HONOURS, HDR & MPH
2021 RESEARCH PROJECTS
School of Public Health
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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 title holders 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 Exposure Science and Health
Adelaide Health Technology Assessment
BetterStart | Child Health and Development
Communities, People and Health Research
Environment and Health Research Group
Health Workforce Planning Group
Genetic Epidemiology
Machine Learning

The Honours Coordinator for the School of Public Health is: Dr Clare Hume
clare.hume@adelaide.edu.au

The Postgraduate Co-ordinator for the School of Public Health 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 Exposure Science and Health

Lead researcher: Professor Dino Pisaniello

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/dino.pisaniello
Email: dino.pisaniello@adelaide.edu.au

Our research
We are interested in the nexus between the environment, society and human health. We have diverse backgrounds in environmental epidemiology, public health, exposure science, and statistics and we employ an array of quantitative and qualitative methodologies, working closely with government and non-government stakeholders. We provide an empirical evidence base for strategic policy development and planning on public health issues including environmental and occupational health. We work in the assessment and control of health hazards in workplaces and environment including hazardous chemical management.

Current research projects include:

- Heat and work injury
- Evaluating the dermal absorption of toxic chemicals
- Risk assessment of firefighter dermal exposure to toxic chemicals
- Cytotoxic drug surface contamination
- Respirable crystalline silica exposure in engineered stone manufacturing.
Bioaerosols in the indoor environment: Understanding and managing occupational health risks.

Project description:
The majority of people spend most of their working time in office environments. The assessment of indoor work environments is important because it potentially involves a range of hazards such as chemicals, lighting, and indoor air quality issues. Bioaerosol contamination (such as fungi and moulds) of the indoor working environment is an increasingly common occupational health concern, yet there are limited published studies investigating typical office environments in Australia. This paucity of survey information limits the comparisons that can be made against measurements taken in workplaces that have indoor bioaerosol air quality issues. Exposure to airborne bioaerosols has the potential to exacerbate asthma, act as irritants and allergens and infrequently cause disease in susceptible individuals.

This project is part of a program of work exploring the working indoor environment and bioaerosol characterisation (identification and enumeration) and control (effectiveness of anti-microbial agents). It involves range of research approaches including field measurement, laboratory experimentation and engagement with regulatory bodies in the field of occupational health.

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

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Special Requirements:
Nil

Supervisor names:

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

Research project start:
- ✔️ Semester 1 and 2
What’s that rash? Occupational Skin Disease

Project description:
Diseases of the skin represent a major proportion of occupational diseases. A wide variety of chemicals encountered in the workplace can lead to local (irritant) responses and/or adverse systemic effects in the exposed worker. Recently, the World Health Organisation (WHO) highlighted the importance of skin exposure and its potential impact on human health. This is a wide-ranging project with the potential to be adapted to student interests and is designed to evaluate dermal chemical exposure in selected industries (e.g. healthcare, manufacturing, agriculture).

Students will have the option to undertake:

- A desk-based study evaluating the available literature on occupational skin diseases, with a focus on a chosen industry sector of their choice,
- Laboratory-based experiments, using established techniques, to determine the skin absorption and/or sensitisation potential of commonly used industrial chemicals and/or therapeutic agents,
- A bibliometric analysis study to identify the global leaders in skin research and where existing collaborations are occurring in an effort to highlight potential future international collaboration opportunities,
- Development of online resources/tools or training materials about skin health, for selected industries (e.g. healthcare, construction, hair and beauty).

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Special Requirements:
Nil

Supervisor names:

Location:
- AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce)
- Helen Mayo Building
- SAHMRI
- Other (please specify): Thebarton

Research project start:
- Semester 1
- Semester 2
- Semester 1 and 2
Apps for Occupational Health and Safety: Are they useful risk management tools?

Project description:
With the rapid development of built-in smart sensors, users can do many things with only one portable device. Workplace health and safety apps are a fairly new addition to smart technologies, and provide an opportunity to transform the health and safety ecosystem. If designed appropriately, OHS apps have the potential to be useful risk management tools in order to prevent, predict, and reduce worker injury and illness.

This project will collate and describe currently available mobile device apps with relevance or potential application to occupational health and safety. An assessment of the quality of apps could be performed using the Mobile App Rating Scale (MARS). The outcomes hope to build a foundation for the implementation of high-quality apps in occupational health and safety practice.

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Special Requirements:
Nil

Supervisor names:

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

Research project start:
✓ Semester 1 and 2
Understanding genotoxicity risks from engineered stone dusts.

**Project description:**
Inhalation of quartz-containing dust may lead to serious and irreversible lung diseases including cancer. Unfortunately, early detection of lung cancer is not feasible, and the pathology may only be evident some years after exposure. Thus, the key to prevention of lung disease is rigorous dust monitoring and control.

In order to gauge the potential risk and to target interventions, the proposed study seeks to better characterise silica genotoxicity for engineered stone fabrication processes through laboratory experimental studies. The ability of engineered stone dusts to cause changes to genetic material would be assessed via an 8-hydroxy deoxyguanosine assay. This assay has been previously applied to various forms of dust, including quartz, and is now considered a standard toxicological approach.

The results would help identify previously unrecognised situations of higher risk, particularly as they relate to freshly crushed/fractured quartz, and to identify where more stringent dust control measures are warranted.

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**Special Requirements:**
Nil

**Supervisor names:**

**Location:**
- AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- Helen Mayo Building

**Research project start:**
- Semester 1
- Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) associated with benzene exposure

Project description:
Two French studies in 2004 and 2008 reported an increased prevalence of AML in children with increasing proximity to service station sites and fuel storage depots. The exposure pathway was not determined and it is not certain whether this is mediated via ambient air exposures, vapour intrusion with dwelling proximity to sub-surface sources or both. Considering the locations of many service stations in Adelaide, South Australia and nationally where there is significant proximity to residential housing it would be prudent to explore this issue. As an interim step, an ecologic epidemiological study could be undertaken using available databases such as the cancer registry and SafeworkSA hazardous materials storage information.

