

2021 Winter Research Program

Project title:	'Climate change impacts on youth mental health and wellbeing: A literature review'
Project duration:	5 weeks
Description:	<p>Climate change is the greatest threat to global health in the 21st century. While certain physical health impacts of climate change are well understood, for example heat-related morbidity and mortality, the acute and chronic mental health impacts of climate change remain poorly understood, particularly among young people. Concerns over uncertain climate futures may be more pronounced among young people who are likely to be most affected by ongoing and long-term climate change impacts. At the same time, young people are more vulnerable to the impact of climate change on their health and development than adults. There is a need to review what is currently understood about the climate change impacts on youth mental health and wellbeing, as well as identify the risk and protective factors among young people which may make them more vulnerable or resilient to the mental health impacts of climate change. Such an understanding will be key to informing future research, practice, and policy development.</p> <p>This project involves conducting a literature review, extracting data, analysing results, and interpretation of the findings via drafting a manuscript for peer-review-publication.</p>
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	<p>Expected deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A draft manuscript for potential publication that will report the results of a review of climate change and youth mental health literature - Submit a pitch to the conversation outlining current evidence on climate change and mental health <p>Expected outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scholar will gain skills in conducting systematic searches of literature, reviewing literature, desktop audits and gap analysis of current efforts to measure mental health impacts of climate change - Data interpretation and reporting and writing skills - Networking and knowledge building opportunities through attending relevant seminars and workshops.
Suitable for:	This project is open to undergraduate and postgraduate applicants with interests in the research topic. Knowledge of the subject matter and experience with conducting systematic literature searches is preferable.
Primary Supervisor:	Dr Anne Cleary
Further info:	Students can contact Dr Anne Cleary at anne.cleary@uq.edu.au to discuss their application, but this is not mandatory.