Macquarie’s legal research is of an international calibre. In the most recent Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) evaluation, our legal research received a rating of ‘performance above world standard’.

We are pioneers of interdisciplinary law study in Australia, and provide you with unparalleled opportunities to explore some of the globe’s most pressing and diverse legal issues.

Macquarie’s law researchers are leaders in their fields, actively engaged in publishing their research in books with international publishing houses and leading international journals. They engage in collaborative work that spans the globe, bringing together researchers from other leading academic institutions as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations. Collaborations have focused on a range of cutting-edge legal issues, including international law, constitutionalism, terrorism and counter-terrorism, special position of developing countries, trade, and the environment.

Our researchers are also recipients of highly competitive research grants and collaborate with, and consult for, a range of government, community and industry bodies such as AusAid, the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee, and the United Nations Development Programme, as well as several highly regarded international universities.

As an HDR candidate you will benefit from the extensive expertise of our internationally respected researchers.

AREAS OF SPECIALISATION
• Access to justice
• Commercial law
• Constitutional law
• Environmental law and climate change
• Intellectual property law
• International law
• International trade and economic law
• Law and religion
• Law of the sea
• Legal regulation of international migration
• Legal theory and jurisprudence
• Medico-legal challenges of human health
• Regulatory problems facing governments, businesses and communities
• Technology and new media

RESEARCH HUBS
• Centre for Environmental Law
• Centre for Legal Governance
Highlights

• Macquarie is home to the Centre for Legal Governance, which draws together legal experts, environmental studies experts, historians, medical researchers, philosophers and political scientists to research contemporary issues.

• The Centre for Environmental Law allows staff and students with a specific interest in these areas to work together on a range of publishing and other research projects.

• Many Macquarie Law School HDR graduates have successfully obtained academic positions at universities around Australia and overseas.

Support

We give HDR candidates strong academic and administrative support. This includes:

• commencement and completion programs
• discipline-specific research training units, including workshops in research communication, presentation skills, academic writing skills, thesis planning and poster preparation
• experienced supervisors and department-based higher degree research directors
• financial support for eligible candidates for a range of research-related activity
• regular progress reports and interviews, and/or work-in-progress presentations in which research candidates receive feedback on their work from a panel of academics in their field.

Research leaders

Macquarie is home to many internationally renowned researchers, including:

Professor M Rafiqul Islam is the director of HDR and an active legal researcher in the Centre for Environmental Law, publishing extensively in public international law, including trade and economic law. He holds an Outstanding Teacher Award from Macquarie for his contributions to teaching and the Best HDR Supervisor in the Faculty of Arts award for higher degree research supervision and administration.

Professor Natalie Klein is the Dean of Law and has extensive research experience in international dispute resolution, arbitration, law of the sea and humanitarian law.

Professor Denise Meyerson’s research interests include jurisprudence, constitutional law, administrative law and comparative human rights law. She is a co-director of the Centre for Legal Governance, and a member of the editorial boards of Australian Journal of Professional and Applied Ethics and South African Journal of Philosophy. She is also a consulting editor for Philosophical Studies Series.

Professor Brian Opeskin, co-director of the Centre for Legal Governance, has researched public law. While working for the Australian Law Reform Commission, he oversaw inquiries into federal judicial power, the protection of human genetic information, gene patenting and human health, sentencing of federal offenders and sedition laws. His current research examines governance and legal policy relating to court systems, international migration and public health.

Professor Peter Radan is a leading researcher in contract law, law and religion, equity and trust, and secession/self-determination with an extensive publication record. He is a member of a number of law societies and administrative bodies.