Accelerate your ambition

HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH | 2017
Macquarie is an international university with a proud reputation for world-leading research. As one of Australia’s premier teaching and research institutions, Macquarie University is your best choice for higher degree research programs. If you complete your higher degree research at Macquarie, you will be rewarded with an exceptional research training experience in an environment of the highest quality.

Macquarie’s commitment to world-leading research with world-changing impact has been recognised in the results we achieved under the Australian Government’s most recent Excellence in Research for Australia evaluation. Results from the 2015 evaluation highlighted Macquarie’s impressive research profile, with 100 per cent of our research ranked as ‘performing at world standard’ or higher. Macquarie’s Strategic Research Framework: 2015–2024 has firmly established the University’s commitment to world-leading research with world-changing impact. We are intent on building and reinforcing areas of research strength that provide solutions to the world’s most pressing problems. The research framework outlines five future-shaping research priorities that will guide Macquarie’s approach to the global challenges and questions of the 21st century.

Our considerable research expertise is focused on the priorities: Healthy People, Resilient Societies, Prosperous Economies, Secure Planet and Innovative Technologies. These priorities are buttressed by four research objectives: to accelerate world-leading research performance, to prepare world-ready higher degree research candidates, to engage as a world-recognised collaborator of choice and to deliver research with world-changing impact. Through these objectives we attract candidates of the highest potential who we provide with outstanding supervision, outstanding mentoring and an outstanding placement within one of our areas of research strength.

Macquarie aims to provide opportunities for career-enhancing exposure to industry, government and communities, and to ensure that our degrees are internationally aligned and globally relevant. We do this through our outstanding facilities and supportive programs.

Macquarie’s commitment to international research excellence is exemplified by our research training program. Our Master of Research is fully aligned with research training in Asia, Europe and North America. We were the first university in Australia to align internationally and you can rely on Macquarie to ensure you have greater international recognition for your qualifications.

At Macquarie, we value our body of higher degree research candidates as a key asset of the University, to the nation and to the world. One way we show our appreciation to you is through our research excellence scholarship and we recognise the vital contribution our research candidates make to the University, to the nation and to the world. Our research excellence scholarship outlines five future-shaping research priorities that will guide Macquarie’s approach to the global challenges and questions of the 21st century.

At Macquarie, we value our body of higher degree research candidates as a key asset of the University, and we recognise the vital contribution our research candidates make to the University, to the nation and to the world. One way we show our appreciation to you is through our research excellence scholarship program. To encourage excellence in higher degree research, we have expanded this program to enable well-prepared candidates to undertake doctoral studies at Macquarie.

I readily welcome your interest in undertaking a higher degree research program at Macquarie University and urge you to contact our staff to investigate the opportunities. At Macquarie you will gain an advanced degree research of the highest international standing, and we will support you at every step along the way.

Professor Sakkie Pretorius
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Macquarie is bold and innovative, and although relatively young – 50 years since foundation – we enjoy an enviable reputation for research excellence.

**A proud tradition of discovery**

**RESEARCH AT MACQUARIE**

Our framework for the future – world-leading research with world-changing impact – is brought to life by esteemed researchers whose unflinching dedication to excellence is benefiting the world we live in.

Recognised globally for our pre-eminence in key research disciplines, we pursue excellence in a broad range of research areas, including those that are cross-disciplinary.

In applying our research, our discoveries translate into real improvements for local, national and global communities. Discoveries such as Wi-Fi, which our researchers co-developed with CSIRO, and discoveries yet to come such as cures for motor neurone disease and Parkinson’s disease.

Looking to the future, we have developed five research priorities that provide a focal point for the cross-disciplinary research approach that is at the heart of our ethos.

These priorities are Healthy People, Resilient Societies, Prosperous Economies, Secure Planet and Innovative Technologies.

We are ranked among the highest performing research universities in Australia. In the 2015 Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative we achieved the maximum 5 rating – outstanding performance well above world standard – in agricultural and veterinary sciences, environmental sciences and physical sciences. In total, 100 per cent of our research activity was rated as performing at world standard or higher at the 2-digit level.