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Special Requirements:
Nil

Supervisor names:
Dr Len Turczynowicz: leonid.turczynowicz@adelaide.edu.au

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

Research project start:
- Semester 1
- Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Illicit drug residues in dwellings; Randomised prevalence survey of properties in Adelaide.

Project description:
While illicit drug lab data are available through law enforcement agencies there are negligible data on the distribution of illicit drug in dwellings in Australia and the significance of those residues.

This study seeks to obtain data on that prevalence. This will involve a randomised selection of properties for quantitative screening across a range of illicit drugs. Envirolabs in South Australia have provided an in-kind-based quote for quantitative analyses for 15 differing illicit drugs from surface wipes. Using a randomised approach a selection of housing could be examined both in terms of private housing and public housing sectors. A quantitative approach would not only provide prevalence estimates but also enable a health risk assessment to be undertaken for reported substances.

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

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| ✓ PhD | □ Thesis (24 Units) |
| Other | Other |
| Nil |

Special Requirements: Nil

Supervisor names: Dr Len Turczynowicz: leonid.turczynowicz@adelaide.edu.au

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

Research project start:
- □ Semester 1
- □ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Adelaide Health Technology Assessment

Lead researcher: Professor Tracy Merlin
http://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/tracy.merlin
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.

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, disruptive or digital health technologies, 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 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 shades of product type that fall between these categories.

What is not clearly understood or recognised are the risks associated with applying the incorrect analysis (product type) 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 and whether this differs according to the perceived risks and scope of the policy decision.

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

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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, retrospective review of health technology assessment and policy development, interviews and surveys

Supervisor names:

Location:
- 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 government about the funding of new medicines. You would attempt to answer the following questions:

1. Has the ratio of ‘real world clinical evidence’ to randomised controlled trial evidence in funding submissions by the pharmaceutical industry changed over the last 10-15 years?
2. Has the level of decision-making uncertainty increased over the same period of time?
3. Has there been an increase in the number of resubmissions for funding over the same period of time?
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.

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**Special Requirements:**

Understanding of study designs would be an advantage but is not a necessity.

Nature of data: qualitative and quantitative.

Analytic techniques involved: Literature review, data extraction and statistical analysis, critical appraisal and narrative synthesis, and surveys/interviews.

**Supervisor names:**


**Location:**

✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ SAHMRI

☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ 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,
- it is problematic or reasonably straightforward to implement by drug and genetic test companies who are seeking funding for their personalised medicine
- it is problematic or reasonably straightforward for decision makers and evaluators to apply
- it has affected how assessments are conducted internationally
- the framework can be improved or extended

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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, document and citation analysis, assessment of utilisation data, interviews and surveys of stakeholders (patients, industry and policy makers)

Supervisor names:

Location:
✓ 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 technologies funded by SA Health: post-approval outcomes assessment

Project description:
SA Health convenes a number of panels and committees that make recommendations on the clinical role and availability of new medicines and medical devices in the public health system. There is increasing interest within SA Health and among its clinicians to undertake evaluation work to see if the approval and funding of a medicine or device has resulted in the outcomes expected.

Under supervision, you will examine the data sources available to SA Health to answer key questions, such as the following. Were the indications for the new technology/medicine followed? Did the right cohort of patients receive the technology/medicine? Were the patients' health outcomes as expected? Did this represent value for money? You will then collate and analyse the available data to answer these questions, and contribute to advice on future outcomes assessment.

There are multiple projects available. Projects are possible in cardiology, and other areas. Confidentiality arrangements would need to be in place, though publication would be possible with appropriate ethics approval.

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Special Requirements:
Familiarity with health technology assessment is desirable but not required.
Nature of data: Policy documents. Quantitative data on health outcomes and costs, e.g. blood products used, number of transfusions, number of appointments. For a larger project, it would be possible to conduct surveys or qualitative research.
Analytic techniques involved: One or more of the following: policy analysis; health outcomes evaluation; cost-effectiveness analysis; in-depth interviews; surveys.

Supervisor names:
Naomi Burgess, Director of Medicines and Technology Programs (MTP) and Out of Hospital Pharmacy Services, SA Health

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

Research project start:
✓ Semester 1
✓ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
Ethical principles guiding resource allocation in intensive care units

Project description:
A shortage of beds or staff in intensive care units (ICUs) often leaves practitioners and administrators with difficult decisions regarding how limited resources should be allocated. For example, if the ICU is full but a new patient requires admission, what should happen? Should the least sick patient be discharged prematurely to make way for the new patient, if the new patient can benefit more? Or should the new patient be cared for outside of the ICU, perhaps being transferred to another hospital? In either case, someone will receive less than optimal care.

Formal guidance has been issued on the question of who this should be, namely by professional and government bodies, but consideration of what the main messages are or how consistent they are across the world is lacking. We are conducting a systematic review of recommendations regarding ICU admission and discharge. (The body of literature has been identified; full texts can now be reviewed, then data can be extracted and synthesised.) Our review will help decision makers – both in ICUs and at policy levels – by providing a global picture of the guidance offered. It will also help to advance debates about what the most ethical guidance is.

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

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Special Requirements:
Familiarity with systematic reviews is preferred but not required.
Familiarity with qualitative research methods and with concepts and theories in ethics and health economics is preferred but not required.
Nature of data: Policy documents and position statements.
Analytic techniques involved: Thematic analysis (a straightforward analysis of common themes).

Supervisor names:

Location:
✓ 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 | Child and Health 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 understand how to ensure infants and children have the best start to life. Our studies focus on ways to enhance health and development throughout their life course. This interdisciplinary group consists of researchers with common interests in early childhood health and development.

