SOMS3001 School of Biomedical Sciences Research Internship - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : SOMS3001
Year : 2024
Term : Term 2
Teaching Period : T2
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Medicine and Health
Academic Unit : School of Biomedical Sciences
Delivery Mode : In Person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Short theoretical or experimental research project, supervised by a member of academic staff.

The internship may encompass project planning, literature review, project development, fieldwork, experimental work, statistical analyses and oral and written reporting. Internships may also involve 'placements' outside UNSW (i.e. research institutes connected to UNSW).

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Course Aims

The main aim of the course is to introduce undergraduate students to research in the biomedical sciences. You will undertake a supervised research project that places emphasis on advanced disciplinary knowledge, the use of specialised techniques relevant to your chosen research area, critical thinking and scientific communication. You will gain experience in semi-indepedent research activity, scientific writing and oral presentation.

Relationship to Other Courses

Assistance with progression checking:

If you are unsure how this course fits within your program, you can seek guidance on optimising your program structure from staff at the [Nucleus Student Hub](#).

- Progression plans for UNSW Medicine and Health programs can be found on the [UNSW Medicine & Health website](#).
- Progression plans for UNSW Science programs can be found on the [UNSW Science website](#).

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Describe and critically evaluate scientific literature that informs your research topic
CLO2 : Demonstrate practical skills in research, including attempting techniques directly related to your specific research topic and accurate recording of experimental data
CLO3 : Critically evaluate research data, integrate it into the wider field and communicate findings effectively in both oral and written formats

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Describe and critically evaluate scientific literature that informs your research topic	• Research Report • Journal Club Presentation
CLO2 : Demonstrate practical skills in research, including attempting techniques directly related to your specific research topic and accurate recording of experimental data	• Research Engagement • Research Report
CLO3 : Critically evaluate research data, integrate it into the wider field and communicate findings effectively in both oral and written formats	• Journal Club Presentation • Research Report

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

All course materials and course announcements are provided on the course learning management system, Moodle (or Open Access).

By accessing and using the ICT resources provided by UNSW, you are agreeing to abide by the 'Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources' policy particularly on respect for intellectual property and copyright, legal and ethical use of ICT resources and security and privacy.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Research Engagement Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable
Research Report Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (2 days)	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 10: 29 July - 04 August
Journal Club Presentation Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 3: 10 June - 16 June

Assessment Details
Research Engagement

Assessment Overview

Your research engagement mark will be assessed by your supervisor twice during the internship taking into account your engagement with ongoing research of the group, attendance in the group/laboratory meetings and research activities (e.g. relevant experiments), contributions to broader scientific discussions, and demonstrating competency in practical/experimental skills central to the research topic.

Feedback will be provided by your supervisor on your progress mid-way during the term and at the conclusion of the course.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Demonstrate practical skills in research, including attempting techniques directly related to your specific research topic and accurate recording of experimental data

Detailed Assessment Description

Description: This is an assessment made by the project supervisor throughout the 9-week working period within the research group. This will evaluate a range of different aspects of research engagement including the core research skills developed that are relevant for the project, Laboratory/Research Notebook and data handling (if relevant), critical analysis skills and productivity.

Feedback Process: Assessment and feedback are based on a rubric aligned with that used for Honours Research Performance in SBMS. The supervisor will award the marks and provide written feedback after Week 10 of the course.

N/A

Submission notes

Not Applicable

Assessment information

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the assessment

UNSW Pro-Vice Chancellor Education and Student Experience (PVCESE) provides guidance on the use of generative Artificial Intelligence in assessments. For this assessment, you are permitted to draw FULL ASSISTANCE WITH ATTRIBUTION from AI tools (if relevant). This may include (and not limited to) planning research work, benchmarking, or ongoing analysis work). You will need to disclose the use of AI to your marker (supervisor) before the conclusion of the internship.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Research Report

Assessment Overview

Description: You will produce a research report based on the findings of your project.The research report should contain an abstract, acknowledgements, brief scientific background, with aims and hypotheses, materials and methods, the results you have produced, a discussion of these results and references sections.

Feedback Process:

- supervisor feedback on the Introduction and Methods sections of the report submitted to the supervisor in week 4.
- examiner and convener feedback - 10 days after submission of the Research Report

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Describe and critically evaluate scientific literature that informs your research topic
- CLO2 : Demonstrate practical skills in research, including attempting techniques directly related to your specific research topic and accurate recording of experimental data
- CLO3 : Critically evaluate research data, integrate it into the wider field and communicate findings effectively in both oral and written formats

