



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	Summarising and Preparing a Narrative Literature Review on Alcohol and Drug Preloading.
Hours & delivery	Program dates: • 11th January – 19th February (to be negotiated) • 20 hours per week • Primarily on-campus with flexibility to work from home • Location: Level 2, 24a, School of Psychology
About the project (150–250 words)	Preloading is an emerging and nuanced alcohol and drug consuming behaviour. Most young people refer to the behaviour as 'pres', which typically involves drinking alcohol or using drugs before a night-out. Over the past 20 years there has been a large research interest toward understanding this behaviour in young people and the general public. The last review conducted by Foster and Ferguson (2014) examined the research findings from 2006 – 2013, and the research literature is due for an update. The aim of this project is to investigate, synthesise, summarise and prepare research literature on alcohol and drug preloading from 2014 – 2026 in preparation for a publication. You'll build on an existing reference database and work closely with the project lead (Dr Jacob Sorbello, Research Fellow) in preparing the literature for a publication.
What you'll do (100-150 words)	Key activities: • Conduct a literature search of relevant research papers • Synthesis key papers into relevant information • Collaborate on key theme development in the narrative literature review for manuscript preparation • Support manuscript editing and formatting in preparation for submission to academic journal • Attend weekly research meetings with the National Centre for Youth Substance Use Research (NCYSUR)
What you'll learn (100–150 words)	Learning objectives: • Develop advanced literature review skills • Increase critical analysis and appraisal of research literature • Learn to use reference management software for future assignment and research projects • Gain experience with manuscript preparation and academic journal submission



Project outcomes (75–125 words)	Expected outcomes: • Preparation of a narrative literature review for an academic journal publication led by Dr Jacob Sorbello • Students may wish to contribute to manuscript writing as secondary author, or elect not contribute and be acknowledged in the manuscript for their work on the literature review.
Who should apply? (75–125 words)	• Describe the attributes that would make a student a good fit for the project. This may include relevant disciplines or year level, as well as useful skills or coursework. You can also highlight interests and personal qualities that would support success. The project is suitable for 2nd, 3rd and 4th year psychology students who have/are: • Strong organisation skills, self-motivated and good attention to detail • Excellent written communication • Interested in gaining and developing research skills in preparation for 4th year psychology and post-graduate studies • Interested in substance use research in youth populations with applications to public health and clinical practice.
Team & supervision (75–125 words)	• Supervisor: Dr Jacob Sorbello (Research Fellow) • Lab: National Centre for Youth Substance Use Research (NCYSUR) and Meaningful outcomes in Substance Use Research, Centre of Research Excellence (MO-CRE)
Additional opportunities (optional)	Students will have the opportunity to network and collaborate with research colleagues in the MO-CRE and NCYSUR
Additional requirements (if applicable)	N/A
	(Yes), students (may) contact the supervisor before applying.
Contact	Direct enquiries to: Dr Jacob Sorbello – j.sorbello@uq.edu.au