The group has backgrounds in epidemiology, public health, nutrition, paediatrics, biostatistics and psychology. Collectively, 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

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)

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Special Requirements:

Desirable to have skills in critical appraisal and a familiarity with searching online bibliographic databases

Supervisor name:

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

Location:

✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);

☐ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)

☐ Helen Mayo Building

☐ Other (please specify)

Research project start:

✓ Semester 1

✓ Semester 2

✓ Semester 1 and 2
Child Protection policy, practice, and investment

Project description:
The number of children being notified to child protection, and the total number of notifications to child protection has risen substantially over the past decades. This project will involve identifying what changes in policy, practice and government spend may correspond to peaks and troughs in the trends.

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

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Special Requirements:
Familiarity with statistical software packages such as STATA and searching online bibliographic database is desirable.

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

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

Research project start:
✓ Semester 1  
✓ Semester 2  
✓ Semester 1 and 2
Public housing, child development and academic achievement

Project description:
Using data from the South Australian Early Childhood Data Project this research project will involve exploring the association between public housing early in life and health, development and academic outcomes for children.

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

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Special Requirements:
Familiarity with statistical software packages such as STATA is desirable.

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

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

Research project start:
☑ Semester 1
☑ Semester 2
☑ Semester 1 and 2
Descriptive analyses of potentially preventable hospitalisations among children

Project description
This project will use linked hospital data to describe specific types of potentially preventable hospitalisations (PPHs) among children, e.g. due to injury, respiratory conditions, etc. This project can be expanded to include the nature of repeated hospitalisations, and demographic characteristics of children experiencing PPHs.

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

| Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units) | ✓ Honours (18 units) |
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| □ PhD | ✓ Thesis (24 Units) |
| Other | Other |
| □ MClin Sci | (please specify) |

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

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
✓ Helen Mayo Building
□ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
□ Other (please specify)

Research project start:
✓ Semester 1
✓ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
Trends in child protection contact

Project description:
Using data from the South Australian Early Childhood Data Project this research project will involve exploring trends in child protection contacts in the last 30 years.

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

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Special Requirements:
Familiarity with statistical software packages such as STATA is desirable.

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

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
✓ Helen Mayo Building

□ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
□ Other (please specify)

Research project start:
✓ Semester 1
✓ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
What is insecure housing for children?

Project description:
Using data from the South Australian Early Childhood Data Project this research project will involve defining what insecure housing is for children using public housing data.

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

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Special Requirements:
Familiarity with statistical software packages such as STATA is desirable.

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

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
☐ 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)

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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

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

Location:

✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
□ Helen Mayo Building

□ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
□ Other (please specify)

Research project start:

✓ Semester 1
✓ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
Birth spacing and child health and development outcomes

Project description:
Using linked administrative data from the South Australian Early Childhood Data Project this research project will involve examining the association between length of time between birth of children and their health and development outcomes.

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

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

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

Research project start:
✓ Semester 1
✓ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
The development of an instrument to measure nature-based play 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)

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Special Requirements:
None.

Supervisor name:
Dr Clare Hume: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/clare.hume](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/clare.hume)

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

Research project start:
- ✓ Semester 1
- ✓ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Telethon Kids Institute

Intervention to promote breakfast consumption and child development outcomes at school entry

Project description:
The adverse consequences and modifiable nature of breakfast skipping has deemed intervention to promote breakfast consumption a popular strategy in working to reduce early life inequalities. Investment in school breakfast programs, offering free or reduced cost breakfast to children at school, continues to expand, however there is mixed evidence regarding how it impacts children’s outcomes. Using data from the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC), this project will explore access to breakfast programs among children in their first year of school across Australia, and how this is related to early child development.

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

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Special Requirements:
- Interest in child health and/or development
- Undergraduate degree in public health, nutrition or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)

Supervisor names:

Location:
- ☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- ☐ Helen Mayo Building
- ☐ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- ✓ Other (please specify) Telethon Kids Institute, Adelaide

Research project start:
- ☐ Semester 1
- ☐ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Bullying and wellbeing among children and adolescents

**Project description:**
South Australia is the only jurisdiction globally that conducts an annual statewide census of student wellbeing; the Wellbeing and Engagement Collection (WEC). As part of the WEC, young people provide information on their experience of bullying, including, physical, verbal, social, and cyber bullying. This project will utilise WEC data for students in grades 4-12, to explore the relationship between bullying and social emotional wellbeing over time.

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

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**Special Requirements:**
- Interest in child and adolescent wellbeing
- Undergraduate degree in public health, psychology or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)

**Supervisor names:**

Luke Collier

**Location:**
- AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- Helen Mayo Building
- SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- ✓ Other (please specify) Telethon Kids Institute, Adelaide

**Research project start:**
- □ Semester 1
- □ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Early childhood education quality and child development in Lao PDR

**Project description:**

The Sustainable Development Agenda has encouraged a shift in focus beyond provision of early childhood education, to aspects of the quality of early learning environments. Little is known about the quality of learning environments in low and middle income countries beyond proxy measures such as teacher-child ratios. This project will utilise data collected as part of a randomised control trial in Lao PDR, the Early Education Project. It will explore the quality of different forms of early childhood education as measured by the Measuring Early Learning Environments (MELE) instrument, and how this is related to children’s early development.

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

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**Special Requirements:**

- Interest in child development in low income settings
- Undergraduate degree in public health, education or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)

**Supervisor names:**


**Location:**

- □ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- □ Helen Mayo Building
- □ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- ✓ Other (please specify) Telethon Kids Institute, Adelaide

**Research project start:**

- □ Semester 1
- □ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Socioeconomic status, home learning environments and child development in low- and middle-income countries

Project description:
Socioeconomic status impacts child development, in part through its influence on caregiver-child interactions and the home learning environment. Utilising data collected via the early Human Capability Index (eHCI) for children aged 2-6 years from across a number of low and middle income countries (Kiribati, Lao PDR, Samoa, Tajikistan, Tonga, and Tuvalu), this project will explore the relationship between different indicators of socioeconomic status and early child development, and the extent to which parental engagement in home learning activities influences this relationship.

