



Honours 2020 Projects in Health Science, Public Health & Health Promotion

School of Health and
Social Development



Steps to securing an Honours project

- Note that new projects may still be added on the online portal until the end of 2019
- Go and meet with supervisors of the projects you are interested in (from July)
- Apply for Honours through the portal (by December)
- Be prepared to list 3 project preferences (supervisors have to sign this form)
- If you are accepted into Honours based on your marks you will then be matched with a project
- You will be notified of your matched project by the Coordinator before the end of 2019 (in December)
- You do not start your project until you have been officially matched with a supervisor

Any questions please contact:

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1. Active Geelong

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisor(s)	 <p>Professor Colin Bell, Faculty of Health colin.bell@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/colin-bell</p> <p>Dr Shannon Sahlqvist, Faculty of Health shannon.sahlqvist@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/shannon-sahlqvist</p>
Project Time Frame	2020. Full time preferred
Expected Student Contact	The student would be expected to meet weekly with at least one of the supervisors for around one hour. This can be via skype or telephone if the student is not located nearby.
Project Description	<p>Active Geelong's vision is to help make Geelong Australia's most active city. Participation in regular physical activity can help prevent a range of chronic diseases, including cardiovascular disease and diabetes that are common in south west Victoria. Active Geelong works with workplaces to support employees to become more active.</p> <p>Workplaces register their interest through a website where information will be gathered on workplaces, reasons for participation, preferred physical activity interventions and outcomes. With a view to enhancing the impact of Active Geelong and providing evidence for similar initiatives, this project will evaluate the process and impact of the Active Geelong Workplace initiative.</p>
Methodological Approach	Cross-sectional survey of physical activities programs in Geelong workplaces and before and after surveys of employees to determine the short-term impact of Active Geelong.
Ethics	This project will require a low-risk ethics application done in conjunction with supervisor(s)
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Quantitative Research Methods, Physical Activity Assessment Methods
Additional Details	
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Yes, both

2. Allied Health Professionals Experiences of Working with Refugee and Asylum Seeker Patients

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	Dr. Danielle Hitch, Faculty of Health Waterfront, dani.hitch@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/danielle-hitch
Project Time Frame	2020 Preferable – Full or part time
Expected Student Contact	Weekly supervision: Sunshine Hospital, St. Albans. Primarily face to face with option of telephone or Skype by prior arrangement if necessary
Project Description	The Western Region of Melbourne has one of the largest populations of refugees and asylum seekers in Australia. Recent research conducted with the workforce at Western Health has indicated that Allied Health Professionals have positive and constructive attitudes towards working with this patient group. However, they indicated less confidence in their skills and abilities than other professional groups (i.e. medicine, nursing), for reasons which are currently unknown. The aim of this study is to explore the experience of allied health professionals in working with refugee and asylum seeker patients, to provide a description of the factors which both help and hinder their work with this population. The findings of this study are intended to inform future capacity building and support for allied health professionals, to enhance their ability to be responsive to the needs of this patient group.
Methodological Approach	Qualitative study using interpretative phenomenological analysis method. The primary source of data will be allied health professionals at Western Health, and data will be collected from focus groups and/or individual interviews.
Ethics	This project will require ethics approval from Western Health Ethics Committee (as a low risk project), which will then need to be ratified by Deakin University.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Previous skills in interviewing (in either a research or clinical setting) would be advantageous. Full training will be provided in focus group / interview facilitation, data analysis and communication of findings.
Additional Details	None.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/ publication?	It is expected this project will lead to both a conference presentation and peer reviewed publication. The student will be lead author on all publications, and will be provided with support around dissemination skills.

3. “A ridiculous dream”: Perceptions of housing affordability for young Australian adults

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div> <p>Dr Elyse Warner, Faculty of Health Burwood elyse.warner@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/elyse-warner</p> </div> </div>
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div> <p>Dr Claire Henderson-Wilson, Faculty of Health Burwood claire.henderson-wilson@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/claire-henderson-wilson</p> </div> </div>
Project Time Frame	2020 full-time preferred
Expected Student Contact	The student would be expected to meet weekly with at least one of the supervisors for around one hour. This can be via skype or telephone if the student is not located nearby.
Project Description	Ongoing concerns about increased house prices, coupled with young adults' increasing tendency to delay their departure from the parental home and also return after moving out, are often the topic of newspaper headlines. The proposed project aims to explore perceptions of housing affordability for young Australian adults, comparing the media's perspective with the perspective of young adults themselves. This Honours project therefore has two parts: (1) To undertake a media analysis to explore the perceptions of housing affordability, and (2) To conduct photo-elicitation interviews with young adults, in which they review photographs that represent houses that they perceive to be affordable and those that are not. Photographs will then be used to initiate individual in-depth interviews which will be thematically analysed.
Methodological Approach	The project will adopt a qualitative research design. It is expected that the student would use media analysis techniques to review recent newspaper articles on the topic of housing affordability for young adults. They will then use purposive and/or snowball sampling to recruit 5-8 young adults (aged 25 to 30). The student will need to interview young adults (for approximately 1 hour) to explore their photographs.
Ethics	The student would work with their supervisors to develop a low-risk ethics application.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	The student will require good communication skills and experience with, or a willingness to learn, qualitative methods.
Additional Details	The student will need to be able to travel independently to interview participants.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/ publication?	Findings from the project could be presented at national conferences such as the State of Australian Cities, Australian Institute for Family Studies etc. The student would be supported in preparing an abstract and presenting their findings. The project could result in publication in family-related journals.