Detailed Assessment Description

The general format of the research report is aligned with the guidelines for the project manuscript assessment item submitted for Honours in the School of Medical Sciences. It should contain an abstract, acknowledgements, brief scientific background with aims and hypotheses, materials and methods, results, discussion and references sections. The word count should be 2,000 words. This word limit excludes the abstract, acknowledgements and references sections, as well as supplementary data (if present), tables, figures and legends used in the text. Penalties will apply for an inability to observe the word limit. The abstract should succinctly and accurately summarise the aims and outcomes of the project. The acknowledgments are to be used to indicate how much of the research was performed independently or cooperatively. The brief introduction, aims and hypothesis section should define the problem being examined and place it in the context of published work in the area without being a complete review of the literature. It should identify the limitations of the literature and areas of controversy and give clear and valid aims and hypotheses. The methods should be appropriate and valid for the stated aims and clearly described and fully referenced. The results should reflect the body of laboratory work including controls and analysis of data using appropriate statistical tests (if applicable). Material needed for a complete understanding or evaluation of the work, but which does not fit well in the manuscript format, should be included as supplementary data. Presentation of the results should be clear and logical and should communicated appropriately (using figures and tables as well as text). The discussion should be relevant to the scientific background, methods, and results sections, logical in presentation and scientific content, show critical/creative analysis, place the findings of the study in the context of past studies and have suggestions for future studies. Please note that all work which is integral to the manuscript but was not performed by the student (i.e., undertaken by another member of the research group) is to be clearly disclosed in the Methods and/or Results sections of the report, where appropriate. This work may then be referred to in the Discussion and be assessed in the context of the methods and results attained by the student. The referencing style of the project manuscript should align with the requirements of the literature review.

Feedback Process: Assessment and feedback are based on a rubric aligned with that used for Honours in SOMS. Criteria within the rubric address the following: Scientific background, Hypothesis, Aims, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, References and Overall Presentation. The report will be marked and feedback provided by the supervisor and examiner.

Assessment Length

2000 words ± 10%

<u>Submission notes</u>

Not Applicable

<u>Assessment information</u>

<u>Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the assessment</u>

UNSW Pro-Vice Chancellor Education and Student Experience (PVCESE) provides guidance on the use of generative Artificial Intelligence in assessments. **For this assessment, you are allowed to draw DRAFTING ASSISTANCE from AI tools**. As this assessment task involves some planning or creative processes, you are permitted to use software to generate initial drafts [or ideas, structures, etc]. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the software should not be a part of your final submission. It is a good idea to keep copies of your initial drafts to show your lecturer if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.   Please note that your submission will be passed through an AI-text detection tool. If your marker has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text as a starting point and some traces may remain. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

<u>Assignment submission Turnitin type</u>

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Journal Club Presentation

<u>Assessment Overview</u>

Description: The Journal Club Presentation should describe and critically evaluate 1-2 primary peer reviewed scientific journal articles most directly relevant to the project being undertaken. The key experiments and methods need to be identified, and the relevant background and rationale described. Evaluation of the results and integration of key findings across these articles should be presented and connected to your Internship Project. The Journal Club Presentation should be critical, highlighting limitations of the literature and/or areas of controversy.

The presentation should have clear and logical flow, good pace (i.e. neither hurried nor laboured) and use good quality visual aids. You should demonstrate understanding of the papers during question time by giving appropriate answers.

Feedback Process:

- one round of review from supervisor prior to presentation day
- feedback from supervisor and examiner following presentation

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO1 : Describe and critically evaluate scientific literature that informs your research topic
- CLO3 : Critically evaluate research data, integrate it into the wider field and communicate findings effectively in both oral and written formats

<u>Detailed Assessment Description</u>

The Journal Club Presentation is approximately 20 minutes duration, with 15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for questions. The presentation should describe and critically evaluate **ONE peer reviewed scientific journal article** most directly relevant to the project being undertaken. At the beginning of the project the supervisor will help you select an article appropriate for this. The key experiments and methods need to be identified, and the relevant background and rationale described.

Evaluation of the results and integration of key findings across this journal article should be presented and connected to your Internship Project, reaching a conclusion as to what gaps your project hopes to address. The Journal Club Presentation should be critical, highlighting limitations of the literature and/or areas of controversy.

The seminar should have clear and logical flow, good pace (i.e., neither hurried nor laboured) and use good quality visual aids. The student should demonstrate understanding of the entire article during question time by giving appropriate answers.

Feedback Process: Assessment and feedback are based on a rubric aligned with that used for Honours in SBMS. Criteria within the rubric address the following: Background, Hypotheses, Aims, Methods, Project Plan, Rationale and Significance, Presentation Skills and Questions. The journal club seminar will be marked, and feedback provided by the supervisor and guest academics and/or research group members.

Learning Outcomes Assessed: Describe, critically evaluate and reference the article and any other relevant scientific articles that informs their research topic. Critically assess research data, integrate it into the wider field, and effectively communicate the findings in oral format. This task addresses learning outcomes 1 and 3 (see page 4).