Macquarie is also ranked among the top 50 institutions in the world for earth and marine sciences, and among the top 100 for accounting and finance; communication, cultural and media studies; education; English language and literature; geography; law; linguistics and psychology by the QS World University Rankings.

Additionally, according to Thomson Reuters Web of Science 2008–2012, Macquarie is among the top six Australian universities for international research collaboration.

By undertaking a research degree at Macquarie, you’ll have the opportunity to make an important contribution to the development of new knowledge, work alongside world-leading researchers and utilise some of the region’s most outstanding facilities.

Since 1964, Macquarie has been doing things differently. This is what we look like today.
The world’s challenges are complex and interrelated. The solutions require thinking that is not restrained by traditional academic boundaries.

Shaping the future

RESEARCH PRIORITIES

With a collegial and cross-disciplinary approach at the heart of our ethos, Macquarie is uniquely positioned to find these solutions. Our five future-shaping research priorities – Secure Planet, Prosperous Economies, Healthy People, Resilient Societies and Innovative Technologies – provide a focal point for cross-disciplinary research that draws on the deep disciplinary strengths Macquarie is known for, and which are aligned with the national research agenda and global challenges of significance.

SECURE PLANET
Sustaining our interdependent world and exploring our place in the universe
- Living in a changing environment
- Exploring planet Earth and beyond

HEALTHY PEOPLE
Pioneering health, integrated healthcare and lifelong learning for wellness in our ageing world
- Pedagogies for health and lifelong learning
- Health and resilience
- Translational medical research
- Sensory and cognitive processing
- Hearing, language and literacy

PROSPEROUS ECONOMIES
Strengthening economic productivity to promote prosperity in our diverse world
- Risk, innovation and resilience in global financial and economic systems
- Organisational sustainability, productivity and competitiveness

RESILIENT SOCIETIES
Understanding cultures in our changing world and building ethical, just and inclusive communities
- Societal transformation
- Modes of communication
- Ethics, governance and justice

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES
Advancing our interconnected world with frontier technologies, systems, designs and creative practice
- Science and engineering technologies for the 21st century
- Big Data: Acquisition, analysis, application and assurance
Associate Professor Brian Atwell, winner of the Macquarie University 2015 Excellence in Research – Secure Planet award for his research into the tolerance of wild rice to heat, and Master of Research and PhD supervisor.

A new ERA for Macquarie’s researchers

EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH FOR AUSTRALIA

ERA is an Australian Government initiative that evaluates the quality of research being conducted by Australia’s higher education institutions, with research quality evaluated in groups defined by two-digit and four-digit Field of Research (FoR) codes and rating them out of five.

Macquarie achieved a stellar performance at the two-digit level in agricultural and veterinary sciences, environmental sciences and physical sciences, with each being rated 5/5 – well above world standard.

Additionally, biological sciences; earth sciences; history and archaeology; language, communication and culture; law and legal studies; mathematical sciences; medical and health sciences; philosophy and religious studies; and psychology and cognitive sciences were rated 4/5 – above world standard.

In total, 100 per cent of Macquarie’s research activity was rated as performing at world standard or higher at the two-digit level.

The ERA ratings are a vital indicator of Australia’s research excellence and performance. Macquarie’s results show that taking a collaborative and innovative approach – with a focus on how research improves lives – pays off.

Our varied research strengths – from environmental sciences, agriculture and astronomy, to quantum physics, clinical sciences and philosophy – will do much to address some of the most pressing global issues including food security, climate change, chronic diseases and mental health.