4. Barriers and facilitators to the acceptability of the Australian Dietary Guidelines

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisor(s)	 Professor Colin Bell, Faculty of Health colin.bell@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/colin-bell
	 Dr Phillip Baker, Faculty of Health phil.baker@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/phil-baker
Project Time Frame	2020. Full time preferred
Expected Student Contact	The student would be expected to meet weekly with at least one of the supervisors for around one hour. This can be via skype or telephone if the student is not located nearby.
Project Description	<p>The Australian Dietary Guidelines apply to all Australians and are designed to help Australians make healthy food choices to ensure normal growth in infants and children and improve quality of life and well-being. Having a long and healthy life is only one of many reasons why people eat however and it is possible that the guidelines are not as effective as they could be because they overlook social, cultural and contextual reasons for the food choices we make. Brazil have recently introduced Dietary Guidelines shaped around principles that take into account broader influences on how and why people eat.</p> <p>The aim of this project is to compare and contrast Australian and Brazilian Dietary Guidelines to identify barriers and facilitators to the acceptability of the Australian Dietary Guidelines by Australians and make recommendations for improvement</p>
Methodological Approach	Triangulation of data from a document analysis of the Australian and Brazilian Dietary Guidelines and a systematic review of published literature describing guideline acceptability
Ethics	This project would require an exemption from ethics application, which does not require a substantial amount of work.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Qualitative research methods.
Additional Details	
Could the project result in a conference presentation/ publication?	Yes, both

5. Campus community gardens as a mechanism for Education for Sustainability

Type of Project	This project is preferable for an Honours project.
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Sonia Nuttman, Burwood Campus, Email: snuttman@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/sonia-nuttman</p>
	 <p>Dr Claire Henderson-Wilson, Burwood Campus, Email: claire.henderson-wilson@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/apps/research/find-a-researcher/88423/Dr-Claire-Henderson-Wilson</p>
Project Time Frame	9-12 months, also available for an interested part-time student.
Expected Student Contact	Weekly face-to-face or phone meetings would take place for approximately 30-60 minutes.
Project Description	Education for Sustainability (EfS) is a teaching and learning approach that has been adopted within higher education with the aim to generate a shift in student attitudes, beliefs and action towards sustainable societies. This research project aims to explore how campus community gardens can facilitate this teaching and learning approach within a university setting creating a shift in student thinking and action towards sustainable communities
Methodological Approach	The project will adopt a qualitative research design. It is expected that 10-15 staff members from the Burwood campus would be recruited (by purposive and/or snowball sampling) and interviewed (for approximately 1 hour) to explore how they are currently engaging their students in teaching and learning through the community garden. Qualitative data analyses would be conducted, perhaps adopting a case study approach or other relevant method.
Ethics	The student would work with their supervisors to develop an ethics application (low-risk) OR they may be able to submit a modification to an existing ethics application.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	This project is ideal for anyone who is interested in health, sustainability, community gardens, teaching and learning/education and qualitative research methods. This could be demonstrated by subjects undertaken at undergraduate level in Health Sciences (Health and Sustainability or Environmental Health majors) or Public Health and Health Promotion or at post-graduate level AND/OR work/volunteer experience in a role that combines health, the environment and sustainability or community gardens/food.
Additional Details	This project is intended for implementation at Deakin University's Burwood Campus. There will be minimal travel and costs as all resources can be provided by the Health, Nature and Sustainability Research group (i.e. digital voice recorders). The student will be required to undertake their own audio transcription using free Apps/software.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	This could result in a peer reviewed article (as a brief report) in potentially one of the following journals: EcoHealth journal, Health Promotion Journal of Australia or Australian Journal of Environmental Education. They would also be encouraged to present their research at a national conference on Sustainability and Higher Education or Ecohealth.

6. Children as Champions of Change: Engaging families to increase vegetable consumption in the primary years

Type of Project	Suitable for Honours
Supervisors	 Dr. Sonia Nuttman sonia.nuttman@deakin.edu.au ph. 9244 3788
	 Dr. Rebecca Patrick rebecca.patrick@deakin.edu.au ph. 9244 6500
Project Time Frame	1 year
Expected Student Contact	Weekly.
Project Description	<p>The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation works to help deliver pleasurable food education, in conjunction with educators, partners and the wider community, within schools and early learning centres. This includes assisting schools and centres with implementing and running kitchen garden programs that focus on 'Growing, Harvesting, Preparing and Sharing'. This model is a response to the childhood obesity crisis and has many flow-on benefits, including students taking fresh food messages home. This honours project will be asking: can the 'Taking the Program Home' component of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program (SAKGP) be a facilitator for increased vegetable consumption among primary school children in Victoria? To date children as champions of change in the SAKGP have not been documented, however, their influence on the family environment has been highlighted as an unintended finding in previous studies. The nature of the program means that children are enthused and excited by what they learn and eat, and this excitement and new interest transfers into the home environment. Vegetable intake is a key indicator of healthy eating and Australian children (and adults) are consuming well below the national recommendations for vegetable consumption (AIHW 2018). This project will explore the potential impacts of the 'Taking the Program Home' component of the SAKGP on vegetable consumption of children. It will involve interviews with parents to determine the influence the program has on the wider family home environment.</p>
Methodological Approach	Desk-top literature review and qualitative methods: semi-structured interviews with 6-8 participants.
Ethics	Full ethics clearance required from Deakin and Department of Education. Application currently in development.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	An interest in working in school based settings, particularly around healthy eating/food literacy, environmental sustainability/sustainable food systems and education.
Additional Details	The student will also be working with the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation. This will involve liaising with the project officer/s and visiting a school with an active kitchen garden program to get an idea of the Foundations work.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Yes

