health outcomes among the youth in Australia. Uncover the intricate role played by collaborative efforts among communities, educational institutions, and healthcare entities in fostering a conducive environment for PYD. The objective of this investigation is to illuminate the current scientific understanding of PYD programs in Australia and to stimulate dialogue and initiatives aimed at advancing the health and well-being of the nation's adolescent population.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Previous exposure to research would be an advantage but is not required
Nature of data: qualitative and quantitative
Analytic techniques involved: Evidence synthesis/systematic review, interviews, and surveys.

Supervisors Names:

Assoc Prof Zohra Lassi https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/zohra.lassi

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1

☐ Semester 2

☒ Semester 1 and 2

Peer-led Initiatives for Enhancing Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Outcomes in Australia

Project description:

This research will explain the pivotal role played by peer educators in fostering positive outcomes and promoting informed decision-making among the youth. From dismantling stigmas to promoting cultural sensitivity, the proposed project will explore the intricate strategies employed by these initiatives. The study will examine the multifaceted dimensions of trust-building, accessibility, and empowerment, offering a comprehensive understanding of how peer-led interventions will shape the landscape of adolescent sexual and reproductive health. Join us on this upcoming journey as we unravel the dynamic narrative of youth-led empowerment and anticipate its far-reaching implications for the wellbeing of the next generation in Australia.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Previous exposure to research would be an advantage but is not required
Nature of data: qualitative and quantitative.
Analytic techniques involved: Evidence synthesis/systematic review, interviews, and surveys.

Supervisors Names:

Assoc Prof Zohra Lassi https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/zohra.lassi

Location:

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☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Peer-led Initiatives for Enhancing Health and Wellbeing Outcomes among Populations from Migrant and Refugee Backgrounds

Project description:

To explore the initiatives led by peers designed to enhance sexual and reproductive health outcomes within populations from migrant and refugee backgrounds. This study will delve into the innovative strategies employed by peer educators to address the unique challenges faced by these communities. From cultivating cultural sensitivity to facilitating inclusive information dissemination, we will scrutinise the pivotal role played by peer-led interventions in dismantling barriers and promoting positive health outcomes. Join us on this enlightening journey as we navigate the complex landscape of this population, shedding light on the empowering impact of peer-led initiatives and their potential to shape a healthier and more informed future for individuals from migrant and refugee backgrounds.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Previous exposure to research would be an advantage but is not required
Nature of data: qualitative and quantitative.
Analytic techniques involved: Evidence synthesis/systematic review, interviews, and surveys.

Supervisors Names:

Assoc Prof Zohra Lassi https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/zohra.lassi
Dr Mumtaz Begum https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/mumtaz.begum

Location:

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☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Policy Documents Review on Health and Wellbeing of Populations from Migrant and Refugee Backgrounds

Project description:

This project will initiate an in-depth and rigorous examination of policy documents that are pivotal to shaping the health and wellbeing of populations from migrant and refugee backgrounds. This policy documents review aims to critically assess the various policy frameworks in place, offering a comprehensive analysis of their effectiveness and tangible impact on the targeted communities. The project will explore how these strategies are designed to address the multifaceted health challenges encountered by individuals from migrant and refugee backgrounds. By reviewing these policies, the project aims to uncover their potential strengths, limitations, and areas for improvement. Furthermore, this will offer valuable insights into the policies that influence their access to services, cultural competence, and overall wellbeing. Through this meticulous examination, the goal is to contribute to an understanding of the policies that shape the health outcomes of these communities. The project aspires to shed light on the implications these policies carry for creating healthcare systems that are not only more effective but also more equitable and inclusive for individuals from diverse backgrounds.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Previous exposure to research would be an advantage but is not required
Analytic techniques involved: Evidence synthesis/systematic review, interviews, and surveys.

Supervisors Names:

Assoc Prof Zohra Lassi https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/zohra.lassi
Dr Mumtaz Begum https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/mumtaz.begum

Location:

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☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Communities, People and Health Research

Lead researcher: Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

https://health.adelaide.edu.au/our-research/communities-people-and-health-research-group#research-team

Email: Jaklin.eliott@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

The Communities, People and Health Research Group (CPHRG) is interested in the social context of health and community perspectives on health and wellbeing. This encompasses engaging with the individuals, communities, institutions, and organisations that make up our communities.

Our research focuses on how communities respond to health issues and participate in healthcare, with a particular emphasis on public health. We aim to ensure that the views and experiences of community members, including patients, consumers, and other stakeholders, are included in health research, policy, and service delivery. We are particularly interested in the ways that culture and other social factors intersect with: health behaviours, health providers, health policy, and the provision of, and access to, health services. We explore how these factors influence health outcomes for people and their communities.

Our methodological expertise includes both qualitative and quantitative methods, and our researchers often use a mixture of these in the research context and in the evaluation of health services and policy.

Our research explores:

- public understandings of health and health interventions
- health in a diversity of communities and people
- health and health understandings in under-served communities.

Our research interests include:

- counselling and psychotherapy
- end-of-life care
- gender and health
- health promotion behaviours, risk management, and public health interventions
- health services research, including in the context of developing countries
- inclusive policy-making
- international health
- public perceptions of alcohol consumption and related policy
- public understandings of health and risk

- under-served communities including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, people with advanced chronic disease, and people from rural or remote communities

Our researchers have extensive experience working with international, national, and state governments as well as a number of different NGOs and community-based organisations.

Greenspace and Health: Environmental influences on health behaviours.

Project description:

There is growing evidence of the associations between exposure to greenspace and health outcomes, with studies investigating this all the way from a microbiome perspective through to population-level health behaviours. This project will explore the mechanisms through which exposure to greenspace is associated with health behaviours such as physical activity as well as physical and psychosocial health outcomes.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Nil

Supervisor names:

Dr Clare Hume: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/clare.hume
Assoc Prof Sharyn Gaskin: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/sharyn.gaskin

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Supermarket promotions of lunchbox foods: examining the nutrition and planetary health nexus.

