

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 two 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 \$AU | \$23,100 Humanities, Arts and Social Science \$28,100 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics |
| SCHOLARSHIPS | International students who achieve academic excellence are eligible for a PhD fee waiver |
| 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 |
| CRICOS CODE | 085508B Humanities, Arts and Social Science 085507C Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics |

Apply and join the Western Sydney research community and become a graduate research student.

Apply at [WESTERNSYDNEY.EDU.AU/INTERNATIONAL/APPLY](https://westernsydney.edu.au/international/apply)

Email to INTERNATIONALSTUDY@WESTERNSYDNEY.EDU.AU

Master of Research

Western Sydney University is transforming research education by developing a frontier research training program. The Master of Research aligns with degrees from around the world ensuring you will have an internationally recognised qualification that makes you competitive in your educational and career aspirations.

The Master of Research will give you:

- Global mobility in education and work aspirations
- 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 customised research pathway to PhD study. It provides an optimal research training framework to equip you for future research pathways. It develops graduates' innovative analytical, research and communication skills, making you highly competitive for global 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 | |

YEAR 2

| HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH YEAR (80 credit points) |
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Program Content

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

To maximise your study success and ensure you are supported throughout your study you will have the option to participate in online academic skilling programs and other resources as required.

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. This year provides you with the opportunity to engage with nationally and internationally renowned researchers and involve you in a vibrant research culture.

YEAR ONE

RESEARCH DESIGN 1: THEORIES OF ENQUIRY AND DESIGN

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 enhance your experience, a series of workshops will also be developed across three streams – Academia, Industry and Policy. These workshops are embedded within the second year to develop key skills for a smooth transition from the Master of Research to either a PhD or employment outside of academia.

ELECTIVE STREAMS

HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE (HASS) STREAM

Business
Education
Humanities and Communication Arts
Institute for Culture and Society
Law
The MARCS Institute
Social Science and Psychology

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) STREAM

Computing, Engineering and Mathematics
Hawkesbury Institute of the Environment
Institute for Infrastructure Engineering
The MARCS Institute
Medicine
Nursing and Midwifery
Science and Health

Further Information

For more information about studying at Western Sydney, including course information, English language requirements, intakes, tuition fees, assessment methods, accommodation options, financial obligations and living in Australia, please visit westernsydney.edu.au/international or email internationalstudy@westernsydney.edu.au



Western Sydney University reserves the right at all times to withdraw or vary courses listed within this publication. In the event that the course is to be changed, or in the event that the course is to be withdrawn, applicants will be advised by mail to the address specified by them on their application.

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