7. Compassion in daily life

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Justin Lawson Faculty of Health, Burwood Justin.lawson@deakin.edu.au Ph 9244 3718</p>
	 <p>Ms Natalie Hakman Faculty of Health, Warrnambool n.hakman@deakin.edu.au Ph 9244 6452</p>
Project Time Frame	Feb-Oct 2020
Expected Student Contact	The supervisors commit to maintaining regular contact with the student, on at least a weekly basis, throughout the supervisory period.
Project Description	<p>One of the attributes of any healthcare professional is the ability to relate with people who are in disadvantaged positions. Empathy, or compassion, is difficult to master yet is a key factor to understanding how individuals cope or adapt to changing circumstances in health. The existence of an intelligence quotient is common knowledge; however, this has been expanded upon in recent years to include an 'emotional quotient' as well as an 'adversity quotient'. Nevertheless, there remains considerable scope for exploring links between these various intelligences and how they can be applied in daily life. Is compassion the glue that binds these different aptitudes?</p> <p>Aim: To investigate how to integrate compassion into daily routines – is it possible and if so, how?</p> <p>Objectives: To compare different techniques for developing compassion and how they can be applied in daily life.</p>
Methodological Approach	<p>A mixed methods approach will be used. This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> quantitative data collection from participants via surveys to collect baseline measures of their concern for various issues; follow-up surveys to measure changes in levels of concern after employing techniques to develop compassion (e.g. meditation, scriptural studies); Qualitative interviews of a sub-sample to explore further the value of integrating compassion in daily life.
Ethics	Low risk application will need to be undertaken through Health Faculty Human Research Ethics Committee.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	<p>Applicants should be familiar with some qualitative research methods and statistical analyses. Other skills required include: project management skills, effective communication skills and time management skills.</p> <p>By completing this project, the student will acquire knowledge/skills in research design and conduct, literature searching and reviewing, project management, independent learning and presenting research findings.</p>

8. Composition of sleep, physical activity & sedentary behaviour among a sample of regional Victorian children and influence of age, gender, socioeconomic status, rurality and Cultural and Linguistic Diversity on behaviours

Type of Project	Honours
Supervisors	 Dr Claudia Strugnell claudia.strugnell@deakin.edu.au
	 Dr Melanie Nichols melanie.nichols@deakin.edu.au
	 A/Prof Lisa Barnett, Faculty of Health Burwood
Project Time Frame	One year, full time
Student Contact	Weekly or more often, as required
Project Description	This project aims to investigate differences composition of sleep, physical activity and sedentary time among a sample of primary children from regional Victoria. Thus, this study will investigate the patterning of these risks among a large cross-sectional survey (2019) of over $\geq 2,500$ Victorian school children.
Methodological Approach	This study will use existing data from a community-based cluster randomized control trial among Victorian children in the Goulburn Valley and Owen's Murray regions of Victoria. Given that this project uses existing data, students will be expected to be involved in the 2020 data collection rounds on other projects to gain valuable experiences in relation to recruitment of schools and students and data collection and entry. Measurements of children (Grade 4 and Grade 6) include anthropometric (height and weight) and self-reported questionnaire data (physical activity, sedentary behavior, diet and perceived quality of life). A sub-study also wore an accelerometer (like a Fitbit) to examine sleep, physical activity and sedentary time.
Ethics	Ethics for the overarching project has been obtained, however an ethics modification would be required. The student would work with supervisors to submit an ethics application.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Basic understanding of physical activity among children, childhood obesity and public health. Statistical analysis will be relatively simple, however the student will need to feel comfortable using basic statistical software and be prepared to conduct analyses independently (with some support from supervisors). Knowledge of STATA or SPSS is an advantage. Excellent writing skills required.
Additional Details	This project sits within a large research project and the student will be invited to become a valued member of a large research team. Data collection will involve assisting with other studies within GLOBE as required. All costs in relation to data collection are covered (e.g. food, transport, accommodation).
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	There is potential for publication in journals and/or conferences in obesity or health promotion/public health.

9. Exploring gender, sexuality and relationships for people with disability

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Amie O'Shea, Faculty of Health Waterfront amie.oshea@deakin.edu.au 03 5247 9273 https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/amie-oshea#tab_1--2</p>
	 <p>A/Prof Patsie Frawley, Faculty of Health Waterfront patsie.frawley@deakin.edu.au 03 5227 8353 https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/patsie-frawley</p>
Project Time Frame	2020 full time or part time
Expected Student Contact	The student would be expected to meet weekly with at least one of the supervisors for around one hour. This can be via Skype or telephone, and is adjusted pro rata for part time students.
Project Description	<p>Students can contact us with a particular project idea or to connect with our active projects around themes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender • Disability • Intellectual disability • Acquired brain injury • Sexuality • Identity • Violence and abuse (primary and tertiary prevention) • LGBTIQ+ identities, experiences and health
Methodological Approach	Qualitative. Inclusive, participatory, action research including co-design or co-produced elements.
Ethics	Would be determined based on the project.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Commitment to the sexual and relationship rights of people with disability
Additional Details	Opportunity for creating strong networks with industry and within our active research team.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Opportunities to publish in journals on disability, sexuality, qualitative research methods and violence and abuse prevention.

10. Exploring the wellbeing of potential residents of a 'Microvillage' affordable housing development in Geelong

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Fiona Andrews, Faculty of Health Burwood fiona.andrews@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/fiona-andrews</p>
	 <p>Dr Elyse Warner, Faculty of Health Burwood elyse.warner@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/elyse-warner</p>
	Industry partners – Geelong Sustainability, Geelong and Bellarine Tiny Homes and Deakin HOME Research Hub.
Project Time Frame	2020 full time
Expected Student Contact	The student would be expected to meet weekly with at least one of the supervisors for around one hour. This can be via skype or telephone if the student is not located nearby.
Project Description	This project forms part of a large research project overseen by the transdisciplinary Deakin Research Hub; HOME (see http://deakinhomeresearchhub.com/) to address homelessness and housing stress before it happens, through developing a model of best practice for affordable, compact housing for Geelong residents on low, fixed incomes. The ability to access affordable housing in Geelong is an increasing challenge for those on a low, fixed income, with implications for both individual and the community wellbeing. The honours project will focus specifically on a group of potential residents of a proposed Deakin-designed Micro-village of affordable housing. The aim of the project is to explore participants' previous housing experiences and impacts on wellbeing, along with their future housing aspirations.
Methodological Approach	Qualitative methods will be used in this project, specifically open-ended interviews with a small sample of potential residents of the proposed Deakin-designed Micro-village of affordable housing in Geelong. Interviews will explore potential residents' current experiences of housing and wellbeing, along with their future aspirations for housing in a Micro-village community.
Ethics	The supervisors will submit a low risk ethics application.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	The student will require good communication skills and experience with, or a willingness to learn, qualitative methods.
Additional Details	The student will need to be able to travel independently to Geelong to interview participants.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Findings from the project could be presented at national conferences such as the State of Australian Cities, Liveable, Healthy & Sustainable Cities, Australian Institute for Family Studies etc. The student would be encouraged to be involved in and supported in, preparing an abstract and presenting their findings.

