**Early stage planning for the Research Project elective course**

The first step is to read all of the information about the Research Project Electives on the School website, including the 'Research Project Guidelines for Students, Supervisors and Examiners' booklet. Then it is useful to draft a brief introduction about your research interests that you can send to potential academic supervisors. This will help potential supervisors understand your interests and prior knowledge, skills and experience so they can assess whether: your interests align with theirs; they have the time, knowledge and skills to support your research; and to consider what might be a feasible research project for you to complete within the period of enrolment.

**Why are you interested in doing the research elective?**

**Are you considering taking a 6, 12 or 18 UOC research elective?**

**What is your prior research experience and skills?**

**What knowledge and skills are you hoping to gain or develop during the research project?**

**Provide a brief background on the topic/s that you are interested in**

**Do you already have access to a project or data that you could use/access for your research?**

If yes, please include:

* ideas about research questions that may interest you;
* information about whether there is an existing ethics approval and dataset that you could be granted access to, if added to the ethics protocol (include details of Lead Investigator and their Institution)