<u>Assessment Length</u>

20 minutes

<u>Submission notes</u>

Not Applicable

<u>Assessment information</u>

<u>Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the assessment</u>

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<u>Assignment submission Turnitin type</u>

Not Applicable

General Assessment Information

Detailed instructions regarding assessments for this course are provided on the course Moodle page (or Open Learning).

For student information on results, grades, and guides to assessment see: https://student.unsw.edu.au/assessment

<u>Grading Basis</u>

Satisfactory

<u>Requirements to pass course</u>

In order to pass this course students must:

- Achieve a composite grade of at least 50 out of 100
- Meet any additional requirements specified in the assessment details section and on Moodle.

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

Not Applicable - as no class attendance is required

General Schedule Information

The times and locations of classes can be found on [myUNSW](#) under Class Timetable.

The expected engagement for all UNSW 6UOC courses is 150 hours per term. This includes lectures, tutorials, readings, and completion of assessments and exam preparation (if relevant).

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

This course entails a research internship in an existing research group. The resources required for students vary from project to project. Therefore there are no prescribed resources.

Recommended Resources

Recommended resources for this course are provided on the course Moodle page.

Additional Costs

There are no additional costs associated with this course.

Course Evaluation and Development

Student feedback is taken seriously, and continual improvements are made to the course based, in part, on such feedback.

We use student feedback from myExperience surveys to develop and make improvements to the course each year. We do this by identifying areas of the course that require development from both the rating responses and written comments. Please spare a few minutes to complete the myExperience surveys for this course posted at the top of the Moodle page at the end of term.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Associate Professor Izzy Jayasinghe		Room 315, Lowy Cancer Research Building, UNSW Sydney, Kensington, 2052		Monday-Friday working hours	No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

As a student of UNSW Medicine & Health you are expected to familiarise yourself with the contents of this course outline and the UNSW Student Code and policies and procedures related to your studies.

Student Code of Conduct

Throughout your time studying at UNSW Medicine & Health, you share a responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment. This includes within the courses you undertake during your degree and your interactions with the UNSW community, both on campus and online.

The UNSW Student Code of Conduct website provides a framework for the standard of conduct expected of UNSW students with respect to both academic integrity and your responsibility as a UNSW citizen.

Where the University believes a student may have breached the code, the University may take disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Misconduct Procedure.

The Student Conduct and Integrity Office provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student at UNSW.

Academic Honesty and Plagarism

Academic integrity

UNSW has an ongoing commitment to fostering a culture of learning informed by academic

integrity. All UNSW staff and students have a responsibility to adhere to the principle of academic integrity, and ethical scholarship of learning is fundamental to your success at UNSW Medicine & Health.

Plagiarism, contract cheating, and inappropriate use of generative AI undermine academic integrity and are not tolerated at UNSW. For more information see the Academic Integrity and Plagiarism toolkit.

In addition to the information you are required to review in your ELISE training, UNSW Medicine & Health strongly recommends that you complete the Working with Academic Integrity module before submitting your first assessment task.

Referencing

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. Preferred referencing styles vary among UNSW Medicine & Health disciplines, so check your course Learning Management System (e.g. Moodle or Open Learning) page for information on preferred referencing styles.

For further information on referencing support and styles, see the Current Student Referencing page.

Academic misconduct and plagiarism

At UNSW, academic misconduct is managed in accordance with the Student Misconduct Procedure. Allegations of plagiarism are generally handled according to the UNSW Plagiarism Management Procedure. Plagiarism is defined in the UNSW Plagiarism Policy and is not tolerated at UNSW.

Use of Generative AI and other tools in your assessment

UNSW has provided guiding statements for the use of Generative AI in assessments. This will differ, depending on the individual assessment task, your course requirements, and the course stage within your program.

Your course convenor will outline if and how you can use Generative AI in each your assessment tasks. Options for the use of generative AI include: (1) no assistance; (2) simple editing assistance; (3) planning assistance; and (4) full assistance with attribution.

You may be required to submit the original generative AI responses, or drafts of your original work. Inappropriate use of generative AI is considered academic misconduct.

See your course Moodle (or Open Learning) page for the full instructions for individual assessment tasks for your course.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Special Consideration
In cases where illness, misadventure or other circumstances beyond your control will prevent you from submitting your assessment by the due date and you require an extension, you need to formally apply for Special Consideration through myUNSW.

UNSW has a **Fit to Sit/Submit rule**, which means that by sitting or submitting an assessment on the scheduled assessment date, you are declaring that you are fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration.

Timed online assessment tasks

If you experience a technical or connection problem during a timed online assessment, such as a timed quiz, you can apply for Special Consideration. To be eligible to apply you need to contact the Course Convenor and advise them of the issue immediately. You will need to submit an application for Special Consideration immediately, and upload screenshots, error messages or other evidence of the technical issue as supporting documentation. Additional information can be found on: https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration

Examinations

Information about the conduct of examinations in your course is provided on your course Moodle page.