Project description:

Nutrition in childhood, particularly the school food environment has been the subject of much research over recent years. Similarly, the role of food and waste (both food scraps and packaging waste) is being increasingly included in the global climate change discussion. However, how the local food environment influences the nutrition choices of families, particularly in the context of food brought to school in lunchboxes is not well understood. Supermarkets invest heavily in promoting food for inclusion in lunchboxes, particularly in the back to school period, but little is known about 1) the nutrition content of these foods, and 2) the amount and types of packaging of the food included in these promotions. This study will explore the contents and packaging of foods promoted as lunchbox items.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Nil

Supervisor names:

Dr Clare Hume: (https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/clare.hume)
Prof Caroline Miller: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller)

Location:

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☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Wine mums' and 'beer dads': Social media and parents' alcohol consumption.

Project description:

This project will involve an analysis of the dominant themes in social media coverage around parents' alcohol consumption (e.g., by looking at memes around drinking and parenting). The analysis will largely be qualitative, and may include content, thematic or discursive analysis, considering the patterns in social media and how they contribute to the social context of gender and adults' alcohol consumption. For an HDR project, additional studies would be added.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Experience with qualitative methods would be preferable.

Supervisor names:

Dr Shona Crabb: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/shona.crabb
Dr Jacqueline Bowden: https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/jacqueline-bowden

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Assumptions underpinning Australian Federal Alcohol Policy.

Project description:
This project is examining Australian Federal Government press releases to make explicit the assumptions underpinning Australian Federal alcohol policy. There is scope for this project to focus on ethics, ideology, or another approach as appropriate.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Interest in qualitative methodology.

Supervisor names:

Dr Shona Crabb: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/shona.crabb
Dr Emma Muhlack: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/emma.muhlack

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
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☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

How do illicit drug users find information about safe drug use? [Systematic Review]

Project description:
This project aims to establish the state of current knowledge around how drug users find information about safe drug use via a systematic review. Depending on the scope chosen, it may be suitable for projects at multiple levels.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☒ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Familiarity with qualitative analysis and basic knowledge of how to use academic databases for systematic searches would be helpful, but not necessary.

Supervisors Names:

Dr Emma Muhlack https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/emma.muhlack

Location:

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☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Do illicit drug users account for their drug use in their identity, and if so, how? [Systematic Review]

Project description:
This project aims to establish the current understanding of whether and how illicit drug users account for their drug use in their sense of identity via a systematic review. Depending on the scope chosen, it may be suitable for projects at multiple levels.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☒ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Familiarity with qualitative analysis and basic knowledge of how to use academic databases for systematic searches would be helpful, but not necessary.

Supervisors Names:

Dr Emma Muhlack https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/emma.muhlack

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Gambling elements in free-to-play mobile games.

Project description:

This project examines and analyses the features of free-to-play/freemium games available to children in the Australian mobile app market and identifies gambling elements included in these games. Of particular interest is “Slotification”, referring to the practice of including features characteristic of slot machines (pokies) in interactive media in order to encourage engagement with, and/or spend on, those media (Browne 2020, pp.8-9). This project attempts to establish the scope of gambling practices/features which children may encounter in the game market segment of interest. [Browne, B., 2020. Gambling on games: how video games expose children to gambling. Canberra; The Australia Institute.]

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Experience with qualitative research methods would be helpful, but not necessary.

Supervisor names:

Dr Emma Muhlack: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/emma.muhlack

Location:

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☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Nature based play and physical activity opportunities in school environments.

Project description:

There is evidence that engagement with nature is important for children's health and development; however few studies have explored opportunities for nature-based play within school environments. Existing studies have primarily focused on traditional playground designs in which equipment is static and typically constructed of man-made materials structures, but may not have considered environments that include natural elements such as water, sand or mud, trees, changing topography, wood or stone. In this project, the student will develop a novel instrument to measure opportunities for exposure to natural environments within the school playground. The project will involve field work as observations of the school playground environment will inform the development of the measurement tool.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Nil

Supervisor name:

Dr Clare Hume: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/clare.hume

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Communities, People and Health: Counselling and Psychotherapy

Lead researcher: Dr Alexandra Bloch-Atefi

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/alexandra.bloch-atefi

Email: Alexandra.bloch-atefi@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

Counselling and Psychotherapy research focuses on issues related to the health and wellbeing of the community, specifically where this provides insight for counselling practice. Current topics of research include: hope in counselling, representations of counselling in the media, multicultural counselling training, counselling training, spiritual distress, support for children with parents diagnosed with PTSD, and art therapy in residential aged care.

Development and implementation of a trauma-informed framework for mental health service providers.

Project description:

In response to the high incidence of trauma and to improve systems and practice, the following project seeks to investigate the development and implementation of a trauma-informed framework to guide service providers who support people with mental health issues. The aim is not to only to provide best care for consumers and services users but also for staff in order to provide a safe service environment. Organisational culture and service delivery is informed by trauma-informed principles to provide a safe environment and minimise re-traumatisation and vicarious trauma.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units) ***MCP (research)*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units)

Special Requirements:
Qualitative Research Methods in Health.

Supervisor names:

Dr Alexandra Bloch-Atefi: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/alexandra.bloch-atefi

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Recognising disenfranchised grief and loss following partner separation to inform counselling practice.

Project description:
Following separation, the loss of relationship may be experienced as a grief response. However, numerous other losses may compound a person's experience of grief. Attig (2010) and Weiss (2008) note that the experience of loss and grief means the bereaved person's world has become profoundly different, requiring them to relearn their world. Identifying these differences, and how they might be framed as losses that might be actively grieved, may support the therapist in facilitating a more comprehensive and multilayered grief narrative for their client.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units) ***MCP (research)*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units)

Special Requirements:
Qualitative Research Methods in Health.

Supervisor names:

Ann Ibrahim: https://www.adelaide.edu.au/directory/ann.ibrahim

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Multicultural competency and its integration into counselling practice – a framework for practical implications and strategies.

Project description:
In response to a growing diversity in populations across the world, this project seeks to investigate the development of multicultural competency and integration into counselling practice, thereby seeking to answer the ethical mandate of best practise. The projects aims to go beyond the minimum requirement of recognising discrimination, to work towards the enhancement of the therapeutic value for diverse client populations and provide a framework to do so.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units) ***MCP (research)*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units)

Special Requirements:
Qualitative Research Methods in Health.

