



Postgraduate Public Health Coursework

Orientation Guide 2026

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Welcome

Our public health and health research courses aim to provide you with an effective framework and reliable tools which will enable you to comprehend and tackle complex population health and social issues in cross-cultural, local, and global environments.

This orientation guide will help you find your way on campus and online. It provides links to essential learning and support resources. It also provides advice on how to succeed in your course and your future public health career.

We wish you all the best with your studies.

Expectations of Students

Prepare for Learning

Students should aim to complete the following by the end of Week 1 of semester.

Task	Resource
1. Ensure your contact details are up to date with CDU	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.cdu.edu.au/dts/students
2. Link your CDU email to your private email address to ensure you receive all CDU emails	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.cdu.edu.au/dts/students
3. Know how to access, navigate and use Learnline by undertaking the Learnline module	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learnline Support and information• Learnline Module Workshops during Orientation
4. Know where and how to get IT support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Digital Technology Solutions (DTS)• IT Kiosk: CDU Library, Building Red 8, Casuarina campus
5. Read your Unit Information Guide for each unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Available on Learnline
6. Know where to get support and advice if you develop personal problems that may impact your ability to study	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life, health and wellbeing (study help, financial assistance, disability/health conditions, counselling, advocacy and employment)• Language & Learning Support (skills development)• CDU has resources to help you with your mental and physical health and wellbeing
7. Get to know Menzies School of Health Research and access information about Menzies Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Menzies School of Health Research• Menzies Education and Training

Good Academic Practice

Skills and practices that are recommended throughout the semester.

Task	Resource
1. Regularly checking emails for academic or administrative messages from CDU and your lecturers. Contacting your lecturers via email or phone as needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student email
2. Carefully reading weekly unit announcements for instructions or guidelines to assist with learning, planning and assessment items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learnline
3. Committing approx. 10 hours of study per week to each unit. This may include class attendance, study planning, reading, viewing recorded lectures, completing learning activities in unit materials, private investigation and research, planning and completing assignments, attending Language and Learning Support, Library or Study Skills online workshops. Note: the amount of study required may vary among units, depending on your previous experience with the topic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language & Learning Support • CDU Study Skills website • CDU Library referencing guides
4. For internal students - attend lectures and tutorials as appropriate for your unit. Tutorials are an opportunity to seek clarification about concepts and ideas, get advice on learning activities or assignments or explore and develop your ideas for discussion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time Management (create a weekly timetable & semester plan) • Time management calculator • Know your timetable
5. Check discussion boards for posts and posting questions or comments; these are another opportunity to seek clarification about concepts and ideas, get advice on learning activities or assignments or explore and develop your ideas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learnline
6. For external students located elsewhere across Australia, CDU have regional study centres accessible to provide support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional university centres

<p>7. Preparing for tutorials and completing weekly activities. This may involve reading recommended texts, completing online or research activities provided in the learning materials, completing discussion board tasks, writing and submitting drafts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the unit guide and Learnline unit information • Bring questions to tutorials • Ask your lecturer for an appointment if you need assistance - we prefer that you ask for help early
<p>8. Continuously developing your writing skills, appropriate to the task requested, including ensuring you know how to construct sentences and paragraphs, and to structure writing tasks such as to addressing questions, critiquing or building arguments, reporting on findings, and reviewing literature.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDU study skills • Study skills resources
<p>9. Correctly citing sources and constructing reference lists in all written documents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Referencing Guide
<p>10. Avoiding plagiarism, by knowing how to search for relevant scientific literature, take notes and identify key points and construct arguments. Please take advantage of these resources to find out what plagiarism is. If you are unsure, please check with Language and Learning Support, or your unit lecturer(s). Plagiarism is academic theft.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDU Library: Plagiarism • Library Research Guide • Study Skills: Reading & Writing • CDU Policy: Student Academic Integrity Policy • Students can seek advice from the Complaints Team
<p>11. Understanding how to use AI tools to support your learning and how to reference GenAI and CDUs policy. Watch the video Human Intelligence and Artificial Intelligence on the Public Health & Health Research Central Learnline site (located under Academic Integrity).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using AI tools at university • CDU Policy: Student Academic Integrity Policy • Human Intelligence and Artificial Intelligence via Learnline
<p>12. Developing self-awareness about academic progress, noticing problems with performance, planning or workload management and actively seeking help from peers, your lecturer, course coordinator or student support services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life, health and wellbeing (study help, counselling etc) • Language & Learning Support (skills development)

13. Continuously review and balancing study and non-study commitments and seeking advice and support if experiencing difficulties.

- CDU [Student Support](#)
- Menzies Education education@menzies.edu.au
- Menzies Education Coordinator - [Sharon Thompson](#)
- Contact your unit coordinators and lecturers by email. Their details can be found via Learnline

Career Development and Networking Opportunities

Once you have settled in academically and over the course of your studies, there may be career development events and networking opportunities available.

Task	Resource
<p>1. Identifying opportunities to build your networks, such as attending on campus research at CDU or elsewhere (depending on your location or study mode). If you are an external student, you may wish to check for local events and seminars that will assist you in networking.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit and sign up for Menzies News and Events • CDU regularly holds Research and Innovation events • Monitor the Menzies Education Public Health/Health Research Central site on Learnline for announcements
<p>2. Consider applying for membership of professional bodies and NGOs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health Association Australia (PHAA) • Australian Health Promotion Association (AHPA)
<p>3. Actively seeking voluntary opportunities with public health organisations, research schools or external agencies or consultancies</p>	<p>Some examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go Volunteer Australia • Projects Abroad • Monitor the Menzies Education Public Health & Health Research Central site on Learnline for announcements
<p>4. Keeping your resume/curriculum vitae (CV) and include the skills and expertise gained during your study. You can also access CDUs Careers Centre for assistance with resume writing, job interview skills and much more!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careers Centre via CDU Portal <div data-bbox="1034 1601 1177 1742" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="1007 1756 1203 1787">Career Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDU Careers website