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

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✓ Honours (18 units)

Dissertation (12 units)

Thesis (24 Units)

Special Requirements:
- Interest in child development in low income settings
- Undergraduate degree in public health, education or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)

Supervisor names:

Location:
- AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- Helen Mayo Building
- SAHMRI; Other (provide details)

✓ Other (please specify) Telethon Kids Institute, Adelaide

Research project start:
- Semester 1
- Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
Community playgroup in Tonga – the effect of playgroup dose on early child development

Project description:
Playgroup participation has been shown to have a positive relationship with children’s early development across both low and high income countries. However, evidence of the amount of playgroup exposure (i.e. dose) required to see positive outcomes is limited, particularly in low income settings. This project will utilise data collected via the early Human Capability Index (eHCI) for children aged 2-6 years in Tonga, as part of the Pacific Early Age Readiness and Learning Program (PEARL) funded by the World Bank, to explore the relationship between quantity of playgroup exposure and children’s early development.

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

| Summer vacation Scholarship (~6 units) | Honours (18 units) |
| HDR | MPH |
| MPhil | Dissertation (12 units) |
| PhD | Thesis (24 Units) |
| Other | |
| M Clin Sci | |

Special Requirements:
- Interest in child development in low income settings
- Undergraduate degree in public health, education or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)

Supervisor names:

Location:
- AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- Helen Mayo Building
- SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- Other (please specify) Telethon Kids Institute, Adelaide

Research project start:
- Semester 1
- Semester 2
- Semester 1 and 2
Quantity and quality of screen time and children’s development

Project description:
This project aims to better understand how children’s exposure to screens during the first five years of life impacts their later development. The data has been collected during a 5-year longitudinal study which captures electronic noise exposure during the early years, through advanced speech recognition technology called LENA. Through LENA, human transcription and parent-reported screen use, information on both the amount and content of screen time from when the child is 6 months of age until 4 years will be available.

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

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Special Requirements:
- Interest in child development in low income settings
- Undergraduate degree in public health, education or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)

Supervisor names:

Location:
- ☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- ☐ Helen Mayo Building
- ☐ SAHMRI; Other (please provide details)
- ☑ Other (please specify) Telethon Kids Institute, Adelaide

Research project start:
- ☐ Semester 1
- ☐ Semester 2
- ☑ Semester 1 and 2
Parent’s mental health and the home language environment

Project description:
Utilising data collected from a 5-year longitudinal study, Language in Little Ones (LiLO), this project will investigate the influence of the primary caregiver’s psychological distress and/or parenting stress on the quantity and quality of the child’s home language environment. The LiLO study utilises advanced speech recognition technology to count the number of words children hear and speak in the home environment once every six months from 6 months until 4 years. Information on the primary caregiver’s mental health is also collected from 12 months until 4 years.

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

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Special Requirements:
- Interest in child development in low income settings
- Undergraduate degree in public health, education or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)

Supervisor names:

Location:
- ☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- ☐ Helen Mayo Building
- □ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
  ✓ Other (please specify) Telethon Kids Institute, Adelaide

Research project start:
- ☐ Semester 1
- ☐ Semester 2
  ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Influence of preschool dose on children’s development and academic outcomes in South Australia

**Project description:**
Attendance at preschool in the year before school is associated with positive early developmental outcomes. Less is known however regarding the number of hours attended at preschool (or “dose”) and developmental outcomes. Using data from the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) and South Australian Preschool Census data, this project aims to investigate the association between the hours attended at preschool in the year before school and children's developmental outcomes at school entry.

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

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✓ Honours (18 units)

**Special Requirements:**
- Interest in child development in low income settings
- Undergraduate degree in public health, education or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)

**Supervisor names:**
Luke Collier

**Location:**
- ☐ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- ☐ Helen Mayo Building
- ☐ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- ✓ Other (please specify) Telethon Kids Institute, Adelaide

**Research project start:**
- ☐ Semester 1
- ☐ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Electronic device use and child and adolescent wellbeing

Project description:
South Australia is the only jurisdiction globally that conducts an annual statewide census of student wellbeing; the Wellbeing and Engagement Collection (WEC). As a component of the WEC, young people, from grades 4 through to 12, provide information on their usual electronic device use prior to sleep. This project will investigate the influence of electronic device use on child and adolescent self-reported social and emotional wellbeing as captured in the WEC.

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

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Special Requirements:
- Interest in child development in low income settings
- Undergraduate degree in public health, education or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)

Supervisor names:

Location:
- AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- Helen Mayo Building
- SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- Other (please specify) Telethon Kids Institute, Adelaide

Research project start:
- Semester 1
- Semester 2
- Semester 1 and 2
Influence of school suspensions on child and adolescent wellbeing

Project description:
South Australia is the only jurisdiction globally that conducts an annual statewide census of student wellbeing; the Wellbeing and Engagement Collection (WEC). As a component of the WEC, young people, from grades 4 through to 12, provide information on their social and emotional wellbeing. Through data linkage of the South Australian Department for Education administrative behavioural data and the WEC, this project will investigate the influence of school suspensions, expulsions and exclusions on child and adolescent self-reported social and emotional wellbeing.

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

| Summer vacation Scholarship (~6 units) | ✓ Honours (18 units) |
| HDR | MPH |
| □ MPhil | ✓ Dissertation (12 units) |
| ✓ PhD | ✓ Thesis (24 Units) |
| Other | |
| □ MClin Sci |

Special Requirements:
- Interest in child development in low income settings
- Undergraduate degree in public health, education or related field
- Quantitative skills (proficiency using statistical software)

Supervisor names:

Location:
- AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- Helen Mayo Building
- SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- Other (please specify) Telethon Kids Institute, Adelaide

Research project start:
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Communities, People and Health Research

Lead researcher: Dr Teresa Burgess

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/teresa.burgess
https://health.adelaide.edu.au/our-research/communities-people-and-health-research-group#research-team
Email: teresa.burgess@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, 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 stakeholders, are included in health research, policy and service delivery. We are particularly interested in the way culture intersects with: health behaviours, health providers, and 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 vulnerable 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
- vulnerable communities including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and people with advanced chronic disease.