Supervisor names:

Annemarie Klingenberg: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/annemarie.klingenberg

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Surrogate clients used in training of counsellors and psychotherapists.

Project description:

The available research project will examine the literature exploring the use of surrogate clients in the training of counsellors and psychotherapists. Research surrounding the use of surrogate clients in other health related disciplines (e.g. medicine) has been well developed, however, the use of surrogate clients in the education of counsellors and psychotherapists is a new and emerging practice, requiring investigation regarding its efficacy and application. This project will importantly examine the use of surrogate clients in the training of counsellors and psychotherapists, through a systematic review of the available literature. The results will assist in further development of best practice principles and application to the student's educational experience.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☒ MPhil	☒ Dissertation (12 units)
☒ PhD	☒ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☐ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:

Qualitative Research Methods in Health.

Supervisor names:

Dr Matthew Doherty: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/matthew.doherty

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Communities, People and Health

Lead researcher: Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

Email: jaklin.eliott@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

End-of-Life Care research focuses on a number of areas including

- end-of-life care in under-served populations
- death literacy within the community
- ethics and values that underpin end-of-life care and advance care planning
- community and professional perspectives regarding end-of-life care
- how the health system supports people approaching the end of their life
- public (including media) awareness and perceptions of death and dying, including the provision and place of care whilst dying

The military in the media.

Project description:
This project involves an analysis of media representations of the military. A student may choose to focus on a specific aspect of this, including how serving personnel are represented during and after active service, potential gender or socio-cultural differences, changes over time or across different media sources, and representations of mental health issues and suicide associated with military service.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☒ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Qualitative research methods training

Supervisor name:

Assoc Prof Jaklin Eliott: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☐ Semester 1 and 2

Representations of medicalised death and dying in the Australian media.

Project description:
Media both reflects and shape public understanding about significant issues and is known to be a source of health information for many. It is generally agreed that death is a feared event, and that death within Australia is medicalised, such that the majority of Australians still die within a medical setting, though many profess a wish not to do so. Recent legislative debate and change (including the Victorian legalisation of medically assisted dying), and events within the medical setting, have seen a specific focus on medicalised death within Australia as well as elsewhere. This has included discussion on 'medically assisted death' and 'euthanasia' as well as deaths attributable to medical error. The student could undertake an analysis of articles referencing death in a medical setting, utilising descriptive statistics and qualitative analysis. Information about public and/or publicly available perceptions of such deaths may assist in better provision of information about how most Australians die. Other projects associated with death and dying as represented in the media can also be considered.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☒ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units) ***MCP*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units)

Special Requirements:
Familiarity with (evidenced by appropriate grades) public health, sociology, and/or critical psychology is preferred.

Supervisor names:

Assoc Prof Jaklin Eliott: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Death and place in the media.

Project description:

This project involves an analysis of media representations of how places of death and deaths in places are represented in the media. A student may choose to focus on a specific aspect of this, including potential gender or socio-cultural differences, changes over time or across different places of death, and representations of key stakeholders and processes.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☒ MPhil	☐ Dissertation (12 units)
☒ PhD	☐ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☒ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:

Qualitative research methods training.

Supervisor names:

Assoc Prof Jaklin Eliott: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Residential aged care facilities in the news

Project description:
This project involves an analysis of media representations of residential aged care services. A student may choose to focus on a specific aspect of this, including potential gender or socio-cultural differences, attributions of blame and responsibility, changes over time or across different media sources, and representations of different stakeholders (e.g., residents, families, staff, organisations, policy-makers).

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☒ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Analytic skills depend on the nature of the degree involved, beginning with basic descriptive statistical (using excel) and/or qualitative (thematic analyses) skills.

Supervisor names:

Jaklin Eliott: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☐ Semester 1 and 2

Representations of Child Protection Services in the media.

Project description:

This project involves an analysis of media representations of the activities, actors, and outcomes of intervention by the Department of Child Protection (DCP). A student may choose to focus on a specific aspect of this, including representations of key stakeholders (e.g. how staff, parent, and children are represented); the nature of, issues prompting, or outcomes of interventions, potential gender or socio-cultural differences; changes over time or across different media sources, and representations of mental health or interpersonal violence associated with DCP involvement. This project could be scaled up or down to suit different research options, and include collection and analysis of data from alternative sources.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☒ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Qualitative research methods training

Supervisor name:

Assoc Prof Jaklin Eliott: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☐ Semester 1 and 2

Ethics in the news.

Project description:

The media both shapes and reflects public opinion, sometimes drawing public attention to matters that have moral or ethical significance. This is often raised in the context of an alleged breach of some ethical code, or behaviour that appears to deviate from that expected of persons in the public arena. However, the invocation of an ethical lens can also serve other interests, and some ethicists have noted a 'commodification of ethics.' Little is known however about what issues or topics are deemed to have ethical import, and how these are depicted within the media. This project involves accessing, coding, and analysing print and/or online media reports that feature 'ethics.'

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☒ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units) ***MCP (research)*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units)

Special Requirements:
Qualitative Research Methods in Health.

Supervisor names:

Assoc Prof Jaklin Eliott: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Palliative and end of life care in the media

Project description:
The media both shapes and reflects public opinion and is a significant source of information about health. This project involves an analysis of media representations of the activities, actors, and outcomes of decisions or events pertaining to palliative and/or end of life care. A student may choose to focus on a specific aspect of this, including representations of key stakeholders (e.g., politicians, clinicians, service providers, institutions, specific communities, dying persons, and their families); the provision, availability, or nature of palliative care; changes over time (e.g., associated with specific investigations or change in practice), or any other element of interest. The project could be scaled up or down to suit different research options, take a qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods approach, and include collection and analysis of data from diverse sources.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☒ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Some familiarity with the chosen analytical technique

Supervisors Names:

Assoc Prof Jaklin Eliott: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 or 2

Communities, People and Health: International Health

Lead researcher: Dr Afzal Mahmood

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/afzal.mahmood

Email: afzal.mahmood@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

International Health focuses on practical research in countries in our region such as Indonesia, and PNG, particularly in the area of health services research, maternal and child health and quality of care.

