

WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



Graduate Research School



**MASTER OF
RESEARCH**

Graduate Research School

Located in the heart of one of Australia's fastest growing economic regions, Western Sydney University offers unlimited potential to research students with the talent, drive and ambition to succeed.

Western Sydney is an exciting place to be. As the nation's third largest economy and one of the fastest growing population and employment centres, it is an increasingly important, dynamic and culturally diverse hub of business, industry and innovation.

With a large multicultural population of more than two million people from 170 nations, Western Sydney's global links are creating unlimited opportunity for international business, investment, education, research and cultural exchange.

Ranked amongst the top three per cent of universities in the world, Western Sydney University values academic excellence, integrity and the pursuit of knowledge. We are globally focused, research-led and committed to making a positive impact on the communities we engage with.

Your research success starts here.



Course Summary

COURSE	Master of Research
CAMPUS	Parramatta (elective units are taught across different campuses)
COURSE CODE	8086
DURATION	Two years full-time
INDICATIVE FEES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS \$AU	\$24,270 Humanities, Arts and Social Science \$29,520 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Note: Domestic students are eligible for HECS and fee support for Year 1 and fee support in Year 2
INTAKES	January and July
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	A Bachelors degree or a Masters degree; Achievement of a threshold Admission Average Mark (AAM) equal to or above the minimum of 65; A statement (up to 250 words) that outlines your tentative research area; and International English proficiency requirement, IELTS 6.5 overall (minimum 6.0 in each band) or equivalent Agreement by the relevant discipline School/Research Institute for the provision of supervision and resources
CRICOS CODE	085508B Humanities, Arts and Social Science 085507C Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

Apply for the Master of Research and contribute to Western Sydney University growing research culture.

Apply at [WESTERNSYDNEY.EDU.AU/MRESEARCH](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/mresearch)

Master of Research

The Master of Research aligns with degrees from around the world. This recognised qualification that makes you competitive in your educational and career aspirations.

The Master of Research will give you:

- An internationally recognised qualification
- Opportunity to work with leading researchers
- Capacity to achieve in a research environment
- Advanced research training skills and knowledge

The Master of Research provides you with the necessary educational experiences and expert knowledge to enable a confident approach to PhD studies and your future career.

Career Outcomes

The Master of Research is a pathway to PhD study. Within an research training framework.

It will develop your analytical, research and communication skills, making you highly competitive for future careers in:

- Industry and Business (research assistant, consumer and social research, public relations, publishing, personnel work, training, marketing, human resources)
- Community and non-profit organisations (administration, overseas aid and development agencies, social research, policy development, lobbying)
- Government (policy development and analysis, general administration, social research)
- PhD study, research assistant work, university teaching. After completion of your PhD you will be able to pursue postdoctoral or lectureship positions.

Course Structure

YEAR 1			
CORE UNITS (40 credit points)		ELECTIVE STREAM (40 credit points)	
Research Design 1: Theories of Enquiry	Research Design 2: Practices of Research	Four approved elective units from the discipline cluster of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences OR Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematics	
Research Literacies	Research Fields (or equivalent)		
YEAR 2			
HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH YEAR (80 credit points)			





Program Content

The program builds on the academic background gained in your undergraduate education and welcomes you into a vibrant research culture.

In the first year you will be exposed to an exciting combination of advanced research methods and disciplinary coursework while concurrently developing a research proposal. You will master the art of academic communication while engaging with issues associated with research ethics and integrity.

In the second year you will produce a Research Masters thesis under the supervision of an academic who is a specialist in your research area.

YEAR ONE

RESEARCH DESIGN 1: THEORIES OF ENQUIRY

This unit examines the philosophy of social science and science, and how this informs research. You will develop your understanding of quantitative or qualitative research and your ability to analyse, conduct and evaluate these forms of research. Upon completion of the unit you will be able to demonstrate competence in method literacies as well as the application of research skills.

RESEARCH LITERACIES

This unit aims to help you to become a successful communicator in academic and professional settings. It will further develop your abilities in critical analysis, reading and writing. Upon completion of the unit you will have developed the ability to translate your research knowledge across a variety of settings both within and outside of the University sector.

RESEARCH FIELDS

Each school and research institute within the University has developed a specialist core unit designed to orient you to research in its relevant disciplines. These units interact with the other core units to provide you with opportunities to further develop foundational skills in your relevant area of research. Please refer to the table below for a list of the schools and research institutes at Western Sydney.

RESEARCH DESIGN 2: PRACTICES OF RESEARCH

This unit builds upon Research Design 1: Theories of Enquiry and Design and will focus on particular issues relating to your research area. As such this unit will further examine the steps involved in generating, analysing, and critically evaluating information, perspectives, theories and sources of data relevant to your disciplinary field. You will

broaden your understanding of the ethics of social and scientific research and this knowledge will underpin the design and development of a research proposal, as well as the proposal's presentation.

APPROVED ELECTIVE POOL

The elective pool is divided into two discipline streams. A number of electives will be provided by schools and research institutes to further embed your area of research.

YEAR TWO

The second year of the program is based on devising and undertaking a supervised research project and producing a thesis that reports on those findings (20,000 – 25,000 word thesis or equivalent). You will be required to present your study to your peers through a series of seminars aimed to further develop your research and professional skills. The culture at Western Sydney embraces research supervision as a shared responsibility and there are well established frameworks and policies to assist you throughout your studies.

To support your research development a series of workshops in academic literacy, commercialisation, social media and presentation are offered to develop key skills.

ELECTIVE STREAMS

HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE (HASS) STREAM

- Business
- Education
- Humanities and Communication Arts
- Institute for Culture and Society
- Law
- The MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development
- Social Science and Psychology

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) STREAM

- Computing, Engineering and Mathematics
- Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment
- The MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development
- Medicine
- Nursing and Midwifery
- Science and Health



FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about Higher Degree Research, entry requirements and how to become part of our research culture visit westernsydney.edu.au/graduate_research_school

DISCLAIMER

Western Sydney University reserves the right to withdraw or vary courses listed within this publication. In the event that the course or courses are to be changed, or in the event of cancellation, applicants will be advised by mail to the address specified on their application.

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