

2022/2023 Summer Research Project Description

Please use this template to create a description of each research project, eligibility requirements and expected deliverables. Project details can then be uploaded to each faculty, school, institute, and centre webpage prior to the launch of the program.

Project title:	How do social attitudes about gender roles shape women’s childbearing and return to work intentions?
Project duration, hours of engagement & delivery mode	<p>The duration of the project will be 6-10 weeks during Summer Vacation, approximately 30 hours a week.</p> <p>COVID-19 considerations: the project can be completed under a remote working arrangement but at least partial on-site presence is preferred.</p>
Description:	<p>In recent decades, substantial advances in gender equality have been made with increased women’s participation in the public sphere. These changes have occurred alongside the liberalisation of gender role attitudes, as traditional gender roles rendering women and men into segregated social roles have increasingly fallen out of favour. However, how do these same beliefs about traditional gender roles influence women’s decisions in their homes and families remains unclear.</p> <p>This project intends to explore how social beliefs about women’s roles in families—specifically beliefs about the importance of motherhood—shapes their intentions for childbearing and how these influence their decisions around returning to the labour force.</p> <p>The findings from this project will help identify how social constructs and beliefs affect outcomes beyond the aggregate in the public sphere and shape the personal ways in which women determine their current and future opportunities in their home and work lives.</p>
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	<p>This project will focus on a literature review to support a project on how attitudes towards gender roles shape women’s decisions regarding childbearing and labour force participation following parenting career breaks. The primary output will be a literature review of this research area.</p> <p>The student may also be asked to produce a report or an oral presentation at the end of their project. If relevant, the student might participate in some quantitative data analysis.</p>
Suitable for:	<p>This project is open to all students and most suitable to those with special interest in the topic and has experience with conducting literature reviews and/or has a social science background (or any related discipline).</p> <p>I would like to strongly encourage students from different backgrounds to apply, including people with gender and sexually diverse identities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people from different cultural backgrounds, and people with disabilities.</p>

Primary Supervisor:	Dr Yanshu Huang
Further info:	Although not a requirement, I recommend getting in touch to have a chat about the project prior to applying. Please email yanshu.huang@uq.edu.au if you want to hear more or would like to discuss anything. I am happy to answer questions via email also.