Improving the health outcomes for pregnant women in Kutai Kartanegara District, East Kalimantan, Indonesia.

Project description:

Health Services Intervention Research in urban and rural areas aimed at improving the health outcomes for pregnant women and comparing the outcomes before and after introducing a spectrum of changes in 8 health centres catchment areas and at three hospitals. You will learn about the health system in a developing country, safe motherhood services and quality of care as a reason to stalled decline in maternal mortality. There is also opportunity for focussing the project on social and health services factors contributing to low birth weight babies.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Essential: At least a Credit average in epidemiology and biostatistics and ability to use SPSS. Desirable: prior participation in quantitative study or data collection/entry, motivated (and have time) to travel and learn in cross-cultural setting. If international travel resumes there may be an opportunity to travel to Indonesia and there may be funding available for one airfare (if the project involves travelling the student will need his/her own funding for living and accommodation for about 3 months in Indonesia about $500 – $1000 a month).

Supervisors Names:

Dr Afzal Mahmood: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/afzal.mahmood

Prof Peng Bi: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/peng.bi

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☐ Semester 1 and 2

Health services interventions for quality care to improve pregnancy outcomes, East Java, Indonesia.

Project description:

The research focuses on factors affecting quality of antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal care in regions with persistently high maternal mortality. The research, with the public sector services, University of Airlangga and a department(s) of Health, is based in East Java and/or East Kalimantan. Staff training and initiatives at hospitals level are planned to address organisational, personnel, and personal factors influencing quality. An honours project may focus on health system response to direct and/or indirect causes of maternal mortality or on information and communication for appropriate referrals and transfers addressing delays in care.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☒ MPhil	☐ Dissertation (12 units)
☐ PhD	☐ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☐ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:

Good knowledge of: the determinants of health; access to care; quality of care concepts; motivated to travel and learn in cross-cultural setting. Probable start date – Semester 2 2022 considering the possibility of international travel resuming by that time.

Supervisors Names:

Dr Afzal Mahmood: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/afzal.mahmood

Prof Peng Bi: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/peng.bi

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☐ Semester 1 and 2

Coordinated & Integrated Care for CALD communities

Project description:
The project will aim at understanding challenges in accessing integrated care and factors that can facilitated access to integrated primary care for refugees or other members of CALD communities

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Knowledge and experience in qualitative research methods preferred

Supervisors Names:

Dr Afzal Mahmood: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/afzal.mahmood

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☐ Semester 1 and 2

Communities, People and Health: SAHMRI Health Policy Centre

Lead researcher: Professor Caroline Miller

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/index.php/profile/caroline.miller

Email: caroline.miller@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

The SAHMRI Health Policy Centre conducts behavioural research, policy research, population monitoring and evaluation to inform public policy and population health interventions. The centre conducts independent research and provides evidence syntheses and expert advisory consultancies and actively engages with policy makers and non-government organisations for improved health outcomes.

Qualitative study of young adults' perceptions of energy drinks and health effects.

Project description:

This will be a qualitative study of young adults (focus groups or interviews) to explore drivers and patterns of of energy drink consumption, perceptions of health effects and motivation for reduced consumption. It requires existing knowledge of qualitative research methods and analysis.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Skills and knowledge in qualitative research methods and analysis.

Supervisors Names:

Dr Kerry Ettridge: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/kerry.ettridge
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/kerry-ettridge

Prof Caroline Miller: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/caroline-miller

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☒ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Does nutritional information on school canteen menus influence parents' decisions?

Project description:

This will be an experimental online survey to investigate parents' perceptions of the healthfulness of the food provided in the school environment, and whether nutritional information is a factor in their decision-making process when purchasing children's lunch from the school canteen.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☐ MPhil	☐ Dissertation (12 units)
☐ PhD	☒ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☐ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:

Good working knowledge of behavioural theory, survey design and statistics.

Supervisor names:

Dr Kerry Ettridge: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/kerry.ettridge
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/kerry-ettridge

Prof Caroline Miller: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/caroline-miller

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☒ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Weight stigma- unintended consequences of labelling

Project description:
Experimental and real-life studies have shown the potential of warning labels on sugary drinks in reducing consumption. More evidence is needed on the unintended consequences of such interventions, specifically, whether these labels promote perceptions of weight stigma, and how this may impact on intentions to reduce consumption. This would be a new experimental online study of young adults to view images of high sugar beverages with different labels applied that communicate different types of health information, and assess perceptions of weight and/or obesity stigma.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Advanced knowledge of research methodology and strong quantitative analysis skills.

Supervisors Names:

Dr Kerry Ettridge: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/kerry.ettridge
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/kerry-ettridge
Prof Caroline Miller: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/caroline-miller

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☒ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☐ Semester 1 and 2

Perceptions of vaping, addiction and support for quitting

Project description:
This will be an experimental online survey to investigate parents' perceptions of the healthfulness of the food provided in the school environment, and whether nutritional information is a factor in their decision-making process when purchasing children's lunch from the school canteen.
There has been a rapid rise in the number of adolescents and youth taking up e-cigarettes or vaping. Parents and their perceptions towards health and health behaviours can have a large influence on adolescent and youth behaviour. A gap in knowledge exists regarding parental perceptions of vaping, health harms, and use among adolescents and youth.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
This could be a qualitative or quantitative project, depending on direction of research questions. Students should have advanced analysis skills in either area relevant to the chosen methodology.

Supervisor names:

Dr Kerry Ettridge: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/kerry.ettridge
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/kerry-ettridge
Prof Caroline Miller: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/caroline-miller

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☒ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Communicating dietary risk using the Ultra-Processed Foods framework

Project description:
Over consumption of ultra-processed foods and drinks are major and modifiable contributors to dietary risk. The project aims are broadly related to identifying communication strategies to reduce population level consumption of ultra-processed food. An example study is to conduct interviews to generate insight into the perceptions of communicating dietary risk using the ultra-processed food framework among those who have a stake in the way dietary advice is communicated to consumers (i.e., clinicians, health agencies, policy makers).

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
This could be a qualitative or quantitative project, depending on direction of research questions. Students should have advanced analysis skills in either area relevant to the chosen methodology.