11. Food Preferences of University Students

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisor(s)	 Professor Colin Bell, Faculty of Health colin.bell@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/colin-bell
	 Dr Phillip Baker, Faculty of Health phil.baker@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/phil-baker
Project Time Frame	2020. Full time preferred
Expected Student Contact	The student would be expected to meet weekly with at least one of the supervisors for around one hour. This can be via skype or telephone if the student is not located nearby.
Project Description	<p>Dietary assessment methodologies aim to measure food consumption as accurately as possible with a view to capturing the nutrient intake of individuals and populations. Health Departments rely on this information for developing public health nutrition campaigns. Such campaigns would also benefit from information on food preferences are but this is seldom measured. By using a tool that captures food intake and asking participants to recall favourite rather than actual foods we will gain insight into food preferences but also into the nutrition profiles of actual and preferred diets</p> <p>The aim of this project is to describe the food preferences of University students and compare the nutritional profile of actual versus preferred dietary intakes</p>
Methodological Approach	The Automated Self-Administered 24-hour (ASA24 [®]) Dietary Assessment Tool is a web-based tool that enables multiple, automatically coded, self-administered 24-hour recalls. This tool will be used to capture actual and preferred dietary intakes for a cross-section of undergraduate health students at Deakin University
Ethics	This project will require a low-risk ethics application done in conjunction with the supervisor(s)
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Quantitative Research Methods, dietary assessment methods, digital literacy
Additional Details	
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Yes, both

12. Gambling advertising on digital platforms

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 <p>A/Prof Samantha Thomas, Faculty of Health Burwood samantha.thomas@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/samantha-thomas</p> <p>Dr Hannah Pitt hannah.pitt@deakin.edu.au</p>
Project Time Frame	Full time students only. Data is expected to be collected between May and July 2019.
Expected Student Contact	Weekly contact with supervisory team
Project Description	There has been extensive community and political concern about young people's exposure to gambling advertising, and the role that this may have in the normalisation of gambling. While there has been research examining the promotion of gambling on television, very few researchers have investigated the range of strategies that the gambling industry uses to promote gambling on social media sites such as Snapchat, Instagram, and You Tube. This study aimed to understand the range of appeal factors that may be used in social media advertising, and whether these promotions contain strategies that may appeal to children.
Methodological Approach	Mixed methods analysis
Ethics	The project does not require ethical approval.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Interest in qualitative research methods, content analysis and advertising research.
Additional Details	
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Yes. As with all of our previous students we anticipate that this project will result in a high impact publication, and a conference presentation.

13. How do foods and beverages aimed at infants or children align with the Australian Dietary Guidelines?

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Kathryn Backholer, Faculty of Health Burwood kathryn.backholer@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/kathryn-backholer</p>
	 <p>Dr Phil Baker, Faculty of Health Burwood Phillip.baker@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/phil-baker</p>
Project Time Frame	Part-time or full-time
Expected Student Contact	Weekly contact would be expected for a full time student, which would include phone contact, and/or meeting in person in Geelong.
Project Description	Dietary patterns and food preferences are established early in life. What children eat during this time is critical for later health and well-being. Australian supermarkets stock a range of pre-packaged foods and beverages for infant and young children. The availability, price, marketing and nutritional composition of these products influence the choice of product by parents for their children. This project will use PRICE Tracker, a database of >20,000+ food and beverage items sold online at Coles and Woolworths, to examine the availability, marketing and nutritional content of foods and beverages aimed at infant or children and whether they align or are inconsistent with the Australian Dietary Guidelines. The results from this study will be used to inform policy and practice for improving the food supply for infants and young children in Australia.
Methodological Approach	Analysis of the PRICE Tracker database will include coding of items according to the Australian Dietary Guidelines, summarising information on price and marketing according to pre-defined food categories. Data will be analysed using Microsoft excel.
Ethics	Ethics waiver required for secondary data analysis
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Knowledge in public health, with an interest in children's health and well-being and the role of the food system in shaping healthier population diets. Excellent writing and communication skills – demonstrated by consistently high marks for written assignments or other strong evidence of being a superb writer with outstanding attention to detail.
Additional Details	
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	This project is likely to result in publication in a scientific journal with potential for conference presentation.

14. How does the availability, price and nutritional content of foods and beverages change over time?

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Kathryn Backholer, Faculty of Health Burwood kathryn.backholer@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/kathryn-backholer</p>
	 <p>Dr Adrian Cameron, Faculty of Health Burwood Adrian.cameron@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/adrian-cameron</p>
Project Time Frame	Part-time or full-time
Expected Student Contact	Weekly contact would be expected for a full time student, which would include phone contact, and/or meeting in person in Geelong or Burwood.
Project Description	Unhealthy diet is leading risk factors for non-communicable diseases in Australia and globally. Australian supermarkets are increasingly using 'everyday low' pricing strategies to gain a competitive advantage and increase sales. However, the types of foods and beverages that are targeted by this type of marketing and their nutritional composition is unknown. This project will use PRICE Tracker, a database of >20,000+ food and beverage items sold online, every week, at Coles and Woolworths. The aim of the project will be to examine the availability, price and nutritional content of foods and beverages that are marketed as 'everyday low' prices and how this changes over time. The results from this study will be used to inform policy and practice for steering Australia's food supply in a healthier direction.
Methodological Approach	Analysis of the PRICE Tracker database will include coding of items according to the Health Star Rating, summarising information on price and marketing according to pre-defined food categories and tracking how these data change over time. Data will be analysed using Microsoft excel.
Ethics	Ethics waiver required for secondary data analysis
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Knowledge in public health, with an interest in children's health and well-being and the role of the food system in shaping healthier population diets. Excellent writing and communication skills – demonstrated by consistently high marks for written assignments or other strong evidence of being a superb writer with outstanding attention to detail.
Additional Details	
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	This project is likely to result in publication in a scientific journal with potential for conference presentation.

