**UQ Winter Research Project Description**

Please use this template to create a description of each research project, eligibility requirements and expected deliverables. Project details can then be uploaded to each faculty, school, institute, and centre webpage prior to the launch of the program.

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| **Project title:** | Improving global health with online learning: A qualitative study of barriers and enablers |
| **Hours of engagement & delivery mode** |  **Dates**: 30 June – 25 July 2025 (4 weeks total)   **Hours per week**: 28–36   **Delivery mode**: Hybrid arrangement with flexibility for most work to be done remotely. On-site participation is recommended but optional (e.g., for meetings or training). |
| **Description:** | Healthcare in low-income countries lags decades behind high-income countries. Sometimes this is due to lack of resources, but occasionally it’s due to slow translation of knowledge.  One potential solution is cost‐effective online professional learning programs. These can help healthcare practitioners keep up to date with evidence-based care. Yet these online platforms may not translate easily into resource-limited settings.  This qualitative project explores the barriers and facilitators that influence healthcare professionals’ adoption of online learning programs in low- to middle-income countries, comparing them with high-income contexts. The project involves thematically analyzing interview data from healthcare professionals.  By pinpointing key constraints—such as internet access, workplace support, and training needs—the research will offer insights on how to tailor online courses for maximum impact in regions with varied resources. |
| **Expected learning outcomes and deliverables:** | * **Research Skills**: Gain experience in qualitative research design, data collection (e.g., conducting or assisting with interviews), and thematic analysis. We’ll also cover **how to use AI** to accelerate various parts of the process. * **Global Health Insights**: Develop an understanding of the contextual challenges facing low- to middle-income countries when adopting digital health initiatives. * **Project Outputs**:   + A short written report or brief manuscript outlining preliminary findings.   + Possibly: an opportunity to co-present or prepare an oral presentation on the results (e.g., at a lab meeting or small colloquium).   The project will help the student build research competencies (e.g., coding qualitative data, synthesizing literature) that are transferable to future academic or industry roles. |
| **Suitable for:** |  Students from any health, psychology, social science, or related background who are keen to learn about global health challenges, qualitative research methods, and online education.   Ideal for students comfortable with independent work (e.g., remote tasks), strong communication skills, and an interest in bridging evidence-based practice with real-world healthcare settings. |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Associate Professor Michael Noetel |
| **Further info:** | Due to the large number of candidates we usually receive for these positions, we cannot commit to providing 1:1 responses prior to shortlisting. For questions about how we work and what we’re working on, see an incomplete list here: <https://readyresearch.notion.site/> |