Other assessment tasks

Late submission of assessment tasks

UNSW has standard late submission penalties as outlined in the UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure, with no permitted variation. All late assignments (unless extension or exemption previously agreed) will be penalised by 5% of the maximum mark per calendar day (including Saturday, Sunday and public holidays).

Late submissions penalties are capped at five calendar days (120 hours). This means that a student is not permitted to submit an assessment more than 5 calendar days (120 hours) after the due date for that assessment (unless extension or exemption previously agreed).

Failure to complete an assessment task

You are expected to complete all assessment tasks for your courses. In some courses, there will be a minimum pass mark required on a specific assessment task (a "hurdle task") due to the need to assure clinical competency.

Where a hurdle task is applicable, additional information is provided in the assessment information on your course Moodle page.

Feedback on assessments

Feedback on your performance in assessment tasks will be provided to you in a timely manner. For assessment tasks completed within the teaching period of a course, other than a final assessment, feedback will be provided within 10 working days of submission, under normal circumstances.

Feedback on continuous assessment tasks (e.g. laboratory and studio-based, workplace-based, weekly quizzes) will be provided prior to the midpoint of the course.

Any variation from the above information that is specific to an assessment task will be clearly indicated in the course and assessment information provided to you on your course Moodle (or Open Learning) page.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

The university offers a wide range of support services that are available for students. Here are some links for you to explore.

- The Current Students Gateway: https://student.unsw.edu.au

- Academic Skills and Support: https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills

- Student support: https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/support

- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing

Mind Smart Guides are a series of mental health self-help resources designed to give you the psychological flexibility, resilience and self-management skills you need to thrive at university and at work.

- Mind Smart Guides: https://student.unsw.edu.au/mindsmart

- Equitable Learning Services: https://student.unsw.edu.au/els

- Guide to studying online: https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/online-study

Most courses in UNSW Medicine & Health use Moodle as your Learning Management System. Guidance for using UNSW Moodle can be found on the Current Student page. Difficulties with Moodle should be logged with the IT Service Centre.

- Moodle Support: https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle-support

The IT Service Desk is your central point of contact for assistance and support with remote and on-campus study.

- UNSW IT Service Centre: https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au/services/students

Course evaluation and development

At UNSW Medicine & Health, students take an active role in designing their courses and their overall student experience. We regularly seek feedback from students, and continuous improvements are made based on your input. Towards the end of the term, you will be asked to participate in the myExperience survey, which serves as a source of evaluative feedback from students. Your input to this quality enhancement process is valuable in helping us meet your learning needs and deliver an effective and enriching learning experience. Student responses are carefully considered, and the action taken to enhance educational quality is documented in the myFeedback Matters section of your Moodle (or Open Learning) course page.

School-specific Information

Laboratory or practical class safety.

For courses where there is a laboratory or practical-based component, students are required to wear the specified personal protective equipment (e.g., laboratory coat, covered shoes, safety glasses) indicated in the associated student risk assessments. The student risk assessments will be provided on the course Moodle page and must be read and acknowledged prior to the class.

Master of Science in Health Data Science courses

Courses in the Master of Science in Health Data Science are hosted through Open Learning. Additional resources are available on the Health Data Science Student Hub.

Recording of lectures, tutorials and other teaching activities (MSc. HDS only)

Lectures, tutorials and other teaching activities may be recorded. Students should be advised that they are consenting to the recording by their enrolment in the course or participation in the activity. The purpose of audio and video recordings is to enhance the student experience by supporting engaged learning in an online teaching environment and ensure equitable access to all course resources for our students. If you have concerns about accessing course recordings, or being recorded, please contact the Course Convenor.

School Contact Information

School guidelines on contacting staff:

Course questions

All questions related to course content should be posted on Moodle (or Open Learning) or as directed by your Course Convenor.

In cases where email communication with course convenors is necessary, we kindly request the following:

- Use your official email address for any correspondence with teaching staff.

- We expect a high standard of communication. All communication should avoid using short-hand or texting language.

- Include your full name, student ID, and your course code and name in all communication.

Our course convenors are expected to respond to emails during standard working hours of Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.

Administrative questions

If you have an administrative question about your program of study at the School please submit your enquiry online at [UNSW Ask Us](#).

Complaints and appeals

Student complaints and appeals: https://student.unsw.edu.au/complaints

If you have any grievances about your studies, we invite you to address these initially to the Course Convenor. If the response does not meet your expectations, you may then contact:

School Grievance Officer, Prof Nick Di Girolamo (n.digirolamo@unsw.edu.au)

Health Data Science programs: School Grievance Officer, Dr Sanja Lujic (s.lujic@unsw.edu.au)