15. Implementing iPads for meaningful occupation in residential care homes: Staff perspectives

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	Dr. Danielle Hitch, Faculty of Health Waterfront, dani.hitch@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/danielle-hitch
Project Time Frame	2020 Preferable – Full or part time
Expected Student Contact	Weekly supervision: Sunshine Hospital, St. Albans. Primarily face to face with option of telephone or Skype by prior arrangement if necessary
Project Description	A pilot feasibility randomised controlled trial has been conducted at residential care home auspiced by North West Mental Health, looking at the use of iPads as a medium for meaningful occupation for people with dementia. The final data collection for the randomised controlled trial is now complete, and the research team would like to interview staff about their experience of implementing this intervention. Staff how have been involved in the randomised controlled trial included nursing staff, occupational therapists, care assistants, leisure and lifestyle staff and research staff. The aim of this study is to understand the implementation experience from the staff perspective, and identify key issues to consider for further roll out of this intervention into other facilities.
Methodological Approach	Qualitative study using interpretative phenomenological analysis method. The primary source of data will be the staff at these residential care homes (located on three sites across Northern Melbourne), and data will be collected from focus groups and/or individual interviews.
Ethics	This project will require ethics approval from Deakin University HREC (as a low risk study)
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Previous skills in interviewing (in either a research or clinical setting) would be advantageous Full training will be provided in focus group / interview facilitation, data analysis and communication of findings.
Additional Details	None.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/ publication?	It is expected this project will lead to both a conference presentation and peer reviewed publication. The student will be lead author on all publications, and will be provided with support around dissemination skills.

16. Is a healthy diet more expensive than the current diet in rural and regional Victoria?

Type of Project	Honours Project
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Jill Whelan, Global Obesity Centre, Waterfront: jill.whelan@deakin.edu.au</p> <p>Dr Laura, Alston, Global Obesity Centre, Waterfront: laura.alston@deakin.edu.au Dr Claudia Strugnell, Global Obesity Centre, Waterfront: Claudia.strugnell@deakin.edu.au</p>
Project Time Frame	12 months or 2 years
Expected Student Contact	1 hour per week, fortnightly in person meetings in Geelong, alternate weeks phone meeting
Project Description	The cost of a healthy diet in rural and outer-regional Victoria
Methodological Approach	<p>A barrier to healthy eating is often cited as the cost and availability of healthy food. This honours study will collect and analyse price data from a sample of food retail stores located in rural and outer-regional Victorian communities utilising the recently developed Australian Standardised Affordability and Pricing tool*. The data will be analysed to calculate and compare the cost of the healthy diet according to the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating and the cost of the current diet as reported in various population health surveys.</p> <p>It is likely that 5 days of travel within rural and outer-regional Victoria would be required for data collection. Transport and accommodation will be provided to the suitable applicant who will travel at all times with one of the supervisors.</p> <p><i>*Lee AJ, Kane S, Lewis M, Good E, Pollard CM, Landrigan TJ, et al. Healthy diets ASAP—Australian Standardised Affordability and Pricing methods protocol. Nutrition journal. 2018;17(1):88.</i></p>
Ethics	Low risk human ethics application required
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Completion of nutrition related subjects is required along with basic statistical analysis skills in either STATA or SPSS statistical packages.
Additional Details	An interest in equitable approaches to health promotion in rural and outer-regional settings would be considered an advantage.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	This project builds upon existing work currently being undertaken by the Global Obesity Centre in rural and outer-regional areas. It is expected that the honours thesis would be used as a basis for a publication and the student would be invited and expected to be involved in this process post the honours year. Conference presentation is possible but dependent on available funding.

17. McDonalds goes global: Understanding worldwide trends, patterns and drivers of fast food restaurant chain expansion and the implications for public health

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 Dr Phillip Baker, Faculty of Health phil.baker@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/phil-baker
	 Associate Professor Adrian Cameron, Faculty of Health adrian.cameron@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/adrian-cameron
	 Associate Professor Gary Sacks, Faculty of Health gary.sacks@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/gary-sacks
Project Time Frame	For immediate start, completion over two semesters
Expected Student Contact	Weekly meeting and regular email
Project Description	<p>A transition towards diets higher in ultra-processed foods and sugary drinks is underway globally, with important implications for public health. Dietary change is most evident in the industrialising countries of Asia, Latin America and Africa. This in turn reflects wider changes in food systems that make different types of foods more or less available, affordable and desirable. However the role of fast food chains in this transition is not well understood. What role do fast food companies like McDonalds, KFC and Subway play in the dietary transition? To what extent are fast food companies established or establishing in different countries and world regions? This project aims to describe worldwide trends and patterns of fast food restaurant chain expansion, and understand the drivers of this expansion and differences between countries and regions. It will help to inform our understanding of how food environments are changing worldwide, and the implications for public health.</p>
Methodological Approach	<p>This project will involve a quantitative analysis of worldwide trends and patterns in chained fast food restaurant outlet establishment in different countries and regions, using secondary food industry data and descriptive statistics. It will further generate statistics showing changes in the volumes of ultra-processed foods and sugary drinks distributed through fast food chains. Finally, it will draw from existing literature to understand what's driving the observed trends and patterns.</p>
Ethics	This will require an ethics waiver only, as it uses secondary data sources.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	<p>Knowledge and background in public health and interest in food systems change and diets; competency with numerical data and ability to work with or learn relevant software programs (e.g. Excel; Stata); good writing and qualitative research skills.</p>
Additional Details	This project has strong potential to follow-on into a PhD project.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Yes absolutely.