Supervisors Names:

Dr Joanne Dono: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/joanne.dono
https://research.sahmri.org.au/en/persons/joanne-dono
Prof Caroline Miller: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/caroline-miller

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☒ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☐ Semester 1 and 2

Perceptions of unhealthy foods in the home environment

Project description:
The broad topic of this PhD will be in relation to young people's perceptions of access to and consumption of unhealthy food, particularly within the home, including motivations for consumption, perceptions of external influences (e.g., marketing, influencers on social media platforms, peer influence), and reactions to warning/advisory messaging. A PhD scholarship top up is available for this project.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
This PhD will likely include qualitative and quantitative components. Students should have advanced analysis skills in quantitative methods, and at least knowledge and interest in qualitative methods.

Supervisors Names:

Dr Kerry Ettridge: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/kerry.ettridge
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/kerry-ettridge
Prof Caroline Miller: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller
https://portal.sahmriresearch.org/en/persons/caroline-miller

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☒ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☐ Semester 1 and 2

Environmental and Health Research Group

Lead researcher: Professor Peng Bi

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/peng.bi#my-research

Email: peng.bi@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

We are interested in how environmental and climatic hazards have an impact upon public health, and how to build health resilience within communities.

The Environment and Health Research Group conducts domestic and internationally significant research that has a pragmatic approach to public health problems. We are dedicated to providing translational evidence to the public, to decision-makers, and to the broader research community.

Our research interests are in environmental health, climate change, emergency public health event response (such as heatwaves) and population health. We also explore how risk, adaptation and preparedness messages and practices can provide coping mechanisms for environmental and climatic stresses within communities.

Our group has excellent collaborations with government organisations and we also convene the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility Vulnerable Community Network, which is funded by the Australian Government Department of Environment.

Impact of maternal exposure during heatwaves on adverse birth outcomes.

Project description:
Population groups vulnerable to effects of heatwaves include pregnant women with potential for adverse birth outcomes. Stillbirths, preterm births and birth defects are significant public health problems associated with mortality and lifelong disability. Preventing mortality and adverse birth outcomes is critical in reducing long term health effects and social and economic burden. This project will assess the number of excess adverse birth outcomes attributable to heatwaves, and explore behavioural and adaptive responses of pregnant women during heatwaves. Findings will provide necessary information for antenatal care, health care service resource allocation and opportunities for prevention in the context of climate change. The overall aim is to examine the relationship between maternal exposure to heatwaves and the increased risk of stillbirths, preterm births and birth defects in babies born to women in the metropolitan region of Adelaide. In addition, this study will be the first to explore pregnant women's response to heatwaves, and will identify adaptation measures that could mitigate against the impact of maternal heatwave exposure on adverse birth outcomes.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Students will have completed epidemiological and/or biostatistics courses as relevant to this project. Familiarity with statistical software packages such as STATA. Students should also have an understanding of qualitative research methods.

Supervisors Names:

Dr Adriana Milazzo https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/adriana.milazzo
Prof Peng Bi https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/peng.bi
Assoc Prof Lynne Giles https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lynne.giles
Dr Amanda Poprzeczny

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Healthy ecosystems, better human health outcomes?

Project description:
It is the aim of this project to examine possible links between healthy ecosystems and healthy humans. Healthy ecosystems provide a variety of ecosystem services to humans, most obviously provisioning services (food, water, fuel, and shelter), but also regulating services (climate control, disease suppression) and cultural services (recreation and wellbeing). Biodiversity is fundamental to maintaining ecosystem functionality and resilience, and when biodiversity is adversely affected by human activities such as urbanisation, agriculture, and CO2 emission, ecosystem services can fail. Directly or indirectly, the maintenance of biodiversity can prevent the emergence and re-emergence of a variety of public health problems that include exposure to toxins, vector borne diseases, and lifestyle diseases. Surprising then, we still have a relatively poor understanding of the mechanisms linking ecosystem health to human health. The research approach will be multidisciplinary, and could include a range of methods such as epidemiology, GIS, fieldwork, interviews, or questionnaires, depending on the skills and learning interests of the student. Recommendations for interventions will be developed to optimise the benefits to biodiversity conservation and human health concurrently.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☐ MPhil	☐ Dissertation (12 units)
☒ PhD	☒ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☐ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:
Skills/experience in one or more of the research approaches detailed in the project description would be beneficial.

Supervisor names:

Prof Philip Weinstein: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/philip.weinstein

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Health Workforce Planning Group

Lead researcher: Professor Caroline Laurence

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/index.php/profile/caroline.laurence

Email: caroline.laurence@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

The aim of the group is to provide an evidence-based approach to planning and maintaining the primary care workforce.

The Health Workforce Planning Group is a small but active group with collaborations locally, nationally and internationally.

Our research is interdisciplinary; it involves education, health economics, biostatistics and epidemiology. Our aim is to provide an evidence-based approach to planning and maintaining the primary care workforce. This work consists of research into health career decision-making, the role of education and training, and new approaches of determining future workforce requirements. Our recent projects include:

1. Developing and applying a needs-based planning model for the general practice workforce in Australia.
2. Estimating the future supply of nurses in general practice.
3. Understanding the cost and effectiveness of health workforce planning in Australia.

The Health Workforce Planning Group has a strong translational element, as evidenced by our contract research with key organisations in the health workforce—including Health Workforce Australia, the Rural Doctors Workforce Agency and Western Australia GP Education and Training. Our research has informed decisions and debates on general practice training incentives, rural bonded placements in medical school, medical application support, and marketing of rural practices to recent general practice graduates.

Health Workforce offers a number of research opportunities for students at a variety of levels.

Measuring well-being of Australian communities.

Project description:

This project will explore what health and community indicators could be used to measure the well-being of an Australian community. Based on recently released Well-being in the National measurement framework, the project would involve the identification of appropriate indicators (e.g. health and demographic variables), determining the availability of the data for the proposed indicators and what geographic area they could be applied to (e.g. SA1, SA2). Students will then apply their results to provide to assess the well-being of communities.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☒ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☐ MPhil	☒ Dissertation (12 units)
☐ PhD	☒ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☒ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:

Familiarity with excel and statistical software packages would be beneficial.

