

UQ Winter Research Project Description - 2026

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.

Project title:	Summarising the Literature on Alcohol and Drug Preloading
Hours of engagement & delivery mode	Winter program, hours of engagement 20 hours from 22 June – 10 July, in person at St Lucia Campus
Description:	Preloading is the use of alcohol and or drugs prior to attending an event (e.g., party, bar, nightclub) where further alcohol and drugs may be consumed. Preloading has been investigated in the research literature for over 20 years. The last review conducted by Foster and Ferguson (2014) examined the research findings from 2006 – 2013. Since this time, the literature on alcohol and drug preloading has evolved with new methodologies, new theoretical perspectives and new interventions aiming to reduce the harm of preloading. The aim of this project is to investigate, synthesise and summarise the research literature on alcohol and drug preloading from 2014 – 2026 in preparation for a publication and/or grant applications.
Expected learning outcomes and deliverables:	Students will be asked to conduct a literature review and synthesise the findings for the purpose of supporting a publication. Expected skills gained include advanced literature review methods, as well, synthesise and summarising skills. In addition, the student will gain further knowledge and understanding of nuanced alcohol and drug consuming behaviours, relevant for those who are interested in AOD research or interventions. Students will also have the opportunity to work alongside AOD researchers at the Centre of Research Excellence for Meaningful Outcomes in Substance Use (MO-CRE) during their winter program.
Suitable for:	The project is suitable for 2 nd to 3 rd year psychology students who are seeking to develop stronger research skills in anticipation for their honours year. Students who have strong attention to detail, strong organisation skills and excellent written communication are suitable for this project.
Primary Supervisor:	Dr Jacob Sorbello Research Fellow
Further info:	Students are welcome to contact my email to discuss the project. j.sorbello@uq.edu.au