



2027 Summer Research Project Template

Help us present your project in a way that connects with the right students. Thoughtful, engaging descriptions tend to attract stronger and more suitable applications. Thank you for putting a project forward - these programs rely on your contribution, and we couldn't do it without you.

Section	Description
Project title	What's the impact of ChatGPT on substance use beliefs?
Hours & delivery	36 hours per week from 11 Jan to 19 Feb (total 6 weeks). Location: on campus, 31 Upland Rd, St Lucia.
About the project (150–250 words)	People are increasingly turning to mainstream AI chatbots such as ChatGPT for information on alcohol, smoking, vaping and other drugs. But we know very little about how AI is being used for drug and health-related info, what's beneficial, and where they may create new risks. This project explore the role AI may play in shaping beliefs about drugs. Students may contribute to a variety of studies on this topic. For example: • A Reddit study examining publicly available discussions about how people use AI for substance info (e.g., common use cases, perceived benefits & limitations) • An experimental study testing whether a brief convo with an AI chatbot can change tobacco-related beliefs among adults who smoke.
What you'll do (100–150 words)	Some things you may do include: help conduct focused literature reviews, draft ethics applications, develop survey materials, code Reddit discussions. This will just depend on the stage of the studies at time of your commencement.
What you'll learn (100–150 words)	Some practical research skills you may learn include: how to conduct a literature review, apply for ethics, develop study materials, set up experimental studies, analyse social media data. You'll also learn more about how AI is being used in health, how health messages can shape what people think and do and how researchers study behaviour change in substance use. And by the end of the project, you'll have a stronger understanding of the research process and have new skills you can use in future study.
Project outcomes (75–125 words)	Students will have contributed to one stage of the research project that will help move it forward. Depending on the stage of the research, this might include contributing to an ethics application, completing a focused literature review, helping develop or test study materials, or preparing data for analysis.
Who should apply? (75–125 words)	Suited for 3rd or 4th year students with a background in psychology, public health, or related fields. Especially anyone who is excited about research and is considering doing an Honours or a PhD. This is because it can be a great starting point for developing your own research questions, building relevant skills and getting to know researchers and their teams.
Team & supervision (75–125 words)	This project will be supervised by Dr Tianze Sun, Research Fellow at the National Centre for Youth Substance Use Research (NCYSUR).
Additional opportunities (optional)	Supervision will include weekly meetings to discuss projects and progress. Students will also be invited to any relevant talks or meetings so they have opportunities to learn more about other work in the field.



**Additional
requirements**
(if applicable)

None

Contact

Yes, students may contact the supervisor before applying.

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