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

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Special Requirements:
Experience with qualitative methods would be preferable

Supervisor names:
Dr Shona Crabb [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/shona.crabb](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/shona.crabb)

Location:

✔ 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)**

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**Special Requirements:**
Interest in qualitative methodology

**Supervisor names:**
Dr Shona Crabb [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/shona.crabb](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/shona.crabb)

**Location:**
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
□ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
□ Helen Mayo Building
□ Other (please specify)

**Research project start:**
□ Semester 1
□ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
Communities, People and Health: Counselling and Psychotherapy

Lead researcher: Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott
https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott
Email: Jaklin.eliott@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, spiritual distress, support for children with parents diagnosed with PTSD, and art therapy in residential aged care.
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)

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Special Requirements:
Qualitative Research Methods in Health

Supervisor name:
Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott. [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott)

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
✓ Helen Mayo Building

Research project start:
✓ Semester 1 and 2

Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)
Honours (18 units)
HDR
MPhil
PhD
MClinSci

MPH
Dissertation (12 units)
Thesis (24 Units)

MCP (research)
Dissertation (12 units)

AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
Helen Mayo Building

SAHMRI
Other (please specify)
The prevalence and modalities of expressive therapists working in aged care in Australia

**Project description:**
Utilising expressive and creative therapies in aged care settings in a growing area of practice. However, there is little information regarding an established or coherent approach to practice with this client group. Additionally, there is limited data available regarding the number of ANZATA / ACATA / PACFA registered arts therapists that work with this population. This research could explore which creative modality individual counsellors utilise when working with aged-care clients, together with collating information about registered therapists who work in this field.

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

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**Special Requirements:**
Qualitative Research Methods in Health; Expressive Therapies: Creative Arts in Counselling

**Supervisor name:**
Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott. [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott)

**Location:**
- ✓ 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
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 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)*

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**Special Requirements:**
Qualitative Research Methods in Health

**Supervisor name:**

**Location:**
✓ 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
Literature review of counselling service provision and counselling intervention models for international students.

**Project description:** The following project will be undertaken in partnership with the University of Adelaide College. The literature review seeks to understand current counselling and psychotherapy service provision offered to international students and to provide an overview of predominant practice models utilised with this client group. It is possible that the scope of this project may be expanded to enable a MCP research project.

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

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**Special Requirements:**
Qualitative Research Methods in Health

**Supervisor name:**

**Location:**
- ✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- □ SAHMRI
- ✓ Other (please specify):
  - Helen Mayo Building
  - Bower Place, 132 Grenfell St. Adelaide SA 5000

**Research project start:**
- □ Semester 1
- □ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Understanding access to art psychotherapy provision for clients receiving and eligible for NDIS funding.

**Project description:**
Children and adults receiving funding support via the NDIS for therapeutic supports are entitled to choose the modality of therapy they wish to access. The following project seeks to understand current access situations and barriers to access for clients interested in engaging in art psychotherapy. It is possible that the scope of this project may be expanded to enable a MCP research project.

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

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**Special Requirements:**
Qualitative Research Methods in Health

**Supervisor name:**

**Location:**
✓ 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
Literature review of key themes in Family Therapy and Systemic Practices relevant to the Bower Place Model

**Project description:** The following project will be undertaken in partnership with Bower Place Complex Needs Clinic. This literature review seeks to consult relevant literature from the fields of family therapy and systemic practices to understand the development of the Bower Place Model of Family therapy. It is possible that the scope of this project may be expanded to enable a MCP research project.

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

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**Special Requirements:**
Qualitative Research Methods in Health

**Supervisor name:**

**Location:**
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);

☐ SAHMRI

✓ Helen Mayo Building

☐ Other (please specify):

Bower Place, 132 Grenfell St. Adelaide SA 5000

**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) & 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)**

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**Special Requirements:**
Qualitative Research Methods in Health

**Supervisor name:**

**Location:**
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
  □ SAHMRI
  □ Helen Mayo Building
  □ 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)**

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**Special Requirements:**
Qualitative Research Methods in Health

**Supervisor name:**
Annemarie Klingenberg: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/annemarie.klingenberg](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/annemarie.klingenberg)

**Location:**
- ✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- □ SAHMRI
- □ Helen Mayo Building
- □ 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 vacation Scholarship (~6 units) | Honours (18 units) |
| HDR | MPH |
| ✓ MPhil | ✓ Dissertation (12 units) |
| ✓ PhD | ✓ Thesis (6 units) |
| Other | Other |
| ☐ M Clin Sci | |

Special Requirements:
Qualitative Research Methods in Health

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

Location:
✓ 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
A qualitative analysis of children's talk about sleepiness and fatigue

Project description:
Sleepiness and fatigue are common symptoms of many conditions impacting the health, wellbeing, social and cognitive performance of young children. Sleepiness and fatigue are distinct but inter-related constructs, presenting a challenge to accurately and distinctly measuring these symptoms. Furthermore, existing self-report tools have been developed for adults, and are only suitable for older children and adolescents to complete. An understanding of the perspectives and language used by younger children to define and describe their experience of sleepiness and fatigue is an important first step in both understanding these constructs from a child’s perspective, but also for development of valid self-report tools. This project will involve qualitative analysis of interview transcripts eliciting responses by children to a series of images and spoken scenarios designed to represent instances of sleepiness and fatigue. The outcome will describe distinct themes and content to form the basis of future assessment tool development.

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 | Other (provide details) |

Special Requirements:
Some qualitative coursework training

Supervisor name:
Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott. https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.elliott

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

Research project start:
☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
Communities, People and Health: End of Life Care

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 vulnerable populations, the ethics and values that underpin end of life care and advance care planning, community and professional perspectives regarding end of life care, and how the health system supports people approaching the end of their life.
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 would 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.

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

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

Supervisor name:
Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott. https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

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

Research project start:
☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
The language of Advance Care Planning

Project description:
This project involves an analysis of discourse about and representations of Advance Care Planning in the public domain. A student may choose to focus on specific aspects of these, including potential gender or socio-cultural differences, changes over time or across different media sources (e.g., recordings, visual imaging, and texts) and representations of key processes and stakeholders.

