Macquarie prides itself on its international research reputation. As one of Australia’s premier teaching and research institutions, we are confident that your choice of Macquarie University for your higher degree research program will be rewarded by an exceptional experience of research training in an environment of the highest quality.

One example of Macquarie’s commitment to international excellence is the introduction of our new research training program. In 2013 Macquarie University will adopt a new research and research training degree structure, making it the first Australian university to fully align with European, North American and Asian qualifications. With greater international recognition for their qualifications, graduates of the new degree will enjoy enhanced employment opportunities and pathways to further study overseas. This new research training pathway will also facilitate Macquarie’s substantial joint PhD program with leading international partners across the globe.

The University continues to pursue its vision to be acknowledged as world class in our identified Concentrations of Research Excellence (COREs). Existing areas of research strength are being enhanced, while new areas of research excellence are emerging from groups of our highly motivated staff. More top-class researchers are being appointed to the 18 Concentrations of Research Excellence, and support mechanisms for our researchers are being strengthened.

This commitment to excellence has been rewarded by the results the University achieved under the Australian Government’s first Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) exercise. Results from the ERA initiative ranked Macquarie University as fourth in Australia based on the proportion of our research judged to be at the highest possible level. Our research performance was rated as ‘outstanding well above world standard’ in biological, Earth, environmental and physical sciences, as well as in cognitive sciences and psychology. In total 80 per cent of Macquarie’s research activity was rated as performing at world standard or higher. Based on Macquarie’s 2012 ERA submission, we expect to exceed the results we achieved under the 2010 exercise.

Our Macquarie Research Excellence Scholarship program has been expanded to enable well-prepared candidates to undertake doctoral studies at Macquarie. We value our higher degree research student body as a key asset of the University, and recognise the vital contribution our research candidates make to the University and the nation.

The Higher Degree Research Office provides specialised support for higher degree research candidates. In addition to looking after both domestic and international applications and admissions, the office administers all higher degree research scholarships, including those schemes supported directly by the University.

The Dean of Higher Degree Research has specific responsibility for framing the academic support programs and pastoral care for higher degree research candidates, including liaison with the academic disciplines and student representatives, and above all, ensuring the quality of the outcome for research candidates and the University.

I welcome your interest in undertaking a higher degree research program at Macquarie University and urge you to contact our staff to investigate fully the opportunities available for you to gain an advanced research degree of the highest international standing.

Professor Jim Piper
Deputy Vice-Chancellor – Research
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Be part of Australia’s number 1 modern university

Macquarie University is number one in Australia among universities under 50 years of age. We are renowned for excellence in interdisciplinary research and teaching, our unique approach to learning, our highly skilled graduates, and our first-class facilities.

Research excellence

Macquarie is one of the country’s leading research universities. By bringing the best minds together and funding them to do cutting-edge research without traditional disciplinary boundaries, we are cultivating a game-changing environment.

Rankings success

The success of Macquarie’s research philosophy is evidenced through a number of international ranking schemes. According to the Times Higher Education, Macquarie is number 1 in Australia in environmental sciences and ecology research, and 11 in the world. This places us alongside Princeton University, Stanford University, NASA and the Smithsonian Institute in terms of the international impact of our environmental and ecological research. Our cognitive science research is also ranked number 1 in Australia.

ERA 2010 ranked Macquarie fourth in Australia in terms of research at the highest level. We achieved the maximum 5 rating – outstanding performance well above world standard – in five science disciplines: biological sciences, Earth sciences, environmental sciences, physical sciences, and psychology and cognitive sciences.

Six Macquarie researchers – Professors Bill Griffin, Ann Henderson-Sellers, Sue O’Reilly, Iain Prentice, Mark Westoby, and Dr Ian Paulsen – are ISI Highly Cited. Macquarie is ranked third in the country in this measure.

In terms of weighted research publications, Macquarie outperforms all non-Group of Eight universities and all but two Group of Eight universities.

According to the SCImago Institutions Rankings 2010 World Report, Macquarie is among the top four Australian universities for international research collaboration, with 41 per cent international co-authorship.