MACQUARIE’S ERA RATINGS

- 100 per cent of research rated by ERA 2015 at or above world standard at the two-digit level
- Ratings of 5 maintained over ERA 2010, 2012 and 2015 in the two-digit areas of physical sciences and environmental sciences
- Agricultural and veterinary sciences – assessed for the first time – achieved a 5
- Oncology and carcinogenesis – assessed for the first time – achieved a 5
- Neurosciences increased from a 1 to a 5
- Only non-Go8 university to have all two-digit units of evaluation rated at 3, 4 and 5
- Among the top five universities in atmospheric sciences, applied ethics, and agricultural and veterinary sciences
- Among the top six universities rated 5 for pure mathematics
- Among the top seven universities in computation theory and mathematics
- Among the top eight universities in genetics, and oncology and carcinogenesis
Driving the research agenda

OUR RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

I am researching the devastating neurodegenerative diseases motor neurone disease (MND) and frontotemporal dementia within the biggest MND research centre in Australia. I am a part of a multidisciplinary team whose aim is to generate zebrafish models of MND and study the onset and rapid progression of the disease. There is currently no cure for MND and, in Australia, two people are diagnosed and two people pass away from the disease every day. It is essential that we improve our understanding of MND and strive to find a cure. We have a unique opportunity at Macquarie University for translational research – from lab to the clinic or ‘bench to bedside’.

Jack Stoddart
PhD candidate and International Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship recipient
My research at Macquarie – and now my work at BCAL Diagnostics – involved detecting and characterising novel biomarkers in blood and hair that can be used as the basis for a blood test for breast cancer. Whilst mammography is the gold standard in screening for the disease, it has a number of limitations. BCAL Diagnostics’ technology could utilise a single blood test to monitor younger women with a predisposition for breast cancer, right through to screening, diagnosis and monitoring during and post treatment. This will allow doctors to identify the disease earlier and to treat it, ultimately saving more lives and improving quality of life.

Dr Dharmica Mistry
PhD, Macquarie University
Chief Scientist, BCAL Diagnostics
Young Scientist Award, World Congress on Controversies in Breast Cancer, 2015
NSW Young Woman of the Year, 2016

My research is shedding light on, and accounting for, the various patterns of collective violence in the Syrian conflict. While this is my main focus, the research also offers a structured overview of the Syrian revolution and how it transitioned from peaceful demonstrations for political change into a full-scale conflict involving several regional and international actors. Further, the project has significant implications for policymakers as it offers a detailed analysis of the various patterns of collective violence in the Syrian conflict and identifies the social processes and mechanisms underlying these patterns. It also highlights the significant influence social media and external support have exercised in shaping collective violence in the Syrian conflict.

Rifaie Tammas
Master of Research candidate and International Research Training Pathway scholarship recipient

PREPARE WORLD-READY HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH CANDIDATES

DELIVER RESEARCH WITH WORLD-CHANGING IMPACT
Your path into higher degree research

MASTER OF RESEARCH

The Master of Research – regarded by the Australian Council of Learned Academies as the most innovative, newly developed research entry pathway – provides you with intensive research preparation before you begin doctoral study. Consistent with the internationally recognised Bologna model, the program prepares you to complete a PhD in three years – well short of the national average.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The two-year program is available in all of Macquarie’s research areas, allowing you access to a variety of disciplines so you can construct a program relevant to your specific interests, subject to academic approval. In the first year, you will undertake advanced coursework units including the study of research frontiers in your area of study. If you successfully complete Year 1 and decide not to continue, you can exit the program with a Bachelor of Philosophy.

The second year is a masters-level postgraduate research training program. You will specialise in research preparation and focus on a specific research topic. You are required to submit a thesis of 20,000 words for completion.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

You must have a bachelor degree from a recognised institution, at a specified level of performance – usually the equivalent of a credit average (65 per cent) in your final year (or 300-level). Some disciplines may have extra admission requirements, such as a portfolio of work or a higher level of performance of bachelor study. If you hold an honours degree or a masters degree, you may apply for recognition of prior learning (RPL) of up to 32 credit points (Year 1). This may allow you to complete the Master of Research in less than two years.

EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The Master of Research Exchange Program provides you with opportunities to undertake international experiences during your studies. If you continue on to a PhD, opportunities include research collaboration with international universities under our cotutelle and joint PhD programs.

mq.edu.au/mres
mq.edu.au/mres-advisers
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

1. completed Macquarie’s Master of Research with at least 75 per cent in second year; or
2. completed a Master of Philosophy; or
3. completed a masters (at least two years) from another institution with a major research component (approximately 50 per cent thesis, 20,000 words) at distinction level (75 per cent or greater)

Additionally, all other peer-reviewed research output may be taken into consideration under Rule 7 (10) of Macquarie’s higher degree research rules.

If you have not completed the Master of Research and do not meet the above criteria, you may be asked to undertake the degree as a research training pathway to the PhD. If you have previously studied at bachelor honours or masters level, you may receive credit towards the Master of Research for up to 50 per cent of the program.

The period of candidature is three years, full-time equivalent. You are required to submit a thesis of 75,000 to 100,000 words.

mq.edu.au/doctor-of-philosophy

**MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY**

1. completed Macquarie’s Master of Research with at least 65 per cent in second year; or
2. completed a master’s (at least two years) from another institution with a major research component (approximately 50 per cent thesis, 20,000 words) at credit level (65 per cent or greater)

Additionally, all other peer-reviewed research output may be taken into consideration under Rule 7 (10) of Macquarie’s higher degree research rules.

If you have not completed the Master of Research and do not meet the above criteria, you may be asked to undertake the degree as a research training pathway to the Master of Philosophy. If you have previously studied at bachelor honours or masters level, you may receive credit towards the Master of Research for up to 50 per cent of the program.

The period of candidature is two years, full-time equivalent. You are required to submit a thesis of 50,000 words.

mq.edu.au/master-of-philosophy

Successful progression to a PhD from the Master of Research is conditional upon availability of appropriate supervision and resources, submission of a PhD research proposal and your suitability to undertake higher degree research.

University rules for research degrees can be found in the Calendar of Governance, Legislation and Rules at universitycouncil.mq.edu.au/legislation.html
Macquarie is the first non-European university to be accepted as a partner in the International Doctorate for Experimental Approaches to Language and Brain (IDEALAB) consortium. Partners include the Universities of Groningen, Newcastle, Potsdam and Trento.

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em-idealab.com/consortium.html

**INTERNATIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

Macquarie’s global perspective – executed through partnership and collaboration – has created funding opportunities with some of the world’s leading funding bodies, including:

- CSC – China Scholarship Council
- CONICYT – National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research of the Republic of Chile
- CONACYT – National Council for Science and Technology of the United Mexican States
- DAAD – German Academic Exchange Service
- European Commission – Erasmus+ Programme
- BOLASHAK – Center for International Programs, Republic of Kazakhstan
- VIED – Vietnam International Education Development
- ANII – National Agency for Research and Innovation of Uruguay

mq.edu.au/externally-funded-scholarships

Spread your wings internationally and gain a research experience like no other.

**Follow the leader**

**COTUTELLE AND JOINT PHD**

Macquarie participates in two modes of international co-enrolment — cotutelles and joint degrees — with universities whose research activity strongly aligns with ours. Under both joint supervision models, you are enrolled at two universities with a principal supervisor at each. You will spend around 50 per cent of your candidature at each university.

mq.edu.au/cotutelle-and-joint-phd

**JOINTLY SUPERVISED PHD PROGRAMS**

- Macquarie participates in two modes of international co-enrolment — cotutelles and joint degrees — with universities whose research activity strongly aligns with ours. Under both joint supervision models, you are enrolled at two universities with a principal supervisor at each. You will spend around 50 per cent of your candidature at each university.

mq.edu.au/cotutelle-and-joint-phd

**RESEARCH COLLABORATOR OF CHOICE**

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em-idealab.com/consortium.html

mq.edu.au/externally-funded-scholarships
Demonstrate your research talents and be rewarded for your efforts. With a proven capacity for research, you may be eligible to receive one of Macquarie’s scholarships.