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

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Special Requirements:
Qualitative research methods training

Supervisor name:
Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott. [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.elliott](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.elliott)

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

Research project start:
☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
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)*

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**Special Requirements:**
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**Supervisor name:**
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**Location:**
- ✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- □ Helen Mayo Building
- □ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- □ Other (please specify)

**Research project start:**
- □ Semester 1
- □ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Death and COVID-19 in the media

**Project description:**
This project involves an analysis of media representations of death and COVID-19. 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 media sources, and representations of different stakeholder (e.g., patients, families, medical professionals, policy-makers).

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

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**Special Requirements:**
Qualitative research methods training

**Supervisor name:**
Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott. [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliot](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliot)

**Location:**
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
✓ Helen Mayo Building

**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)

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Special Requirements:
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Supervisor name:
Associate Professor Jaklin Eliott. https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jaklin.eliott

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

Research project start:
☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
The language of Advance Care Planning in the public domain

Project description:
This project involves an analysis of discourse about and representations of Advance Care Planning in the public domain. A student may choose to focus on specific aspects of these, including potential gender or socio-cultural differences, changes over time or across different media sources (e.g., recordings, visual imaging, and texts) and representations of key processes and stakeholders.

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Location:
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☐ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
☐ 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 discourse about and representations of Child Protection Services in the public domain. A student may choose to focus on specific aspects of these, including potential gender or socio-cultural differences, changes over time or across different media sources, and representations of key processes and stakeholders.

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

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Location:
- ✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- □ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- □ Helen Mayo Building
- □ Other (please specify)

Research project start:
- □ Semester 1
- □ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 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 | MPH |
| MPhil | Dissertation (12 units) |
| PhD | Thesis (24 Units) |
| Other | |
| M Clin Sci | |

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

There may be funding available for one airfare to Indonesia. Note that: The student will need his/her own funding for living and accommodation for about 3 months in Indonesia (about $500 – $1000 a month)

Supervisor names:
Dr Afzal Mahmood. [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/afzal.mahmood](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/afzal.mahmood)
Professor Peng Bi: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/peng.bi](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/peng.bi)

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

Research project start:
- Semester 1 and 2
Root cause analysis of maternal deaths & health services interventions, East Java, Indonesia

Project description
The research focuses on factors affecting access to and 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 Australian research partners, is based in East Kalimantan and East Java, Indonesia. Recent research in an East Kalimantan district pointed to organisational, personnel, and personal factors influencing quality. The research is now expanded to include analysis of provincial level data, and review of health care in tertiary hospitals in East Java, with planning to introduce changes and assess the impact. With eclampsia as one of the main direct causes of maternal deaths, an honours project may focus on health system response to eclampsia. Alternatively the project could be focussed at referrals, feedback and integrated care.

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

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| MPH | | |
| Dissertation (12 units) | Theses (24 Units) |

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.

There may be funding available for one airfare to Indonesia. Note that: The student will need his/her own funding for living and accommodation for about 3 months in Indonesia (about $500 – $1000 a month).

Supervisor name:
Dr Afzal Mahmood: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/afzal.mahmood](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/afzal.mahmood)
Professor Peng Bi: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/peng.bi#my-research](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/peng.bi#my-research)

Location:
- 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
Improved flu vaccination coverage: Role of improved access and NESB community's perceptions and attitudes during Covid-19

Project description
To increase uptake of flu vaccination in order to decrease the incidence of flu during Covid-19 pandemic, free vaccines were offered at various pharmacies and through community outreach. This program of free vaccination was particularly targeted at Australian of non-English speaking background considering many had either not considered vaccination to prevent flu or had difficulty accessing vaccination due to cost. A survey will be conducted with the community members who received free vaccine in order to understand community member’s perceptions about vulnerability to and severity of flu and covid-19 infections, and their attitude to flu vaccination in future and to future Covid-19 vaccine if available.

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

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Special Requirements:
Epidemiology and biostatics courses of MPH

Supervisor name:
Dr Afzal Mahmood: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/afzal.mahmood
Dr Adriana Milazzo: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/adriana.milazzo
Professor Peng Bi: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/peng.bi

Location:
✓ 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


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.
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)

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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
Professor Caroline Miller: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller

Location:
□ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce); ✓ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
□ Helen Mayo Building □ Other (please specify)

Research project start:
□ Semester 1
□ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
What are the most effective warning labels for energy drinks?

**Project description:**
This study builds on pilot study data, and will comprise an experimental online survey aimed at testing different warning labels on energy drinks to determine which has the most impact on consumption and purchasing intentions.

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

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**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://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/kerry.ettridge)

Professor Caroline Miller: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller)

**Location:**
☐ 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 on-pack warning label design features are most influential in reducing sugar-sweetened beverage consumption?

**Project description:**
This study builds on existing experimental study data, and will consist of an experimental online survey aimed at refining different design aspects of warning labels on sugar-sweetened beverages to achieve optimal outcomes to reduce consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages.

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

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**Special Requirements:**
Good working knowledge of behavioural theory, survey design and statistics.

**Supervisor names:**
Professor Caroline Miller: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller)

**Location:**
- □ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- □ Helen Mayo Building
- ✓ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- □ Other (please specify)

**Research project start:**
- □ Semester 1
- □ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
The feasibility of introducing minimum unit pricing to reduce alcohol-related harms in South Australia

Project description:
Minimum unit pricing (MUP) for alcohol involves setting a minimum price per standard drink for the retail sale of all alcoholic beverages. Evidence from jurisdictions that have introduced MUP, including the Northern Territory and Scotland, suggests it may be an effective measure to reduce harmful alcohol consumption while having limited impact on moderate consumers. I am interested in supervising a student to investigate the feasibility of introducing minimum unit pricing for alcohol in South Australia. This might involve investigating community perspectives on minimum unit pricing using surveys or focus groups or an audit of alcohol prices in South Australia.