World-leading researchers

Over the past five years Macquarie has built on its outstanding reputation through targeted investment in areas of national and international significance. Ninety top-class researchers have been recruited through the University’s Concentrations of Research Excellence (CORE) program, which is centred on 18 high-performing research areas.

Nine prestigious ARC Future Fellowships have been awarded to Macquarie researchers for projects commencing in 2012. Macquarie’s success rate was the highest in the nation and well above the national average.

Additionally, Macquarie is the host institution of, or has a major node in, four of the 13 Australian Research Council Centres of Excellence. These include the Centre of Excellence for Core to Crust Fluid Systems, the Centre of Excellence for Cognition and its Disorders, the Centre for Ultrahigh bandwidth Devices for Optical Systems and the Centre for Engineered Quantum Systems.

First-class facilities

Recent investments of more than $1 billion in facilities and infrastructure ensure our research staff and students have access to the best technology and facilities, to foster creative innovation which has continual global impact.

World-leading facilities include the Macquarie University Hospital, Australian School of Advanced Medicine, Australian Hearing Hub and the KIT-Macquarie Brain Research Laboratory.
Our first-class facilities

Macquarie University Hospital
As Australia’s only university-owned hospital, this high-tech facility is setting new benchmarks in health care. A world leader in neurosurgery, it houses the country’s only gamma knife, as well as other high-tech equipment found nowhere else in Australia.

Cochlear Ltd
Macquarie is home to the global headquarters and principal manufacturing facilities of the world leader in implantable hearing solutions. Cochlear Ltd is also a partner in the University-Based Australian Hearing Hub.

KIT-Macquarie Brain Research Laboratory
The laboratory is home to the world’s first child MEG and Australasia’s first whole-head adult MEG system. Researchers within the facility conduct a range of projects into disorders such as stuttering, dyslexia, and autism.

Macquarie University Sport and Aquatic Centre
Macquarie’s sports facilities are some of the best university facilities in the country, featuring two pools, football and soccer fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, squash courts, a martial arts area and a gym.

Australian School of Advanced Medicine
ASAM brings together world-class clinicians, researchers and medical educators to create an innovative training program with a focus on future trends in medicine. It is a Concentration of Research Excellence in neuroscience, vascular science and surgery.

Australian Hearing Hub
Opening in late 2012, the state-of-the-art Australian Hearing Hub is pioneering a new approach to collaboration, and will establish Macquarie as a global leader in speech, hearing and language research.

Macquarie University Library
The new library is unique in Australia, featuring the country’s first automated document storage and retrieval system. It is a versatile learning, research and social space, and provides access to a wide range of specialist research collections and journals.

Media and science facilities
Our multi-million dollar media hub includes professional studio spaces, and industry-standard digital workstations and tools; and our science facilities, fitted with the latest digital technology, are considered to be the best at a university in the Asia Pacific region.
Partnering with industry

Macquarie is located in the heart of Australia’s largest high-technology precinct. Such a location provides our academics and HDR candidates with outstanding research and innovation opportunities with some of the world’s leading organisations including CSIRO, Cochlear Ltd, EMC, GlaxoSmithKline, Honeywell and Optus. It also means our programs can offer outstanding integration with industry, which provides candidates with a superior learning environment, enhanced internship opportunities, and greater exposure to the job market prior to graduation.

Global outlook

Macquarie is a university with a global perspective. We welcome thousands of international students from over 100 countries to our campus each year, our curriculum is internationally focused, our exchange program is among the most extensive in Australia, and our extracurricular leadership programs have a global focus. Such an international focus enriches the educational, social and cultural experiences of all of our students and enhances their global view.
International partnerships

A major feature of our international program is our cotutelle and joint PhD arrangements which facilitate partnerships between Macquarie and 93 universities in 27 countries. The program continues to grow, increasing opportunities for international research collaboration with many world-leading research universities.

Socially inclusive

Macquarie is a vibrant, diverse and innovative university committed to social inclusion and equality of opportunity in education and employment. Macquarie aims to provide an educational environment where all prospective students with the potential to benefit from higher education have the chance to participate regardless of their background.
Higher degree research and research training

Macquarie’s outstanding international research reputation ensures that your research degree will be respected and valued across the globe.