Supervisor names:

Prof Caroline Laurence: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.laurence
Dr Elizabeth Hoon: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/elizabeth.hoon

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Exploring the relationship between health provider supply and health outcomes.

Project description:

A body of research undertaken primarily in the US has investigated the relationship between the supply of GPs and improvements in health status or health outcomes. These studies have found that, after controlling for sociodemographic measures and lifestyle factors, higher rates of GPs were associated with improved health outcomes such as all-cause mortality; mortality from heart disease, cancer or stroke; infant mortality; low birth weight; and self-reported health status. This project will assess the association between the supply of GPs and health providers and population health outcomes in the Australian setting. It will involve the identification of health outcome measures, the geographic unit of measurement and possible data sources. The relationship between supply and health outcomes will then be undertaken.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☒ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☐ MPhil	☒ Dissertation (12 units)
☐ PhD	☒ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☒ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:

Familiarity with excel and statistical software packages would be beneficial.

Supervisor names:

Prof Caroline Laurence: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.laurence

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Health and people's perception of their well-being.

Project description:
Subjective wellbeing measures, such as self-rated health have been to correlate with use of health services, morbidity and mortality. Measurements related to well-being are increasingly being used by organisations such as OECD to measure regions. One of the most common measurements of self-assessed well-being is Cantril's Self-Anchoring Scale. This project will explore the relationship between well-being and other health indicators in the Australian setting and how this scale could be used to examine inequalities between regions in Australia.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☒ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☐ MPhil	☒ Dissertation (12 units)
☐ PhD	☒ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☒ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:
Familiarity with excel and statistical software packages would be beneficial.

Supervisor names:

Prof Caroline Laurence: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.laurence
Dr Elizabeth Hoon: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/elizabeth.hoon

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

GP graduate tracking study 2018-2020 – SA.

Project description:
The aim of this study is to examine the effectiveness of the AGPT program in addressing geographic maldistribution by determining the current practice location of GPs who graduated from the SA Regional Training Provider – GPEx between 2018-2020. Data on graduates will be obtained from the GPEx database and the AHPRA database. This study will be done in conjunction with GPEx and builds on a previous study.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☒ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☒ MPhil	☒ Dissertation (12 units)
☐ PhD	☒ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☒ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:
Familiarity with excel and statistical software packages would be beneficial.

Supervisor names:

Prof Caroline Laurence: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.laurence
Dr Taryn Elliott: GPEx

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Exploring the aged care services and workforce.

Project description:
Aged care in the COVID era has highlighted a number of issues, including workforce challenges for this sector. This study will investigate the profile of the aged care workforce and the services provided in Australia and compare it to that found in other high income countries.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☒ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☒ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Familiarity with excel and statistical software packages would be beneficial.

Supervisor names:

Prof Caroline Laurence: http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.laurence

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☒ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Genetic Epidemiology

Lead researcher: Professor Lyle Palmer

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lyle.palmer

Email: lyle.palmer@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

Professor Lyle Palmer leads an interdisciplinary program aimed at investigating the genetic epidemiology of common, chronic disease. In particular, we are actively investigating the genetic determinants of obesity, growth in early life and childhood, and various chronic diseases – with a current focus on obstructive sleep apnea. This team is also active in the area of precision medicine, and together with clinical and engineering collaborators is leading a program of methodological and applied research in precision radiology. Members of the group also conduct methodological research in biostatistics and epidemiology.

Genetic epidemiology of obstructive sleep apnea.

Project description:

Investigate the genetic and/or epidemiological basis of obstructive sleep apnea using data from the Western Australian Sleep Health Study and potentially other international resources (available as part of the International Sleep Genetic Epidemiology Consortium).

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☒ MPhil	☐ Dissertation (12 units)
☒ PhD	☒ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☐ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:

Some skills in quantitative analysis and data manipulation will be necessary. Students will have completed epidemiological and/or biostatistics courses, as relevant to this project.

Supervisor names:

Prof Lyle Palmer: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lyle.palmer

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Observational epidemiology of common chronic diseases (in a cohort study of 220,000 adults).

Project description:

Investigate epidemiological hypotheses related to various common chronic diseases (e.g., cancer, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease) using observational data from an exceptional cohort study – the Ontario Health Study (OHS). The OHS is a population-based cohort of over 200,000 adults collected in Ontario, Canada, and is the largest cohort study ever undertaken in Canada.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Some skills in quantitative analysis and data manipulation will be necessary. Students will have completed epidemiological and/or biostatistics courses, as relevant to this project.

Supervisor names:

Prof Lyle Palmer: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lyle.palmer
Prof John Lynch: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/john.lynch

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Machine Learning in Medicine

Lead researcher: Professor Lyle Palmer

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lyle.palmer

Email: lyle.palmer@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

Professor Lyle Palmer leads an interdisciplinary program aimed at using the methods of machine learning, and in particular deep learning, to solve important clinical problems. Current research projects include:

- The use of routinely collected radiologic images and linked health data to predict clinically important outcomes.
- The use of screening mammograms from BreastScreen SA to better diagnose breast cancer.
- The use of ophthalmic images to predict the progression of glaucoma.
- The use of MRI images from UK BioBank to predict key clinical outcomes.
- The use of thoracic CT images to predict key clinical outcomes.
- Fracture diagnosis from x-rays.

Other research projects outside of these areas are possible, depending upon student interest and local collaborations.

The Machine Learning in Medicine Group is part of the Australian Institute for Machine Learning at the University of Adelaide. The team seeks to apply new technologies such as deep learning to medical images in order to solve clinical challenges across various fields of medicine. Our team is multidisciplinary, and includes epidemiologists, clinicians, and computer scientists.

Machine Learning in Medicine: Systematic review of chronic disease prediction using radiomics.

Project description:

This project will involve a literature review of studies evaluating the use of radiologic images to predict chronic disease and related characteristics. This project would be suitable for a group of students.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Students will have completed epidemiological and/or biostatistics courses, as relevant to this project.

Supervisor names:

Prof Lyle Palmer: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lyle.palmer
Prof Gustavo Carneiro, School of Computer Science:
https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/gustavo.carneiro

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Machine Learning in Medicine: Optimising the analysis of breast screen mammograms.

