**UQ Summer or Winter Research Project Description**

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:** | **MotherCare: Exploring predictors of breastfeeding satisfaction and breastfeeding persistence in mothers of infants in Australia** |
| **Hours of engagement & delivery mode** | The project will run for 4 weeks, approx. 24 hours per week, from 24 June to 19 July 2024. The project will be offered in a hybrid format (combination of on-site and remote work) with negotiable work pattern. |
| **Description:** | Despite high rates of initiation of breastfeeding (i.e., babies who *start out* breastfeeding) in Australia, the duration of breastfeeding (i.e., how *long* babies breastfeed) is still well short of national and international targets. This project seeks to identify modifiable predictors of breastfeeding satisfaction and duration with Australian mothers. This project will use cross-sectional data from 470 mothers of infants aged 3-24 months to examine relationships between demographic, birth, and maternal psychological factors, and breastfeeding satisfaction and duration. What we learn from this study will help us to pinpoint useful targets for future intervention development to better support mothers and babies. |
| **Expected learning outcomes and deliverables:** | Participating in this project will give you the opportunity to work with an established and experienced multidisciplinary research team with expertise in parenting, maternal mental health, and child health and development. You will be involved in developing hypotheses, assisting with data analysis, writing up results, and preparing a written report of the project. Depending on contribution, the student involved in this project may have the opportunity to co-author a paper for publication. |
| **Suitable for:** | This project is open to applications from nursing students who have successfully completed at least one previous course in statistics at undergraduate level. An interest in health behaviour / health psychology, maternal mental health, and infant health and development is essential. |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Dr Amy Mitchell |
| **Further info:** | Please feel free to contact me for further information, or if you have any questions – [a.mitchell5@uq.edu.au](mailto:a.mitchell5@uq.edu.au) |