Funding your potential
HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS

Bachelor of Philosophy and Master of Research Scholarships

First-year, full-time domestic candidates receive a tax free scholarship stipend of $4000 in Session 1. To receive a further $4000 in Session 2, a grade of 65 or above for Session 1 must be obtained.

Second year stipends for full-time domestic candidates are allocated based on performance in Year 1. Newly commencing direct-entry Year 2 Master of Research candidates are competitively ranked for scholarship.

Macquarie also offers a limited number of scholarships to international Master of Research candidates through the competitive International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS) round each year. Successful applicants may receive an individualised bundle offer that includes entry to the Master of Research program and a provisional offer for a PhD.

On successful completion of the Master of Research program, domestic and international candidates are competitively ranked based on performance. Three year full-time PhD scholarships are awarded to the highest-rated candidates.

mq.edu.au/scholarships-mres-international

PhD Scholarships

Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (MQRES)
A tax free stipend at the Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) rate is available to domestic candidates for up to three years of full-time study.

International Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (IMQRES)
A tax free stipend at the Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) rate is available to domestic candidates for up to three years of full-time study.

International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS)
Available to high-calibre international candidates, the IPRS covers tuition fees for up to three years, as well as overseas health cover. Successful candidates will also be provided with a tax free living allowance equivalent to the Australian Postgraduate Award (APA).

Other Government Awards
Australia Awards are prestigious international scholarships and fellowships funded by the Australian Government offering the next generation of global leaders an opportunity to undertake study, research and professional development.
australiaawards.gov.au

Externally Funded Scholarships
Externally funded scholarships support domestic students who are planning to conduct research outside Australia. These include Endeavour Scholarships, Fulbright Postgraduate Scholarships, Sir John Monash Scholarships, Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Scholarships and Rhodes Scholarships. Other scholarships fund research in specific areas.

Macquarie University Indigenous Research Pathway Program
This program provides scholarship support to Indigenous Australians who wish to enrol in the Master of Research, Master of Philosophy or PhD.

mq.edu.au/research-scholarships

Successful scholarship recipients will be expected to have a record of excellent academic performance, a history of scholarship or prizes at undergraduate level, and some evidence of peer-reviewed research such as publications or conference presentations.

mq.edu.au/research-scholarships

mq.edu.au/scholarships-mres-international

mq.edu.au/research-scholarships

mq.edu.au/research-scholarships

mq.edu.au/research-scholarships

mq.edu.au/research-scholarships
If you are a scholarship holder with a tuition component as part of your award, you are exempt from paying tuition fees for the period of your scholarship. Refer to your offer letter for details of the duration of your tuition component.

Invest in a brilliant future

TUITION FEES

Fees for higher degree research vary depending on whether you are a domestic or international candidate.

MASTER OF RESEARCH DOMESTIC CANDIDATE FEES
Commonwealth supported places are available for the first year of the program. If you continue into the second year, you will be supported by the Australian Government through the Research Training Scheme (RTS).

DOMESTIC PHD AND MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY CANDIDATE FEES
All eligible domestic higher degree research candidates are granted places under the Research Training Scheme (RTS), which provides an exemption from course tuition fees. The RTS guidelines require that you submit your thesis within the RTS-funded period – three years full-time study (or part-time equivalent) for a PhD, and two years full-time study (or part-time equivalent) for a Master of Philosophy. If you are transferring from another Australian university or you have an incomplete research degree, you will have your prior study period in the research degree deducted from your total program enrolment period at Macquarie.

INTERNATIONAL CANDIDATES
All international candidates (Master of Research, Master of Philosophy and PhD) are required to pay tuition fees. You will be advised of the amount in your offer letter. You are also required by the Australian Government to purchase Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for your entire visa period in Australia.

mq.edu.au/research-degrees-fees

A research degree will open doors for you across the globe, so capitalise on your opportunities.

Macquarie is proud of its nurturing environment and will be with you throughout your journey.
Macquarie is recognised across the world for our strengths and performance in key research disciplines. A hallmark of our research activity is that we pursue projects across a wide range of research areas, including those that are cross-disciplinary. You can undertake research in any of the following areas.