18. Places to 'hang-out' in private, high-rise apartment complexes

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Fiona Andrews, Faculty of Health Burwood fiona.andrews@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/fiona-andrews</p>
	 <p>Dr Elyse Warner, Faculty of Health Burwood elyse.warner@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/elyse-warner</p>
	Industry partner – the City of Yarra (TBC)
Project Time Frame	2020 full time preferable
Expected Student Contact	The student would be expected to meet weekly with at least one of the supervisors for around one hour. This can be via skype or telephone if the student is not located nearby.
Project Description	The number of Australians living in private, high-rise apartments has increased significantly over the past ten years, with apartments likely to be a major source of housing for Millennials as they attempt to rent or purchase their first home. Despite the benefits of providing an affordable home, high-rise living can be a socially isolating experience for residents. One way to address this is by incorporating communal spaces (e.g. courtyards, gyms etc.) into high-rise housing complexes. It is not clear however, how well this works for residents in supporting their social health. The aim of this project is twofold: 1) To document the different types of communal spaces provided in new, private, apartment complexes in one Australian suburb and 2) To explore residents' experiences of using communal spaces in one apartment complex and what this means for their social health. Findings will be used to help inform housing policy development in the study location.
Methodological Approach	Qualitative methods will be used in this project, including content analysis of real estate websites, to identify and describe the different types of communal spaces available in apartment complexes in one suburb, along with open-ended interviews with a small sample of residents living in one apartment complex. Interviews will explore residents' experiences of communal spaces as a place to interact with their neighbours/entertain friends, aspects of these spaces that support/fail to support these activities and what this means for their social health.
Ethics	The supervisors will submit a low risk ethics application.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	The student will require good communication skills and experience with, or a willingness to learn, qualitative methods.
Additional Details	The student will need to be able to travel independently to the City of Yarra to interview participants and make observations of the study site.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Findings from the project could be presented at national conferences such as the State of Australian Cities, Liveable, Healthy & Sustainable Cities, Australian Institute for Family Studies etc. The student would be encouraged to be involved in and supported in, preparing an abstract and presenting their findings.

19. Tackling obesity among disabled: A review of current health promotion programs and efforts to address obesity amongst intellectually disabled

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Prabhat lamichhane, Faculty of Health, Waurin Ponds prahat.lamichhane@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/prabhat-lamichhane</p>
	TBC
Project Time Frame	2020 Full time preferred
Expected Student Contact	The student would be expected to meet weekly. This can be via skype or telephone if the student is not located nearby
Project Description	Obesity prevalence is similar between intellectually disabled (ID) and general Victorian population. In fact, prevalence is higher among intellectually disabled aged 18-39 years. Numerous obesity prevention programs are under implementation to tackle obesity amongst general population. However, there is paucity of literature on whether current obesity prevention programs are tailored to intellectually disabled population. This project aims to fulfil this gap by analysing current obesity prevention programs on its effectiveness to address obesity amongst disabled population. This is important also because literature suggests that people with ID may face barriers in accessing standard health promotion programs such as difficulty in grasping mass media messages, accessing right information in internet and transportation barriers in accessing health promotion events (often ID need support of professional, family or friends).
Methodological Approach	Desk-top review and qualitative methods, such as semi-structured interview or focus group discussion of key stakeholders
Ethics	The student would work with their supervisors to develop an ethics application for the qualitative component
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Interest in working on the most pressing public health issue but on a neglected or minority population. Interest in acquiring skills in qualitative research and in future publication
Additional Details	
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Yes. This could result in publication in peer reviewed articles in health promotion/public health journals.

20. The Health & Wellbeing Benefits of Spiritual Ecology at the Centre for Education and Research in Environmental Strategies (CERES)

Type of Project	Suitable for Honours /Masters
Supervisors	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div> <p>Dr. Sonia Nuttman sonia.nuttman@deakin.edu.au ph. 9244 3788</p> </div> </div>
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div> <p>Dr. Justin Lawson Justin.lawson@deakin.edu.au ph. 9244 3718</p> </div> </div>
Project Time Frame	1 year
Expected Student Contact	The student will need to meet weekly.
Project Description	<p>CERES is an award winning, not-for-profit, sustainability centre located on 4.5 hectares on the Merri Creek in East Brunswick, Melbourne. CERES run extensive environmental education programs, urban agriculture projects, green technology demonstrations and a number of social enterprises including a market, grocery, café, community kitchen, organic online supermarket and a permaculture and bushfood nursery.</p> <p>Spiritual Ecology at CERES is a spiritual response to our present ecological crisis. It is a developing field that joins ecology and environmentalism with the awareness of the sacred within creation. It calls for responses to environmental issues that include spiritual awareness and/or practice. The principles of spiritual ecology are simple: In order to respond to such environmental issues as depletion of species, climate change, and over-consumption, humanity must examine and reassess our underlying attitudes and beliefs about the earth, and our spiritual as well as physical responsibilities toward the planet. Spiritual ecology is aimed at people aged 18-35 and involves a four day retreat introducing participants to the field of spiritual ecology and ways of cultivating personal and social resilience through reverence for nature. Program participants also meet regularly over 4 months. This honours project will evaluate the health and wellbeing benefits of participants involved in Spiritual Ecology in 2020 at CERES.</p>
Methodological Approach	Desk-top literature review and qualitative methods: semi-structured interviews with 6-8 participants.
Ethics	Low risk application will need to be undertaken.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	This project is ideal for anyone who is interested in health, sustainability, spirituality and/or ecology. This could be demonstrated by subjects undertaken at undergraduate level in Health Sciences (Health and Sustainability or Environmental Health majors) or Public Health and Health Promotion.
Additional Details	Data collection not dependent on student's location. No external agencies involved.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/ publication?	Yes

21. The infant and young child feeding transition: an analysis of worldwide trends, patterns and drivers of breastfeeding and milk formula consumption

