**2020 Psychology Winter Research Project Description**

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| **Project title:** | **Lives Lived Well – Health and Wellbeing, Adolescents and Young Adults, Substance Misuse.** |
| **Positions available:** | **2** |
| **Project duration:** | * 36 hours (maximum – may be less depending on tasks available, minimum 20 hours) * 4-5 weeks |
| **Description:** | Students in the Winter internship program may assist with several projects underway in the Lives Lived Well research team. There will be emphasis on one project:Adolescent Aware (described below).  Adolescence is a period of rapid change and development, with changes in young people’s substance use, mental health and social interactions. Adolescent Aware is a six year longitudinal study, with over 2000 students, from 10 schools across South-East Queensland, who began in Grade 7 and are now in Grade 12. The study has a very strong theoretical basis with a heavy focus on social cognitive theory. Social cognitive factors investigated include moral disengagement (both individual and collective), self-efficacy for a range of factors including assertiveness, empathy, academic achievement, ability to resist peer pressure, to regulate negative and positive emotions and social engagement; as well as anticipated social outcomes from mothers, fathers and peers for consuming alcohol. The survey includes a range of outcomes that could be examined including bullying, substance use (alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, nitrous oxide), mental health (depression, social anxiety, psychosis symptoms), Facebook intrusion and wellbeing. In addition to the social cognitive factors listed above, other important mediating or moderating factors are also measured including sleep, technology, diet, impulsivity, physical activity, involvement in sports, resilience, sense of belonging as well as peer influences (students have nominated up to five friends for each year of the survey).  Students in the internship program may also be asked to assist with other projects underway in the Lives Lived Well research team. In particular, we are preparing for an upcoming trial that will use social network analysis to identify ‘strategic players’ who will receive intervention for heavy drinking in a youth sample. Students may also help on existing projects such as Keep it Real (a study of the link between cannabis and psychosis), GRIT (a wellbeing project with residential rehab participants), and more. |
| **Expected outcomes and deliverables:** | In relation to the Adolescent Aware project, the Winter Research Programme students would help collect the data from the schools involved, assist with data entry and cleaning, as well as the writing of a report that is sent to each school each year.  More broadly, students can expect to learn processes relating to data analysis, including: data cleaning, data collating, data analysis and report generation. They may also learn how to complete literature reviews, and conduct procedures for participant follow-up and recruitment.  **Supervision details (how will the student be supervised when carrying out their duties):**  Student(s) will be trained by and work closely with existing research assistants on the Lives Lived Well Research Team and will receive weekly supervision from a research fellow or post doctorate researcher on the team (the exact person will depend on the project the student is working on at the time). |
| **Suitable for:** | This project is open to applications from students with a background in Psychology. Only students in 3rd year or higher will be considered. UQ enrolled students only. |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Dr Molly Carlyle |
| **Further info:** | Location: St Lucia, School of Psychology, McElwain Blg, Rm: 228 |