PHYS3810: Professional Physics
SESSION 2 2020 - 100 PACE ACTIVITY HOURS

- Combine theory with practice to contribute your knowledge, ideas and a fresh perspective to a real-world problem or issue that supports your partner organisation's mission and objectives, while enhancing your C.V. and professional experience
- Explore how a physics degree can open doors to a wide range of career paths
- No matter what stage you are at in life or career, this unit enhances professional pursuits

**HOW DOES THE UNIT WORK?**

PACE units combine theory-based curriculum with practical experience (PACE activity). This unit gives you the opportunity to reflect on your learning experience throughout the Physics specialisation, and apply this to a real-world project, while discovering how your skills are of value to a range of different career opportunities.

You must undertake all curriculum (e.g. workshops/lessons and assessment) and the PACE activity in order to be eligible to complete the unit.

To find out more about PHYS3810 and eligibility requirements visit the Handbook.

**HOW DO I FIND MY PACE ACTIVITY?**

All PHYS3810 PACE activities will made available to you through the unit.

Host Supervisors submit a project to the unit convenor which is assessed for its suitability to meet the Physics specialisation, and apply this to a real-world project, while discovering how your skills are of value to a range of different career opportunities.

You will be allocated to an activity based on your interests and capabilities (see below for how and when this information will be provided).

An academic staff mentor will be assigned to each activity and they will meet with you and your host supervisor during the placement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PACE-SPECIFIC TIMELINES</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PHYS3810 Timelines (see Unit Guide for academic dates)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key dates</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASAP</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Before the session</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1 of session</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weeks 2-10</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Ongoing** | • Throughout the session - spend time reflecting on your PACE activity experiences and the unit curriculum in preparation for completing assessments.  
| | • Students should manage and plan carefully so they can meet their other commitments (e.g. part-time work or other university studies). |

**PHYS3810 STUDENT TESTIMONIAL**

“I gained experience exercising skills relating to physics that I had never applied in practical situations outside of university. The magnitude of the objective to be accomplished meant that my experimentation and writing ability was challenged and improved. I also include teamwork, critical thinking and workplace etiquette in the list of learning outcomes from this project.”

ALEXANDER BURCHETT, BSC, MAJOR IN PHYSICS

**PHYS3810 PARTNER TESTIMONIAL**

“Both students acted in a professional manner throughout the project. They helped carry out observations with the Parkes telescopes, took part in pulsar-group meetings and were always keen and enthusiastic.”

HOST SUPERVISOR, CSIRO
**IS RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL) POSSIBLE?**

As per the University's RPL Policy, if you can evidence prior achievement of the Academic Senate's criteria for PACE units then RPL for PACE might be possible. Acknowledgement of past or current employment alone is not sufficient for this purpose; however, evidence could include demonstration of achieving core PACE criteria through experiential learning that has occurred as part of that employment, or successful completion of a PACE-like unit elsewhere.

Refer to the PACE-specific information in the University’s RPL Policy for more detail. Information on how to apply can be found here.

**ANYTHING ELSE I NEED TO KNOW?**

**STUDENT UNDERTAKING**

Once enrolled, you will be asked to agree to your Roles and Responsibilities and provide emergency contact details via a Student Undertaking form in iParticipate. Doing this and receiving approval for your PACE activity are necessary before you can start your PACE activity.

**BACKGROUND CHECKS (WWCC, POLICE CHECK, HEALTH CHECK ETC.)**

Some PACE activities require background checks before you commence such as Working With Children Check, National Police Check etc. The checks necessary (if any) will depend on your activity and the requirements of your partner organisation.

**REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS**

PACE activities are available to ALL undergraduate Macquarie students regardless of their personal circumstances. Students are encouraged to disclose and discuss any personal circumstances which may impact on their ability to complete a PACE Activity before selection or allocation of PACE Activities is finalised. For more information refer to the PACE Activity Management Procedure and the Student Disability Support Policy.

Refer to our reasonable adjustments video for more information.

**PACE AND ETHICAL PRACTICE**

Ethical practice features heavily in PACE and involves negotiating the ethical complexities of the context in which you are working, engaging in activities in an ethical manner, and ethical partnerships. Students should not undertake a PACE activity that would cause a conflict of interest (e.g. with a current employer). Please advise the Unit Convenor as soon as any ethical concerns (including conflict of interest) arise.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

It is possible that a PACE activity might result in the creation of intellectual property (IP). IP is a term that describes the application of the mind to develop something new or original. IP may exist in various forms, such as a new invention, brand, design, software program or artistic creation.

Discussion about this should occur with your partner organisation at the start of the session. You might even be asked to sign an IP agreement. Note: IP generated by students with substantial use of partner organisation resources and input (e.g. the initial problem for which a solution is being developed) will normally be required to be assigned to the partner organisation.

If you are uncertain about your rights, speak with your Unit Convenor or Faculty PACE team. The University does not provide students with legal advice in respect of IP creation, ownership or rights of use and recommends students obtain independent legal advice before signing an IP agreement. The University has developed a draft agreement that could be used by students and partners to assign IP and this is available through your Unit Convenor.

For further advice you can contact the Office of Commercialisation and Innovation by emailing commercialisation@mq.edu.au.

**PACEWISE**

Re-visit PACEWISE to find out more about:

- Great hints on how to present yourself professionally
- The Judyth Sachs Prize
- PACE Equity and Travel grants
- Your Roles and Responsibilities
- Your Work Health and Safety

**HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION?**

For questions specific to the academic requirements of PHYS3810 contact the Unit Convenor.

For all other enquiries about PHYS3810, contact the Faculty of Science and Engineering PACE team:

**T:** +61 (2) 9850 6842  
**E:** pace.science@mq.edu.au