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div> <p>Dr Phillip Baker, Faculty of Health phil.baker@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/phil-baker</p> </div> </div>
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div> <p>Professor Colin Bell, Faculty of Health colin.bell@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/colin-bell</p> </div> </div>
Project Time Frame	For immediate start, completion over two semesters
Expected Student Contact	Weekly meeting and regular email
Project Description	<p>A global infant and young child (IYC) feeding transition now appears to be well underway, involving a shift towards diets higher in commercial milk-based formulas. The most rapid change is observed in the industrialising countries of East and South East Asia, home to the world's largest IYC populations. In contrast, the world exclusive breastfeeding rate has improved only marginally in recent decades with anecdotal reports of 'unprecedented declines' in breastfeeding in some countries. These trends are concerning, given the strong evidence that breastfeeding is important for IYC health and development, and for maternal health, in all country contexts. However, this IYC feeding transition is poorly understood. What trends and patterns in breastfeeding and formula feeding are occurring between and within countries and regions? What factors are likely to be driving the observed trends and patterns? These factors include, for example, access to paid maternity leave, the medicalization of child birth, formula company marketing practices, and the strength of policies and regulations to protect and promote breastfeeding.</p>
Methodological Approach	<p>Mixed methods. Using secondary health, food supply and market sales data this project will quantify trends and patterns in breastfeeding and in commercial IYC formula markets at global, regional and national levels. It will draw from existing literature to understand what's driving the observed changes. The project will utilize an existing method and available datasets. The analysis will contribute to a published peer-reviewed journal article and inform a larger WHO-funded project Dr Baker is leading. For an example of this work see: Baker P et al. (2016) Global trends and patterns of commercial milk-based formula sales. <i>Public Health Nutrition</i>, 23:1-11</p>
Ethics	This will require an ethics waiver only, as it uses secondary data sources.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Knowledge and background in public health and interest in food systems change and diets; competency with numerical data and ability to work with or learn relevant software programs (e.g. Excel; Stata); good writing and qualitative research skills.
Additional Details	This project has strong potential to follow-on to a PhD project. The analysis will contribute to a journal article.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Yes absolutely.

22. Who is 'Big Junk Food'? Defining the ultra-processed foods and sugary drinks industries and understanding their transnational expansion

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 Dr Phillip Baker, Faculty of Health phil.baker@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/phil-baker
	 Associate Professor Gary Sacks, Faculty of Health gary.sacks@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/gary-sacks
Project Time Frame	For immediate start, completion over two semesters
Expected Student Contact	Weekly meeting and regular email
Project Description	<p>The global epidemic of obesity and diet-related diseases is often attributed to the increasingly obesogenic nature of today's food environments, which are in-turn powerfully shaped by the commercial and lobbying activities of large food and beverage corporations – or 'Big Food'. However, few studies to date have systematically documented who these companies are, nor revealed what's driving their transnational expansion and growth. As transnational companies like Nestle, Mars and Coca-Cola expand into developing countries, so-called 'home-grown' companies in countries like China are also emerging. This study aims to define and describe the structure of the 'Big Junk Food' industry, focusing in particular on the ultra-processed food and sugary drinks sectors, and to understand what's driving the transnational expansion and growth of the industry in some countries, and it's decline in others.</p>
Methodological Approach	<p>Mixed methods. Using industry data this project will describe the structure of the ultra-processed food and sugary drinks industries at the global level and in key country markets using industry market share and sale data. It will draw from existing literature to understand what's driving the transnational expansion of the industry into some countries and regions, but the decline of industry in others. The project will utilize a method already developed by Dr Baker and use available datasets.</p>
Ethics	This will require an ethics waiver only, as it uses secondary data sources.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	<p>Knowledge and background in public health and interest in food systems change and diets; competency with numerical data and ability to work with or learn relevant software programs (e.g. Excel; Stata); good writing and qualitative research skills.</p>
Additional Details	This project has strong potential to follow-on to a PhD project. The analysis will contribute to a journal article.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Yes absolutely.

23. Why is the number and rate of patients attending Emergency Departments increasing?

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	A/Prof Martin Hensher, Faculty of Health Burwood martin.hensher@deakin.edu.au
Project Time Frame	6 – 9 months through 2020 Could be undertaken full-time or part-time
Expected Student Contact	Initially weekly supervision meetings, frequency to be reviewed based on progress
Project Description	<p>In a number of countries with publicly-funded hospital systems (e.g. Australia, United Kingdom), the number and rates of patients attending Emergency Departments has been rising inexorably, raising concerns concern for system sustainability and quality. Various explanations have been put forward for these rises, including population ageing, increasing prevalence of multiple chronic conditions, inadequate access to primary care, and social distress and despair, amongst others. This project would seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify and review utilisation data from a wider range of high income / OECD countries with a variety of health systems, to allow a broader comparison of international trends in Emergency Department activity over time • identify and implement the most appropriate method for reviewing the available international literature on explanations / reasons for increases in Emergency Department attendances
Methodological Approach	Quantitative analysis to produce international comparisons of Emergency Department utilisation trends across different countries. Structured literature review (potentially a systematic review if feasible) of existing explanations for these trends.
Ethics	Not required as no human subject data involved.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Basic quantitative analytical skills; knowledge of how to conduct a literature review and systematic review; ability to read and translate at least one widely-spoken non-English OECD language would be an advantage but not essential.
Additional Details	Would suit a health professional or health manager with an interest in emergency care and/or health services research
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Publication of a co-authored peer-reviewed paper(s) is an explicit objective of the project; a local conference presentation may also be possible.