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

Macquarie offers research supervision across a wide range of disciplines, giving you many options to further explore your research topic. More information on the research interests of our academics can be found on the Macquarie University Supervisor Register at mqsr.mq.edu.au/MQSR.

University rules for research degrees may be found in the Calendar of Governance, Legislation and Rules universitycouncil.mq.edu.au/legislation.html.

More specific information on the requirements for completing a higher degree research (HDR) program and Macquarie’s support structure can be found in the Higher Degree Research Guide for Candidates and Supervisors hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/hdrguide.

Higher degree research training

In 2013 Macquarie University will introduce a new research training degree, making it the first Australian university to fully align with European, North American and Asian qualifications. Consistent with the ‘Bologna model’, the two-year full-time research training degree comprises a first year of advanced undergraduate coursework and a second year at masters postgraduate program level specialising in research preparation and a specific research topic. This program will replace most honours as the main pathway to a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) and Master of Philosophy (MPhil). With greater international recognition for your qualifications, as a graduate of the new degree you will enjoy enhanced employment opportunities and pathways to further study overseas.

Higher research degrees

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) enables you to undertake extensive, independent research which forms a distinct contribution to the knowledge of your chosen subject, and which affords evidence of coherence and originality shown either by the discovery of new facts or by the exercise of independent critical power.

Your research will be supervised by at least two academics and will normally be carried out within the University. There is, however, provision for you to be permitted to carry out much of the program outside the University with prior approval.

Depending on the discipline in which you conduct your research, you will be required to submit a thesis which is 75,000 to 100,000 words in length.

Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission you must normally possess either a masters degree by research or a bachelor degree with First Class or Second Class Honours Division 1 from a recognised university or other tertiary institution.

In some disciplines further research training or the completion of a preliminary coursework program in research preparation may be required prior to admission.

Requirements for admission to higher research degrees are defined in the University rules published in the Calendar of Governance, Legislation and Rules universitycouncil.mq.edu.au/legislation.html.

Length of candidature

The minimum period of candidature for a PhD is two years and the maximum period is four years. For part-time candidates the minimum period of candidature is four years and the maximum period is eight years.
MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY

The Master of Philosophy (MPhil) is awarded for research that demonstrates that a contribution has been made to knowledge in a particular field of study by presenting new facts or by demonstrating an independent critical ability to evaluate existing material in a new light.

Your program of study may include some coursework and research seminar units, and participation in presentations, and will be supervised by at least two supervisors.

The MPhil requires a thesis which is 50,000 words in length.

Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission you must normally possess a bachelor degree with First Class or Second Class Honours, or other evidence of research ability, from a recognised university or other tertiary institution.

In some disciplines further research training or the completion of a preliminary coursework program in research preparation may be required prior to admission to candidature.

Requirements for admission to higher research degrees are defined in the University rules published in the Calendar of Governance, Legislation and Rules.

universitycouncil.mq.edu.au/legislation.html

Length of candidature

The MPhil is a two-year full-time (or part-time equivalent) program. For full-time candidates the minimum period of candidature is one year and the maximum period is two years. For part-time candidates the minimum period of candidature is two years and the maximum period is four years.

Jointly supervised PhD programs

Macquarie participates in two modes of international co-enrolment – cotutelles and joint degrees – with leading research-active universities in Europe, the UK, the US, Asia and South America.

COTUTELLE

A cotutelle arrangement allows for simultaneous enrolment in a PhD at Macquarie and one of our partner universities. Under a cotutelle you submit one thesis to both institutions for joint recognition, for which you may be awarded two testamurs; one from Macquarie University and one from the partner institution.

JOINT DEGREE

A joint degree also allows you to undertake research at Macquarie and one of our partner universities, however under this arrangement you will undergo a single joint thesis examination and be awarded a single testamur bearing the crests of both universities.

Co-funded scholarships are usually available to candidates enrolling in a cotutelle or joint PhD.

