

# Do you want to advance your career, dig into your intellectual curiosity, and make the world a better place?

Then, you should consider doing a graduate research degree at the Institute for Culture and Society (ICS).



We are a leading interdisciplinary research institute based in Parramatta with Australia's largest dedicated concentration of sociocultural researchers. Our world-renowned scholars have designed our quality research programs to foster and encourage engagement with industry partners, independent organisations and the broader community.

At the ICS, we offer a range of Higher Degree Research (HDR) programs for prospective candidates suitable for everyone. So, keep reading to find which one is the best fit for you.

Got a passion for research but no experience? No problem! The **Master of Research (MRES)** is a postgraduate research training degree suitable for those who wish to pursue a research-focused career in academia or industry but need to develop advanced research skills. It provides a strong foundation in research skills and can be a pathway to a PhD program.

This course is structured in two stages: The first involves undertaking core units and electives within your discipline of choice to develop deep knowledge of theory and research methods. In the second stage of MRes, students complete their research project under the supervision of an academic expert.

The **traditional Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**, is the most commonly taken advanced research qualification. As a PhD candidate, you undertake independent research into the topic of your choice while being guided by a panel of supervisors. During your PhD journey you will acquire new research skills, build new knowledge, and make a unique contribution to your chosen field.

Suppose you are career-oriented and want to use your expertise to solve problems in the industry while maintaining your current employment. In that case, consider doing an **Industry PhD**. This program aims to bridge the gap between academia and industry by producing highly skilled and knowledgeable professionals who can use their research skills to solve real-world problems. The 3-year research project and PhD degree are carried out in collaboration with a public or private sector organisation and can be sponsored by them.

Are you interested in an Industry PhD but are not currently working for an organisation? Don't fret! You can also do a **PhD internship**, giving you all the same benefits as having a direct link to the company/organisation. A PhD internship allows you to apply your research expertise to a project within an organisational context, gaining practical experience and building professional networks. In addition, you will have the opportunity to work in proximity with people with much experience in the world of a specific industry, which will allow you to increase your skills in that field.

If you are a problem solver and like addressing complex social issues through social and cultural theory, you should consider applying for our **Doctor of Cultural Research (DCR)** program. The DCR aims to produce future professional leaders in various industry settings where culture is an essential dimension of the typical issues and problems faced in that industry.

Unlike a traditional PhD, primarily focused on producing original research, a **Professional Doctorate** focuses on applying existing research and theory to practical problems in a particular profession or industry. The candidate pursues an independent and sustained investigation into a research problem of their design that makes a significant and original contribution to knowledge in professional practice. Undertaking this program can lead to career advancement, higher salary, and increased job opportunities.

A **PhD by publication** involves submitting for publication a variety of separate works during your candidacy, which are then bound into a thesis later. This means publishing papers in reputable peer-reviewed journals. These papers should demonstrate a coherent body of work that reflects the candidate's research expertise, contributions to, and originality in their field of study.

## Scholarships:

You can be supported through your research degree by a scholarship, sought via WSU or other avenues, which provides tuition fees and a living stipend. The University advertises scholarships once or twice a year with specific application dates, eligibility criteria and conditions.

Also, ICS from time to time advertises doctoral scholarships that are attached to specific research projects our staff are undertaking.