- Biological sciences
- Business
- Chemical and biomolecular sciences
- Creative arts, communication and culture
- Earth sciences
- Education
- Engineering
- Environmental sciences
- Health sciences
- History and archaeology
- Human society
- Information and computing sciences
- Languages and linguistics
- Law and legal studies
- Macquarie Graduate School of Management
- Mathematical sciences and statistics
- Medicine and surgery
- Philosophy
- Physics and astronomy
- Psychology and cognitive science
- Urban and regional planning

As a research candidate at Macquarie, you’ll be encouraged and supported to take a collaborative and innovative approach, and to undertake research for the betterment of humankind.

Innovation through ingenuity

AREAS OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Macquarie is recognised across the world for our strengths and performance in key research disciplines. A hallmark of our research activity is that we pursue projects across a wide range of research areas, including those that are cross-disciplinary. You can undertake research in any of the following areas.

- Biological sciences
- Business
- Chemical and biomolecular sciences
- Creative arts, communication and culture
- Earth sciences
- Education
- Engineering
- Environmental sciences
- Health sciences
- History and archaeology
- Human society
- Information and computing sciences
- Languages and linguistics
- Law and legal studies
- Macquarie Graduate School of Management
- Mathematical sciences and statistics
- Medicine and surgery
- Philosophy
- Physics and astronomy
- Psychology and cognitive science
- Urban and regional planning

World-leading research starts with you

HOW TO APPLY

Apply for a Master of Research, Master of Philosophy or PhD at Macquarie and kick-start an exciting career.

PRE-APPLICATION
If you are a PhD or Master of Philosophy candidate, you are required to investigate a research topic. You must then consult with academic staff in your chosen research field to discuss your research interests and potential topic to ascertain the feasibility of your project. mq.edu.au/mqsr

If you are a Year 1 Bachelor of Philosophy candidate, your supervision arrangement will be confirmed when you commence Year 2 of the Master of Research. If you are applying for direct entry into Year 2, your supervision arrangement will be made based on a one-to-two-page research proposal and available supervision.

PREPARING A RESEARCH PROPOSAL
If you are a Doctor of Philosophy or Master of Philosophy candidate, your proposal should define your chosen area of study, identify a research question, clarify its importance and outline a framework for further investigation. Sufficient detail is required for us to determine if we are able to support your candidature.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION
You must complete an online higher degree research application. There are no set closing dates for direct entry to the Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Philosophy programs. Specific deadlines do, however, apply to the Bachelor of Philosophy/Master of Research and scholarship applications. mq.edu.au/information-about/how-to-apply

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
Proficiency in English is a requirement for admission to all higher degree research and research training programs at Macquarie. Higher degree research applicants (domestic and international) whose academic qualifications were obtained from a country where English is not the official language are required to provide evidence of English language proficiency. Macquarie accepts both IELTS and TOEFL.
Key dates

31 JULY 2016
Closing date for International Postgraduate Research Scholarships and International Master of Research applications for 2017 commencements.

31 AUGUST 2016
Closing date (enrolment only) for International Master of Research applications for 2017 commencements.

31 OCTOBER 2016
Closing date for all domestic applications and scholarships for 2017 commencements.

Applications for admission to PhD and Master of Philosophy are accepted all year round.

Contacts

The Higher Degree Research Office is responsible for the management and administration of candidature and scholarships for domestic and international candidates.

ADDRESS
Higher Degree Research Office
Research Hub
Level 3, 17 Wally’s Walk (C5C East)
Macquarie University NSW 2109
T: +61 (2) 9850 7987

PHD AND MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY APPLICATIONS AND ENROLMENTS
E: hdr.admissions@mq.edu.au

PHD AND MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY SCHOLARSHIPS
E: hdrschol@mq.edu.au

MASTER OF RESEARCH APPLICATIONS AND ENROLMENTS
E: mres@mq.edu.au

MASTER OF RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS
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COTUTELLE AND JOINT PHD
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