Get in-depth expertise

hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/research_degrees/master_of_philosophy_mphil
Applying for higher research degrees

There are a number of steps to work through before you apply for a higher research degree at Macquarie University.

1. Pre-application

Prior to completing the higher degree research application form you are required to investigate a research topic and prepare a brief research proposal to accompany your application form. You must also consult with academic staff in your chosen research field at the University to discuss your research interests and/or potential topic to ascertain whether your research project can be accommodated.

2. Preparing a research proposal

Your proposal should define your chosen area of study, and identify a research question, clarify its importance and outline a framework for further investigation. Sufficient detail is required to enable the University to determine if it has the resources, including suitably experienced supervisors, to support your candidature.

Research proposal requirements for an application vary according to the discipline, department or degree. You are therefore required to establish what is expected for the research proposal with the appropriate department.

3. Application form

Following consultation with academic staff concerning the suitability of your proposed research topic and the availability of supervisors and facilities, you must complete a higher degree research application form.

There are no set closing dates for applications to HDR programs. However, if you are applying for a scholarship, specific deadlines may apply.

Your application must be submitted to the University with original or certified copies of supporting documents. If the documentation is not in English, an official translation in English must also be included.

English language proficiency

Proficiency in the English language is a requirement for admission to all higher degree research programs at Macquarie University.

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.

The University accepts both IELTS and TOEFL as proof of English language proficiency. Scholarship applicants are usually expected to have higher than the minimum entry requirements.

Find the perfect supervisor
mqsr.mq.edu.au/MQSR

Start your future
Tuition fees

The fee structure for undertaking higher degree research varies for domestic and international candidates.

Domestic candidates

RESEARCH TRAINING SCHEME

All eligible domestic higher degree research candidates are granted places under the Research Training Scheme (RTS), which provides an exemption from course tuition fees. There is no need to apply for an RTS place as it is automatically awarded to eligible candidates.

The RTS guidelines impose specific conditions on universities and research candidates. It is expected that you will submit your thesis within the RTS-funded period, which is a maximum of four years full-time study (or part-time equivalent) for a doctoral degree (PhD), and two years full-time study (or part-time equivalent) for a masters by research (MPhil). If you are transferring from another Australian university, or have an incomplete research degree, you will have your prior study period in the research degree deducted from the maximum RTS candidature at Macquarie.

International candidates

All international candidates are required to pay tuition fees. You will be advised of the amount in your letter of offer.

New international candidates, excluding tuition-fee scholarship holders, are required to pay a commencement fee when accepting an offer at Macquarie. The fee, which is the equivalent of one session’s tuition fee, is required prior to your arrival at Macquarie.

In addition to this fee you are also required by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship to purchase Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for your entire visa period in Australia. The University will only issue a Confirmation of Enrolment (COE) on receipt of the commencement fee and OSHC. After the initial payment of your commencement fee you will be required to pay fees on a half-yearly basis.
Scholarships

Macquarie provides a wide range of generous scholarships to support students with a proven capacity for research. Additionally, you may be eligible to apply for the many externally funded scholarships available. Scholarships vary in value and duration and may include a stipend to assist with living costs, tuition fee costs, overseas health cover and/or travel allowances or other research costs.

Scholarship eligibility

Each scholarship scheme specifies particular eligibility requirements. These may include being of specified citizenship, meeting minimum English language proficiency levels, enrolment in a specific program, demonstrating an outstanding academic background and a proven capacity for research, and/or specific experience and research skills in a particular discipline. Where HDR scholarships require an Australian honours degree awarded in the first or upper second-class, equivalent research experience and/or qualifications may be considered in its place.

Macquarie rates applicants on academic merit; proven research capacity including peer-reviewed research activity; prior scholarships, awards and prizes; and relevant work or professional experience.

Macquarie University

HDR scholarships

Macquarie offers scholarships to domestic and international candidates – the Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (MQRES) and the International Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (iMQRES). The scholarships primarily fund research within Macquarie’s Concentrations of Research Excellence (COREs).