Project description:

This project will make use of digital mammograms and other data from Breast Screen SA. Data is available on over 300,000 women who have undertaken routine screening for breast cancer at BreastScreen SA. This project seeks to use the techniques of deep learning to develop an AI system to assist radiologists to diagnose breast cancer with higher sensitivity and specificity.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Background in data analysis and data manipulation essential. Knowledge of programming desirable.

Supervisor names:

Prof Lyle Palmer: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lyle.palmer
Prof Gustavo Carneiro, School of Computer Science:
https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/gustavo.carneiro

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☒ Other: AIML (Australian Institute for Machine Learning Building, Frome Rd)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Machine Learning in Medicine: Precision radiology for abdominal aortic aneurysms.

Project description:
This project will make use of CT and MRI scans of abdominal aortic aneurysms and other data from the Department of Vascular Surgery at the Royal Adelaide and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals. This project seeks to use the techniques of deep learning to develop an AI system to assist surgeons to decide when surgery would be most beneficial in patients with abdominal aortic aneurysms.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Background in data analysis and data manipulation essential. Knowledge of programming desirable.

Supervisor names:

Prof Lyle Palmer: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lyle.palmer

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☒ Other: AIML (Australian Institute for Machine Learning Building, Frome Rd)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Machine Learning in Medicine: Precision medicine to improve clinical practice for glaucoma.

Project description:
Glaucoma is the leading cause of irreversible blindness worldwide. The world's largest prospective study of glaucoma progression is based at Flinders University and led by Professor Jamie Craig. Data available includes extensive longitudinal clinical phenotyping, genetic data, and serial images of the eye. This project will focus on using deep learning techniques on eye images to better predict disease progression in glaucoma.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR	***MPH***
☒ MPhil	☐ Dissertation (12 units)
☒ PhD	☐ Thesis (24 units)
Other	
☐ MClin Sci	

Special Requirements:
Background in data analysis and data manipulation essential. Knowledge of programming desirable.

Supervisor names:

Prof Lyle Palmer: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lyle.palmer
Prof Jamie Craig: https://www.flinders.edu.au/people/jamie.craig

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☒ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☒ Other: Flinders Medical Centre

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Health Evidence Synthesis, Recommendations

Lead researcher: Dr Zachary Munn

Dr Zachary Munn | Researcher Profiles (adelaide.edu.au)

Email: Zachary.Munn@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

As experts in systematic reviews, guideline development, and evidence implementation, the Health Evidence Synthesis, Recommendations and Impact (HESRI) group creates trustworthy evidence and recommendations for impact on policy, practice, and decision-making.

Advancing the science of evidence synthesis: The Evidence Synthesis Taxonomy

Project description:
People who make decisions regarding the health of individuals or a society need trustworthy information to support these decisions, whether they be about the effectiveness of a strategy, the burden of a disease, the accuracy of a medical investigation or the preferences and values of a population. To produce trustworthy evidence, we need to collate and synthesise all of the information available. This work will improve the science behind evidence synthesis and the quality of evidence synthesis efforts.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☒ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
Nil

Supervisors Names:

Zachary Munn https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/zachary.munn
Danielle Pollock https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/danielle.pollock

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

ChatGPT to design search strategies for use in systematic reviews, strengths, weaknesses and a strategy for implementation

Project description:
ChatGPT presents novel ways for researchers to expedite some processes of the research pathway. One way that ChatGPT has been utilised is in the development of search strategies (SS) to retrieve research articles from databases. This project seeks to compare SS produced by ChatGPT with those produced by researchers in their ability to retrieve relevant articles.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☒ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☐ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☐ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Nil

Supervisors Names:

Timothy Barker https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/timothy.barker

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

Evaluation of prospective study registration and result reporting of Australian clinical trials

Project description:
Following the 2008 World Medical Association's Declaration of Helsinki, a declaration was made stating that "every clinical trial must be registered in a publicly accessible database before recruitment of the first subject". This process seeks to reduce publication bias (amongst other issues), which is often identified when certain results of a publication are more likely to be expressed than others. For example, an article is more likely to be accepted when the result is large or suits a particular narrative. However, that article may have also collected data that goes counter to that narrative, and as such, that specific data is not published. This is not honest, and a form of research misconduct. This project seeks to conduct a cross-sectional analysis of all registered Australian clinical trials to determine how these trialists have reported their results in the subsequent published research articles, and to determine how they compare to the original trial registration documents.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☐ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Nil

Supervisors Names:

Timothy Barker https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/timothy.barker
Zachary Munn https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/zachary.munn

Location:

☒ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2

CSIRO

Lead researcher: Gilly Hendrie

Dr Gilly Hendrie (csiro.au)

Email: gilly.hendrie@csiro.au

What makes a behaviour change App 'work'? An examination of preventive health tools

Project description:
Australian adults eat about 4 ½ serves of discretionary ('junk') food each day, twice as much as recommended for a healthy diet. The Australian Government developed the National Preventive Health Strategy (NPHS) to improve the health and wellbeing of all Australians. The NPHS has set a measurable and ambitious target to "reduce the proportion of total energy intake from discretionary foods from >30% to <20% by 2030". This will be hard to achieve without a focused effort on discretionary foods. Many people use digital tools to monitor and improve aspects of their health, and the number of these tools continues to grow exponentially. However, population-level dietary intake is not improving. Most focus on the 'eat more' message (e.g., more fruit and vegetables), rather than the 'eat less' message (e.g., reduce discretionary foods). We know what we are doing to promote a healthy diet is not working, but we don't know why - is it the framing of the messages, the delivery mechanisms, or something about the behaviour itself? Understanding how other 'do less' preventive health initiatives have been successful will allow us to have success with this critical dietary challenge. The Australian Government has invested in several successful Apps to promote preventive health behaviours. Examples include: (i) 'MyQuitBuddy' (smoking cessation); (ii) 'Daybreak' (reducing/abstaining from alcohol); (iii) 'Save the Date to Vaccinate' (immunisation reminder); and (iv) SunSmart (sun protection). However, there is no Government-endorsed App supporting Australians to consume a healthy diet. Understanding how other 'do less' preventive health initiatives (such as smoking cessation and reduction in alcohol consumption) have been successful will allow us to have success with this critical dietary challenge. The purpose of this project is to (i) identify and critique digital initiatives endorsed by the Australian Government aligned to the other preventive health focus areas; and (ii) identify design features and strategies used to support behaviour change. In this project, you will search the App Store/Google Play for relevant mobile apps; download and review the technical quality of mobile apps (using the Mobile Application Rating Scale); and summarise the app content and design features, such as if they allow sharing, send notifications, have an App community etc. It is anticipated this will be submitted to a scientific journal for publication.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:
nil