24. Young Australian adults' views on the connections between housing and health

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Elyse Warner, Faculty of Health Burwood elyse.warner@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/elyse-warner</p>
	 <p>Dr Claire Henderson-Wilson, Faculty of Health Burwood claire.henderson-wilson@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/claire-henderson-wilson</p>
Project Time Frame	2020 full-time preferred
Expected Student Contact	The student would be expected to meet weekly with at least one of the supervisors for around one hour. This can be via skype or telephone if the student is not located nearby.
Project Description	The connections between housing and health are well-known. However, few studies have explored young adults' own views about the importance of housing for their health. The proposed project aims to explore young Australian adults' views of housing and health connections. Photo-elicitation interviewing (PEI) will be utilised. Young adults will take approximately six photographs that represent (a) the features of housing they see to be health promoting and (b) the features of housing they see to be health inhibiting. Photographs will then be used to initiate individual in-depth interviews, which will be thematically analysed.
Methodological Approach	The project will adopt a qualitative research design. It is expected that the student would use purposive and/or snowball sampling to recruit 5-8 young adults (aged 18 to 30). The student will need to interview young adults (for approximately 1 hour) to explore their photographs.
Ethics	The student would work with their supervisors to develop a low-risk ethics application.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	The student will require good communication skills and experience with, or a willingness to learn, qualitative methods.
Additional Details	The student will need to be able to travel independently to interview participants.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Findings from the project could be presented at national conferences such as the State of Australian Cities, Australian Institute for Family Studies etc. The student would be supported in preparing an abstract and presenting their findings. The project could result in publication in family-related journals.

25. Young people and health care decision-making: Exploring beliefs, attitudes and values to complementary therapies and allopathic medicine

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 Dr Justin Lawson Faculty of Health, Burwood Justin.lawson@deakin.edu.au Ph 9244 3718
	 Ms Natalie Hakman Faculty of Health, Warrnambool n.hakman@deakin.edu.au Ph 9244 6452
Project Time Frame	Feb -Oct 2020
Expected Student Contact	The supervisors commit to maintaining regular contact with the student, on at least a weekly basis, throughout the supervisory period.
Project Description	<p>This study aims to uncover young people’s beliefs, attitudes and values regarding the use of a range health care services and modalities. How do young people make decisions about their health care? What are their beliefs about accessing preventative health services? Which factors might influence their use of complementary and alternative medicines (CAM) and therapies, and allopathic medicine? Recent research suggests that beliefs, attitudes and values about CAM are more important moderators of decision making regarding their use than ethnicity or clinical factors, however we do not have a sound understanding of the factors contributing to health decision-making, especially in relation to CAM use in Australia. Past research has often centred on health practitioner views, as well as the risks associated with non-disclosure of CAM use to Western medicine practitioners. Most notably, there is little published literature of these phenomena in culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Australia. This project will give voice to young people and will use a mixed-methods approach to explore the factors informing their health care choices.</p>
Methodological Approach	<p>This study utilises a mixed-methods approach, and will comprise the following: a literature review; ethics application; survey design (based on existing surveys and related literature) and online administration; organising and running focus group discussions on campus; and findings will be reported to relevant stakeholders identified through the study, for example, peak bodies, professional associations, campus health providers and study participants.</p> <p>Analysis of the survey data will identify trends and patterns. These findings will identify key themes to be explored further during focus group discussions. Qualitative data from the discussions will be analysed thematically and may involve the use of qualitative data management software (e.g. NVivo), for which the student will receive training and support from their supervisors.</p>
Ethics	Low risk application will need to be undertaken.
Additional Details	The project will be situated at Burwood campus.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Yes

26. Young people's engagement in climate change advocacy

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 A/Prof Samantha Thomas, Faculty of Health Burwood samantha.thomas@deakin.edu.au http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/samantha-thomas
	 Dr Rebecca Patrick rebecca.patrick@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/rebecca-patrick
Project Time Frame	Full time students only. Data is expected to be collected between May and July 2019.
Expected Student Contact	Weekly contact with supervisory team
Project Description	<p>Climate change is an important global public health issue. In the last two year there have been an increasing number of global advocacy and activist movements led by young people to draw attention and demand action on climate change.</p> <p>This project involved two phases. The first is a qualitative analysis of how the Australian media has represented young people's voices on climate change. The phase of the study involves focus groups with young people who are actively involved in climate change advocacy. The project will aim to understand young people's key motivations for involvement in climate change advocacy and activism, their key concerns, and the barriers and facilitators to their advocacy activities.</p>
Methodological Approach	Qualitative research.
Ethics	The project does requires ethical approval. This will be sought by the supervisory team prior to the start of the project.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Interest in qualitative research methods, content analysis and media research.
Additional Details	
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	Yes. As with all of our previous students we anticipate that this project will result in a high impact publication, and a conference presentation.

27. NEW **Tracking the health of the Social Determinants of Health

Type of Project	Suitable for either Honours or Masters Major project
Supervisors	 <p>Dr Shane Kavanagh, Faculty of Health Burwood shane.kavanagh@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/shane-kavanagh</p>
	 <p>Professor Tony LaMontagne, Faculty of Health Burwood tony.lamontagne@deakin.edu.au https://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/tony-lamontagne</p>
Project Time Frame	1 year.
Expected Student Contact	Weekly face-to-face or phone meetings would take place for approximately 30-60 minutes.
Project Description	There is a tension within Public Health between upstream and downstream approaches to health improvement. Upstream approaches focus on broad social and economic factors, while downstream approaches are oriented toward the individual and often to health behaviours. Both of these are important, but upstream approaches are often left unaddressed. The World Health Organization's 2008 Closing the Gap Report represents a key contribution in highlighting the role of upstream factors with its focus on the Social Determinants of Health. But recent political developments suggest that this concept may be under threat. This project will attempt to measure the state of Public Health discourse on upstream factors. Are upstream approaches still informing thinking and action? Are they in decline? Or, have they taken other forms?
Methodological Approach	Initially, we plan to use search metrics for the internet and the academic literature. We then plan to undertake case studies to determine the use of concepts within key organisations. However, the approaches are flexible and will depend on the evolving findings.
Ethics	Likely to be exempt from Ethics review.
Necessary Skills / Knowledge	Data collection will require engagement with internet search applications and textual analysis of institutional documents.
Additional Details	This project would appeal to someone with an interest in social and economic factors and health.
Could the project result in a conference presentation/publication?	It is hoped the research will contribute to an academic publication.