Co-funded MQRES scholarships may also be available to, for example, cotutelle and joint PhD candidates, China Scholarship Council award holders, as well as other externally funded award holders. Scholarships are packaged on an individual basis and may include a stipend to assist with living costs, tuition fees, and an allowance for relocation or travel.

Government-funded scholarships

AUSTRALIAN POSTGRADUATE AWARD

The Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) is open to domestic candidates of exceptional promise. The APA includes a living allowance, as well as possible allowances for relocation and thesis printing costs.

hir.mq.edu.au/information_about/scholarships/ hir_scholarships Domestic candidates

AUSTRALIAN POSTGRADUATE AWARD INDUSTRY

The Australian Postgraduate Award Industry (APAI) is open to domestic candidates of exceptional promise, and helps support a research student working on a collaborative project between the University and an industry partner. The APAI includes a living allowance, as well as possible allowances for relocation and thesis printing costs.

hir.mq.edu.au/information_about/scholarships/ hir_scholarships Domestic candidates

INTERNATIONAL POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

The International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (iPRS) is open to international candidates who wish to undertake higher degree research in Australia and gain experience with leading Australian researchers. The iPRS covers tuition fees for up to three years and basic overseas health cover insurance. Macquarie will normally provide an additional living allowance stipend equivalent to the Australian Postgraduate Award.

hir.mq.edu.au/information_about/scholarships/ hir_scholarships International candidates

ENDEAVOUR AND DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Other Australian government-funded scholarships such as the Endeavour Awards and Development Awards are also available.


Other financial support

FACULTY AND DEPARTMENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Individual faculties and departments may offer scholarships in addition to the University’s centrally funded scholarships, as well as financial assistance for travel costs for conferences, field work and basic research needs.

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH FUND

The Postgraduate Research Fund (PGRF) is an additional source of research funding available for activities that will add value to research projects – up to a maximum value of $50000 over a one- to two-year period. There are usually two PGRF funding rounds each year, and funding is offered on a competitive basis taking into account individual merit and need.

hir.mq.edu.au/information_for/current_candidates/ financial_support
Higher degree research candidature

Macquarie offers individualised support and assists you at every academic and administrative stage, from application through commencement and progression, to completion of candidature and submission of thesis.

You will receive careful direction from your academic supervisors, all of whom have well-established reputations for their own research, following an individual candidature management plan.

We're with you all the way
hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/hdrguide

Attendance
FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME CANDIDATURE
You can undertake higher degree research as either a full-time or part-time candidate, however as a part-time candidate you must satisfy the University that you will have sufficient appropriate time to complete the requirements of the degree within the maximum allowable period of candidature. If you are an international candidate studying on a student visa you should be aware that it is a condition of your visa that you are enrolled full-time. Similarly, if you are a scholarship holder it is usually expected that you will be enrolled full-time.

Full-time candidates are expected to commit, on average, a minimum of 40 hours per week to their research study program. Part-time candidates must be able to commit, on average, at least 20 hours per week on a program of research and advanced study.

CANDIDATURE LOCATION
All HDR candidates are enrolled in their research program as internal mode of attendance. If you reside outside the normal commuting distance your principal supervisor and the University must be convinced that you have the means and ability to pursue independent, sustained and structured research off campus. Fieldwork and data collection can be undertaken at locations away from campus and overseas, subject to approval from your principal supervisor and the University. Further restrictions may apply to international candidates, especially those on scholarship.

Commencement and orientation programs
After enrolling at Macquarie you will be required to participate in two commencement programs – a Central Commencement Program (CCP) and a Faculty Commencement Program (FCP), to ensure the best possible start to your research. The programs provide an introduction to the University, to research practice, and to the support mechanisms available to you.

hdr.mq.edu.au/information_for/new_candidates/commencement_programs

Newly commencing international candidates will also be expected to attend an orientation program that assists with locating to a new culture and physical environment.

hdr.mq.edu.au/information_for/new_candidates/orientation_for_international_students2

Academic progress
To ensure your research is kept on track, and to assist you in overcoming any research-related difficulties, regular progress reports from yourself and the University are required. Successful completion of at least one annual progress report (APR) is required for the continuation of enrolment and any scholarship held.

hdr.mq.edu.au/information_for/current_candidates/annual_progress_report

Candidature Management Plan
When you commence at Macquarie you are informed of the date by which your thesis is to be submitted. There are a number of milestones to be achieved during research candidature and these are mapped out in a Candidature Management Plan (CMP).

