MATH399 Participation and Community Engagement in Mathematics
UNIT SUMMARY FOR STUDENTS - SESSION 2 (JUL-NOV) - 70 HRS

MATH399 provides an exciting opportunity for third year students to engage with a broad range of public, private and non-government partner organisations through the completion of an individual or group based activity with a mathematics based focus.

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MATH399?
MATH399 is a 70 hour Professional and Community Engagement (PACE) unit. Students will apply the theory learnt through their degree to real-world situations, consider what they might want to do after graduation and develop their employability.

The MATH399 Unit Guide provides detailed information on learning outcomes, assessment requirements, unit schedule, marking and other important information.

WHAT IS A PACE ACTIVITY?
A PACE activity is the practical experience students complete as part of the PACE unit. PACE activities occur in partnership with a relevant organisation, and must:
• enable the learning outcomes of the unit
• meet the PACE criteria (e.g. contribute to the host organisation's goals in a way that benefits the student and the organisation)
• be suitable in terms of WHS and risk.

HOW DO I FIND A PACE ACTIVITY?
In MATH399 there are three ways of finding a PACE activity:
• Find Your Own Activity (FYOA)
• Direct application to a partner-run selection process
• Expressing interest for an activity with an FSE PACE partner

"PACE is a fantastic opportunity to learn about yourself as well as gain hands-on, practical experience in your chosen field... It helped me to strengthen my confidence and passion in my chosen career path”
RENEE BORG
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

PREREQUISITES FOR MATH399
To be eligible to enrol in this unit you will need to have completed or are currently completing:
• Prerequisite Unit: MATH235 or MATH232
• Corequisite Unit: MATH236

CHECK OUT THIS PACE VIDEO
Watch our video for some tips on how to source your own PACE activity, featuring former FSE PACE students:
https://youtu.be/sGCSLjnW_Oc
FIND YOUR OWN ACTIVITY (FYOA)

MATH399 students are encouraged to FYOA. When you FYOA you can:

• gain first-hand experience in approaching future employers
• be more involved in negotiating your activity tasks and structure
• enhance your chances of securing an activity that meets your specific goals and interests
• build professional contacts and networks

Be realistic in your expectations and truthful in your dealings with organisations.

When you have sourced a PACE activity, you will need to submit a MATH399 Student Activity Proposal. Contact the FSE PACE Team via email pace.science@mq.edu.au for a copy of this form.

EXPRESSING INTEREST FOR AN ACTIVITY WITH ONE OF OUR FSE PACE PARTNERS

There may be select opportunities available through existing FSE PACE partner organisations. Only students enrolled in MATH399 can express an interest in these.

The FSE PACE Team will promote these opportunities to students, as well as explain what is needed to express an interest, and advise deadlines.

DIRECT APPLICATION TO A PARTNER-RUN SELECTION PROCESS

Some partner organisations prefer to run their own selection process.

These activities will be advertised on the PACE Opportunities page - http://pace-opportunities.mq.edu.au/ut/en/listing/ and students will be required to apply directly to the partner organisation as per the details of the promotion.

DIRECT APPLICATION HINTS AND TIPS

These opportunities can be competitive and students are encouraged to apply well ahead of the deadline.

To ensure your application is competitive, make sure it is proof read for spelling and grammatical errors and that it addresses the selection criteria.

You might like to contact Macquarie’s Career and Employment Service for further assistance with preparing application documents.

WHAT PARTNERS HAVE MATH399 STUDENTS WORKED WITH BEFORE?

Some examples of previous partners include:

• CSIRO
• The Salvation Army - Homework Club Tutoring Support
• Macquarie University Numeracy Centre

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

• PACE Office in the Faculty of Science & Engineering - pace.science@mq.edu.au
• Handbook
• MATH399 Unit Guide
• PACE Experience Student Portal - https://students.mq.edu.au/experience/practical-experience/pace-experience
• Macquarie’s Career and Employment Service website

“IN 2017 PACE received the Australian Financial Review Higher Education Award for Employability. This prestigious award recognises higher education initiatives which have demonstrably improved student employment outcomes.”