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

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Special Requirements:
Good working knowledge of qualitative or quantitative social research methods

Supervisor names:
Dr Jacqueline Bowden: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jacqueline.bowden

Professor Caroline Miller: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller

Location:
- ☑ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce); ✓ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- ☑ Helen Mayo Building
- ☑ Other (please specify)

Research project start:
- □ Semester 1
- □ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Reviews of the prevalence of and interventions to reduce parental supply of alcohol to adolescents

Project description:
An increasing body of evidence now demonstrates a compelling link between parental supply of alcohol to teenagers and alcohol-related harms. Meanwhile, over the past two decades in Australia the proportion of underage drinkers who are supplied alcohol by their parents has increased, with parents being the most common source of alcohol for adolescents. There have been few population-level attempts to address parental supply in Australia. I am interested in supervising a student to conduct a review of (a) the prevalence of parental supply of alcohol to adolescents internationally or (b) interventions to reduce the parental supply of alcohol to adolescents.

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

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Special Requirements:
Good working knowledge of qualitative or quantitative social research methods

Supervisor names:
Dr Jacqueline Bowden: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jacqueline.bowden](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jacqueline.bowden)

Location:
- AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce); ✓ SAHMRI; Other (Provide details)
- Helen Mayo Building
- Other (Please specify)

Research project start:
- □ Semester 1
- □ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Depictions of alcohol consumption in popular reality TV shows

Project description:
Alcohol consumption is a widely accepted component of Australian culture, with high consumption per capita globally. Exposure to imagery of alcohol consumption normalises and promotes the consumption of alcohol. One channel of exposure is via depictions of alcohol consumption in reality TV shows, which attract a large viewership in Australia. I am interested in supervising a student to investigate the depiction of alcohol consumption in episodes of popular reality TV shows, by 1/ conducting a literature search on similar projects internationally and the effect of such depictions and 2/ coding episodes of a popular Australian reality TV show at 1 minute intervals for the presence or absence of alcohol.

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

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Special Requirements:
Good working knowledge of qualitative or quantitative social research methods

Supervisor names:
Dr Jacqueline Bowden: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jacqueline.bowden](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jacqueline.bowden)

Professor Caroline Miller: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller)

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

Research project start:
- ☑ Semester 1 and 2
- ☑ Semester 1
- ☑ Semester 2
Audit of outdoor food and beverage advertising near schools

Project description:
Exposure to advertising for unhealthy food and beverages, such as junk food, sugar sweetened beverages and alcohol, can influence children’s lifelong food choices, contributing to the burden of diseases including obesity. One form of advertising children frequently encounter is outdoor advertising. I am interested in supervising a student to conduct an audit of outdoor food and beverage advertising near schools in Adelaide, to describe and quantify the volume and nature of this advertising.

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

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Special Requirements:
Good working knowledge of qualitative or quantitative social research methods

Supervisor names:
Dr Jacqueline Bowden: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jacqueline.bowden

Professor Caroline Miller: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/caroline.miller

Location:
□ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce); ✓ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
□ Helen Mayo Building                    □ Other (please specify)

Research project start:
□ Semester 1                             □ Semester 2
□ 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.
Establishing clinical patterns for Australian Diptera bites in humans

Project description:
The aim of this project is to provide evidence-based guidelines regarding management of bite signs and symptoms, as well as testing for potentially associated pathogens.

Diptera bites are reasonably common in Australia, and in most cases are relatively harmless. Some Diptera may, however, transmit diseases that may have ongoing health implications. Currently there is little guidance for general practitioners and first aiders as to the clinical patterns of different Diptera bites, and the lack of such guidance may result in unnecessary testing for viruses that are not associated with the biting fly.

The research approach will be by cross-sectional questionnaire survey of different target groups that may include a range of medical practitioners and entomologists depending on the scope of the project (Hons or PhD). A clinical handout will be developed, and again depending on the scope of the project, could be distributed and evaluated as a public health intervention.

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

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Special Requirements:
Skills in questionnaire design and data analysis would be beneficial.

Supervisor names:

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ Helen Mayo Building  
☐ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
☐ 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)

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Special Requirements:

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

Supervisor names:


Location:

- ✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- □ Helen Mayo Building
- □ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- □ Other (please specify)

Research project start:

- □ Semester 1
- □ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Examining the burden of disease of direct heat-related outcomes in Australia

Project description:
Climate change has had a negative impact on human health, and it is well understood that exposure to high temperatures and heatwaves results in increased morbidity and mortality. However, few studies have assessed the burden of disease (BOD) for the direct heat-attributable diseases such as dehydration, heat exhaustion and heatstroke. This project has three objectives:

- To calculate the burden of disease, as measured by Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs), for heat-related illnesses in Australia.
- To identify the current attributable contributions of climate variability for the BOD of heat-attributable diseases in Australia.
- To project future BOD due to climate change by 2030, 2070 and 2100 with different climate and demographic change scenarios.

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

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Special Requirements:
Knowledge of literature review methodology and familiarity with searching online bibliographic databases
Skills in quantitative analysis and data manipulation will be necessary, and experience with statistical software (e.g. Stata or R) would also be beneficial.

Supervisor names:
Dr Blesson Varghese. [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/blesson.varghese](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/blesson.varghese)

Location:

- ☑ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- ☑ Helen Mayo Building
- ☑ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- ☑ Other (please specify)

Research project start:

- ☑ Semester 1
- ☑ Semester 2
- ☑ Semester 1 and 2
Environment and Health Research Group: Occupational Health

Lead researcher: Dr Paul Rothmore.

https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/paul.rothmore

Email: paul.rothmore@adelaide.edu.au

Our research

Occupational Health research aims to explore the areas such as identifying and controlling the risks arising from physical, chemical, and other workplace hazards in order to establish and maintain a safe and healthy working environment.
The effectiveness of a healthcare design initiative - ceiling hoists - on hazard/incident reporting and staff satisfaction in SA Health

**Project description:**

This project aims to determine any differences between hazard/incident reporting trends with the RAH/n-RAH and to compare this with a control site (the Queen Elizabeth Hospital). Various initiatives have been implemented to decrease injury and improve staff satisfaction when lifting and moving patients in healthcare facilities. In the design of the nRAH overhead ceiling hoists were installed in every patient room to eliminate or minimise the need for mobile manual lifting devices.