The CMP ensures you are fully aware of the milestones for progression, and assists you with your research planning and in developing a realistic timeline for research completion by the due date.

It does not take into account specific discipline requirements and it may be that there will be some variations in research component completion due to the area of study. You are urged to discuss the CMP with your supervisors to ensure that both central candidature requirements and discipline-specific requirements are met within the designated candidature period.

hdr.mq.edu.au/information_for/new_candidates/cmp

Intellectual property
Macquarie recognises your rights to intellectual property generated by you during your course of study at the University. At enrolment, you are requested to assign intellectual property rights to the University and agree to the University managing on your behalf such intellectual property. This means that intellectual property in the form of patentable material can be commercialised to the benefit of all inventors and gives you equal rights with academic staff members.

hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/enrolment/ip_issues

Research integrity and ethics
All Macquarie University higher degree research candidates must comply with the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research and other relevant external and internal ethical guidelines, as well being aware of, and complying with, the University’s research ethics policies and procedures about the gathering and use of data.

research.mq.edu.au/about/research_@_macquarie/policies,_procedures_and_conduct

research.mq.edu.au/for/researchers/how_to_obtain_ethics_approval

hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/hdrguide
Key dates for prospective candidates

31 OCTOBER 2012
Closing date for Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) scholarship applications commencing in first half-year 2013

31 OCTOBER 2012*
Closing date for applications for admission to the Combined PhD/Coursework Masters in Psychology programs commencing in first half-year 2013

31 OCTOBER 2012
Closing date for applications for admission to the Masters of Research commencing in first half-year 2013

22 FEBRUARY 2013 (TO BE CONFIRMED)
Central Commencement Program (on campus) for all new (domestic and international) research candidates commencing in first half-year 2013

25 FEBRUARY 2013
Academic year commences for higher degree research candidates if enrolled in first half-year coursework units

31 MAY 2013*
Closing date for applications for admission to the Combined PhD/Coursework Masters in Psychology programs in second half-year 2013

26 JULY 2013 (TO BE CONFIRMED)
Central Commencement Program (on campus) for all new (domestic and international) research candidates commencing in second half-year 2013

29 JULY 2013
Academic year commences for higher degree research candidates if enrolled in second half-year coursework units

30 AUGUST 2013
Closing date for International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS) applications commencing in 2014

31 OCTOBER 2013
Closing date for Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) scholarship applications commencing in first half-year 2014

* Applications for admission to PhD and MPhil in psychology are accepted all year round.

Contacts

Higher Degree Research Office
The Higher Degree Research Office (HDRO) is responsible for the management and administration of all aspects of HDR candidature and scholarships for domestic and international HDR candidates, including:
- pre-admission and pre-enrolment advice to prospective candidates
- admission, re-admission and enrolment
- candidature management – variations, extension and withdrawal
- progress management – Annual Progress Reports submission and examination of theses
- research scholarship promotion, assessment and management
- HDR strategy and policy development and implementation

Address
Higher Degree Research Office
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F: +61 2 9850 6198

Office Hours
9am – 5pm, Monday – Friday

Web
hdr.mq.edu.au

Application and enrolment
T: +61 2 9850 9781
T: +61 2 9850 1892
T: +61 2 9850 1894
E: hdrfuture@mq.edu.au

Thesis submission and examination
T: +61 2 9850 7345
T: +61 2 9850 8612
E: hdrexam@mq.edu.au

Scholarships
T: +61 2 9850 9782
T: +61 2 9850 1893
E: hdrschol@mq.edu.au

Annual progress reports and student fees
T: +61 2 9850 1891
E: hdrmanagement@mq.edu.au

Cotutelle and joint degrees
T: +61 2 9850 4780
E: gpt@mq.edu.au

* Application for admission to PhD and MPhil in psychology are accepted all year round.