Supervisors Names:

Dr Paige Brooker (csiro.au)
Dr Gilly Hendrie (csiro.au)

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☒ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☐ Semester 1 and 2

Translating the Australian Dietary Guidelines: A discrete choice experiment and knowledge assessment

Project description:

The Australian Dietary Guidelines (the guidelines) were first published by the Department of Health in 1982 and have since been revised five times. The current guidelines were published in 2013, and in July 2020, a review of the guidelines was announced. The Australian Guide to Healthy Eating is incorporated into the guidelines to provide examples of standard serves of each of the five food groups, along with the recommended number of serves per day, to help individuals relate their portion size (i.e., the amount they actually eat) with recommendations. Despite this, consumers have a limited understanding of what constitutes a serving size, and this information is not readily available at the time consumers make purchasing decisions. The purpose of this project is to (i) assess consumer understanding and use of the dietary guidelines, including their knowledge of the recommended number of serves and serve sizes of core and discretionary foods; and (ii) investigate whether guideline-based food labelling changes consumer purchase intentions. The discrete choice experiment uses a survey-based experimental design, where participants are presented with a series of hypothetical scenarios. Participants must choose their preferred option (of 2) in each choice task (e.g., label 1 versus label 2). In this project, you will design front of pack food labels, develop an online survey (using Qualtrics), recruit participants, collect and analyse data. The findings from this project will be important to inform the presentation of nutrition information on food products in the future. The results could be written up and prepared for publication in a scientific journal.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Experience in basic data analysis is preferred

Supervisors Names:

Dr Paige Brooker (csiro.au)
Dr Gilly Hendrie (csiro.au)

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☒ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1

☐ Semester 2

☐ Semester 1 and 2

Sugary drink guidelines: Bridging the gap between serving sizes of sugar-sweetened beverages versus recommendations in the Australian Dietary Guidelines

Project description:

The Australian Dietary Guidelines (the guidelines) provide “up-to-date advice about the amount and kinds of foods that we need to eat for health and wellbeing”. Nutrition labelling on packaged foods is a public health strategy to support consumer’s in making more informed and healthy choices. Declared serving size is a mandatory part of nutrition labels in Australia, however, there are no reference guidelines for serving sizes, and is therefore left at the discretion of food manufacturers. Previous research has shown high variability in declared serving sizes of both core and discretionary foods, and researchers have recommended standardising serving sizes. In 2017, only about one quarter of packaged core foods displayed serving sizes similar to the standard serves. Similar findings have been reported for discretionary foods. It is unknown if this trend is changing (worsening or improving) over time. The purpose of this project is to (i) explore the variation in declared serving sizes of packaged sugar-sweetened beverages, including the variance in serving size between different pack sizes of the same product, and variance in serving size between different manufacturers; and (ii) compare declared serving sizes to the recommended serving sizes in the guidelines. In this project you will collect data (product information, including serving size) from sugar-sweetened beverages sold in supermarkets, and use existing data to explore the temporal changes in serving sizes over time (3 time points: 2014, 2019, and 2024). The results could be written up and prepared for publication in a scientific journal.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☐ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☐ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

Experience in basic data analysis is preferred

Supervisors Names:

Dr Paige Brooker (csiro.au)
Mrs Danielle Baird (csiro.au)
Dr Gilly Hendrie (csiro.au)

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☒ SAHMRI
☐ Other: (please specify)

Research project start:

☒ Semester 1

☐ Semester 2

☐ Semester 1 and 2

Stretton Health Equity

Lead researcher: Joanne Flavel

Dr Joanne Flavel | Researcher Profiles (adelaide.edu.au)

Email: joanne.flavel@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

Our researchers conduct highly relevant research that informs practice and policy development in Australia and overseas, in relation to the promotion of population mental and physical health and health equity, and the reduction of social and economic exclusion.

Stretton Health Equity's research focus is on what can be done about the underlying factors that determine the distribution of health and well-being outcomes. We produce research knowledge on why health inequities exist, what can be done about them and how population health overall can be improved. Our research includes that on primary health care, the commercial determinants of health, Health in All Policies, and assessment of policies in a range of areas including housing, urban planning, trade and social welfare in terms of their health and wellbeing impacts. We receive funding from the ARC and NHMRC and government agencies including Wellbeing SA.

Social determinants of health and health equity

Project description:

Stretton Health Equity has projects available which focus on social determinants of health and health equity. These include the NHMRC Fellowship research Restoring the Fair Go which is using social epidemiology, policy analysis and a range of policy actor and citizen engagement methods to produce evidence that is so compelling that it will create political will for policies to reduce social, economic and health inequities.

Other areas of research concern building a healthy and sustainable food system, examining work and unemployment as social determinants of suicide and developing training materials for professionals about this topic, and examination of the commercial determinants of health and health equity.

These projects use a mix of quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods.

Scope of the project *(you may tick more than one)*

☐ Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)	☒ Honours (18 units)
HDR ☒ MPhil ☒ PhD ***Other*** ☐ MClin Sci	***MPH*** ☒ Dissertation (12 units) ☒ Thesis (24 units)

Special Requirements:

For quantitative student projects completion of PUB HLTH 7075 Introduction to Epidemiology and PUB HLTH 7074 Introduction to Biostatistics is required
For qualitative student projects completion of PUB HLTH 7078 Qualitative Research Methods is required

Supervisors Names:

Fran Baum https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/fran.baum
Toby Freeman https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/toby.freeman
Joanne Flavel https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/joanne.flavel#
Connie Musolino https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/connie.musolino

Location:

☐ RMP (Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza)
☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI
☒ Other: Napier Building

Research project start:

☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
☒ Semester 1 and 2