The aims of the project are:

- To compare the staff hazard/incident reporting trends and overall satisfaction prior to, and immediately following the transfer of services from the RAH to the n-RAH
- To compare the staff hazard/incident reporting trends and overall satisfaction among staff at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- To compare staff hazard/incident reporting trends and overall satisfaction of staff at the RAH/n-RAH with the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (where ceiling hoists have not been installed)

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

- Summer Research Scholarship (~6 units)
- Honours (18 units)

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- Dissertation (12 units)
- Thesis (24 Units)

**Special Requirements:**

Good understanding of statistical tests and the use of appropriate statistical software.

Knowledge of literature review methodology

**Supervisor names:**

Dr Paul Rothmore: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/paul.rothmore](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/paul.rothmore)

Ms Chris Jayne. SA Health. WorkFit Services Consultant, Physiotherapist

**Location:**

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

**Research project start:**

- Semester 1
- Semester 2
Environmental change and musculoskeletal disorders: how will beekeepers be affected?

Project description:
Beekeeping is an important agricultural industry in Australia which is rarely studied. A preliminary review of the available literature and professional organisation websites in Australia and New Zealand indicates that very little information is currently available on the hazards and risks faced by apiarists either currently or in the face of global climate change. The project aims to build on this preliminary work by interviewing members of relevant beekeeping associations to determine their baseline knowledge of these hazards/risks and to provide guidance on the development of appropriate information both for current operations and for an industry faced with adapting to significant future environmental change.

The aims of the project are:

- Undertake a survey of apiarists to collect information including demographics and knowledge of the hazards/risk associated with their profession both now and into the future.
- To provide guidance on the development of appropriate information which should be available to members of apiary association

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 understanding of qualitative and quantitative research methods.
Knowledge of literature review methodology

Supervisor names:
Associate Professor Paul Rothmore: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/paul.rothmore
Professor Philip Weinstein: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/philip.weinstein
Dr Jessica Stanhope: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/jessica.stanhope

Location:

- AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- Helen Mayo Building
- SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- Other (please specify)

Research project start:

- Semester 1
- Semester 2
- Semester 1 and 2
Assessing firmness compliance of infant mattresses with the Australia and New Zealand Standard

Project description:
A simple consumer device has been recently invented to assess firmness compliance of infant mattresses with the Australia-New Zealand safety standard. This device, a world first, now requires panel testing, to assess its efficacy in the hands of typical consumers.

The project requires the student to:
1. identify a representative sampling frame for participants;
2. specify a recruitment procedure to adequately control for bias;
3. select a participant panel;
4. design and implement an experimental protocol;
5. analyse the data; and
6. formally report the findings.

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

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Special Requirements:
Nil

Supervisor names:
Dr Paul Rothmore: [https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/paul.rothmore](https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/paul.rothmore)
Mr Ron Summers

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
□ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
□ Helen Mayo Building
□ Other (please specify)

Research project start:
□ Semester 1
□ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
Health Workforce Planning Group

Lead researcher: Professor 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 (eg health and demographic variables), determining the availability of the data for the proposed indicators and what geographic area they could be applied to (eg SA1, SA2). Students will then apply their results to provide to assess the well-being of communities.

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

Supervisor names:

Location:
- ☑ 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)

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Other

☑ MClin Sci

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

Supervisor names:

Location:
☑ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ SAHMRI

☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ 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)

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| □ PhD | ✓ Thesis (24 Units) |
| Other | ✓ MClin Sci |

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

Supervisor names:

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
□ SAHMRI
□ Helen Mayo Building
□ 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)

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

Supervisor names:
Dr Taryn Elliott, GPEX

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ SAHMRI
☐ Helen Mayo Building
☐ 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.

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

Supervisor names:

Location:

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

Research project start:
- ☑ Semester 1
- ☑ Semester 2
- ☑ Semester 1 and 2
**Genetic Epidemiology**

Lead researcher: Prof Lyle Palmer:  
Email: [lyle.palmer@adelaide.edu.au](mailto: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)

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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 name:

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

Research project start:
☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2
Observational epidemiology of common chronic diseases

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)

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<td>✓ MClin Sci</td>
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**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 name:

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

Research project start:
- ☐ Semester 1
- ☐ Semester 2
- ✓ Semester 1 and 2
Machine Learning in Medicine

Lead researcher: Prof 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 |
| ☐ MPH | ✓ Dissertation (12 units) |
| ☐ Other | ☐ Thesis (24 Units) |
| ☐ Other |

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

Supervisor name:
Professor Lyle Palmer: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lyle.palmer
Professor Gustavo Carneiro, School of Computer Science: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/gustavo.carmeiro

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce); ☐ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
☐ Helen Mayo Building ☐ 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)

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<td>MClin Sci</td>
<td>Other (please specify): AIML</td>
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Special Requirements:
Background in data analysis and data manipulation essential. Knowledge of programming desirable.

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

Location:
- AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
- Helen Mayo Building
- SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
- Other (please specify): AIML

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)

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

Supervisor name:
Professor Lyle Palmer: https://researchers.adelaide.edu.au/profile/lyle.palmer

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
▪ Helen Mayo Building

✓ Other (please specify): AIML

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)

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

Supervisor name:
Professor Jamie Craig: [https://www.flinders.edu.au/people/jamie.craig](https://www.flinders.edu.au/people/jamie.craig)

Location:
✓ AHMS (Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences Building, North Tce);
☐ SAHMRI; Other (provide details)
☐ Helen Mayo Building
✓ Other (please specify): Flinders Medical Centre.

Research project start:
☐ Semester 1
☐ Semester 2
✓ Semester 1 and 2