



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	How does accent affect our social interactions?
Hours & delivery	Maximum of 36 hours per week for 6 weeks Some of the tasks will be able to be completed remotely, but stable internet connection will be required. The ideal candidate will be able to work both on-site at the UQ St Lucia campus and virtually.
About the project (150–250 words)	In modern day multicultural societies, accent is one of the most meaningful cues to one's background. We readily use accent to evaluate others and interact accordingly, but how this manifests in prejudice and discrimination is hardly recognised by society and largely unexplored by researchers. As a Summer Scholar, you will contribute to a research programme that seeks to understand how and why accent comes to be a powerful cue in our everyday social interactions. The specific tasks will be discussed with the Summer Scholar closer to the time of project commencement, but will likely involve helping with developing an empirically validated database of voice recordings and some 'hands-on' research (e.g., recruitment, data collection, coding) with children and/or adults in this line of work.
What you'll do (100–150 words)	Here are various tasks that the Summer Scholar may be involved in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help develop and validate voice recordings for use in psychological research• Assist with preparing research materials, protocols, ethics applications, and participant-facing resources• Scope background literature relevant to the project• Seek out recruitment avenues (e.g., childcare centres)• Design community outreach materials (e.g., posters, website)• Recruit and communicate with research participants• Assist data collection with children and/or adults• Code, organise, and quality-check research data• Transcribe conversation recordings• Assist with preliminary data analysis and interpretation• Attend research meetings and contribute to discussions about research design, findings, and next steps
What you'll learn (100–150 words)	You will develop practical research skills and gain insights into how research is conducted on a topic that sits at the intersect of developmental and social psychology. Given that you will be working with a team of researchers, you will experience the process of collaborative problem-solving.
Project outcomes (75–125 words)	By the end of the project, you will have contributed to an ongoing programme of research on how accent affects our social interactions and gained hands-on experience across multiple stages of the research process.



Who should apply? (75–125 words)	We are looking forward to working with students who see a genuine potential in exploring a career in research. Students of all levels of study are welcome to apply, as long as they are eligible based on the UQ Summer Scholar policy.
Team & supervision (75–125 words)	The project will be supervised by Dr Kana Imuta in the UQ School of Psychology. You will also work closely with Dr Imuta's postdoctoral research fellow, Dr Jessica Spence from the UQ Business School. We also have numerous undergraduate and postgraduate students as part of our team, so you will have the opportunity to interact with researchers at different career stages who are conducting work that sit at the intersect of developmental and social psychology.
Additional opportunities (optional)	The Summer Scholar will have opportunities to attend research meetings and seminars. Depending on the progress and outcomes of the project, there may be opportunities to contribute to research output (e.g., publication) or subsequent studies.
Additional requirements (if applicable)	The project may involve hands-on work with children. Please note in your application if you have an existing Blue Card.
Contact	If you are interested in applying, please contact Dr Kana Imuta (k.imuta@uq.edu.au)
