The Master of Research is a two-year program and is the main pathway to Macquarie’s Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) and Master of Philosophy (MPhil) programs. In **Year 1** (BPhil) you will undertake advanced coursework units including the study of research frontiers in your area of study. **Year 2** (MRes) is a masters-level postgraduate research training program. You will specialise in research preparation and focus on a specific research topic, and will be required to submit a research thesis of 20,000 words.

### YEAR 1

**Session 1 Units**

**Compulsory Faculty Unit**

**FOAR701 Research Paradigms**

This unit provides a broad overview of the research paradigms that characterise the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

**Through FOAR701:**

- The Faculty of Arts seeks to provide students with a constructive framework to recognise the possible contribution of diverse theoretical and disciplinary approaches.
- Students will learn to better recognise the assumptions that underpin diverse approaches, their strengths, and their relations to each other, especially to facilitate collaboration and the exchange of ideas.
- Students will have a strong grasp of the intellectual terrain across Arts disciplines, having become familiar with some of the core paradigms that have persisted in our fields, including through multiple variants over time.

**PLUS**

1 x Compulsory Transdisciplinary Unit, and 2 x Disciplinary and/or Transdisciplinary Units

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**YEAR 1 Session 2 Units**

**Compulsory Unit**

**MRES700 Research Communications**

This unit aims to enable students to:

- communicate research effectively in different modes for different audiences;
- understand what it means to conduct and report responsibly in their discipline;
- participate in academic peer review practices; and
- appreciate the uses and relative merits of traditional and contemporary research communication practices.

**Compulsory Faculty Unit**

**FOAR700 Research Frontiers 1**

This unit is delivered by departments and provides an opportunity for students to engage with leading edge research in their discipline. Students will acquire advanced disciplinary knowledge, know about how research is carried out in a disciplinary area and will demonstrate competence in the application of research skills to the disciplinary area.

**PLUS**

2 x Disciplinary and/or Transdisciplinary Units
Students take compulsory Transdisciplinary unit FOAR703 and 2 electives from the Disciplinary and/or Transdisciplinary units.

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<th>SESSION 1</th>
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<td><strong>FOAR703 Living in the Anthropocene</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Compulsory Transdisciplinary Unit</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Anthropocene has been identified as a new geological epoch in which humanity is the driving force of global environmental change. Scientists are concerned that the planetary boundaries that have sustained life are at risk of being breached. We explore how social scientists and the humanities are responding to these concerns. This unit focuses on those researchers working on the spaces in-between, connecting human and non-human worlds. Understanding connections, or reconceptualising nature and society altogether, by incorporating concepts such as the Anthropocene, social-nature, coupled human and natural systems and Indigenous perspectives, has become increasingly important as we search for alternative futures. A critical introduction to theories and concepts that are vital to understanding and living in the Anthropocene. Session 1 – Day, A/Prof Andrew McGregor, W3A–412, <a href="mailto:andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au">andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au</a></td>
<td><strong>GEOP702 Understanding Social Impact Assessment &amp; Cross-Cultural Negotiation</strong>&lt;br&gt;Social impact assessment is a key tool in managing development in multicultural environments where stakeholders have different views of the world. It is a form of applied social science research. Using case studies of resource projects, major infrastructure developments, native title, post-disaster recovery and climate change adaptation this unit develops conceptual, methodological and practical skills relevant to government, community and private sectors. Students examine several major social impact studies and native title negotiations. Session 2 – Day and Session 2 – External. Dr Fiona Miller, W3A–426, <a href="mailto:fiona.miller@mq.edu.au">fiona.miller@mq.edu.au</a></td>
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<td><strong>GEOP700 Understanding Attitudes to the Environment</strong>&lt;br&gt;Explores the ways in which humans think about nature, environment and how these ideas are formed. Given the diversity of environmental challenges that have emerged from human-nature relations there is an urgent need to explore the role that attitudes to nature have had in contributing to these crises, and how changes in attitudes may provide some solutions. Unit draws from social constructionism, environmental ethics and political ecology to explore how ideas about nature and environment are created and contested. First section looks at contemporary approaches to nature, their history and complexity. Second explores environmental ethics and the challenges they pose to these dominant understandings of humans and nature. Final section analyses environmental ethics in society – exploring their relevance to environmental politics and our everyday ways of life. Session 1 – Evening, A/Prof Andrew McGregor, W3A–412, <a href="mailto:andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au">andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au</a></td>
<td><strong>GEOP703 Understanding Sustainable Urban Regions</strong>&lt;br&gt;Examines the social, economic and environmental challenges associated with developing sustainable cities and urban regions internationally. Opportunities and barriers to implementing more sustainable urban management and planning practices are explored. Students undertake their own case study; critically assessing response strategies and developing their own sustainability plans. Session 2 – Evening, Prof Robyn Dowling, W3A–417, <a href="mailto:robyn.dowling@mq.edu.au">robyn.dowling@mq.edu.au</a></td>
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<td><strong>GEOP710 Research Project in Geography and Planning A</strong>&lt;br&gt;Provides students with an opportunity to undertake a small supervised research project in a relevant field. Supervision is provided by department staff and the aim of the unit is to allow students to develop skills and capacity for independent research. Students must have reached an agreement with a supervisor regarding a research project before enrolling in the unit. Session 1 – Day and Session 1 – External. A/Prof Andrew McGregor, W3A–412, <a href="mailto:andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au">andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au</a></td>
<td><strong>GEOP705 Understanding Climate Change Policies, Management &amp; Adaptation</strong>&lt;br&gt;Global climate change is an important issue in the 21st century. Ability to mitigate/adapt to projected climate change depends on developing an integrated perspective on the physical, biological, biogeochemical, socioeconomic and cultural factors that influence the climate system. Cover legal and regulatory frameworks for climate change, technological and economic strategies for climate mitigation, risk management; ethnocultural context of climate change specifically with respect to sustainability and cultural diversity and climate-change governance. Also examine human adaptation to climate change. Provides a background to critically evaluate the complex interactions that influence responses to climate change and ability to change future climate trajectories through political, economic and legislative means. Taught by a team of internationally renowned experts drawn from the University's Concentration of Research Excellence (CORE) in Climate Futures. Session 2 – Evening, A/Prof Andrew McGregor, W3A–412, <a href="mailto:andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au">andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au</a></td>
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<td><strong>GEOP711 Research Project in Geography and Planning B</strong>&lt;br&gt;See GEOP710 unit description.&lt;br&gt;Session 1 – Day, Session 1 – External. A/Prof Andrew McGregor, W3A–412 <a href="mailto:andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au">andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au</a></td>
<td><strong>GEOP709 Understanding Globalisation and Sustainable Development</strong>&lt;br&gt;A critical examination of the concept of globalisation from economic, socio-cultural, political and environmental perspectives. Focus on local implications of global change; local and national responses in the fields of economic, social and environmental policy; community responses to globalisation; and implications of globalisation for social and environmental sustainability at the local scale. Session 2 – Evening, Dr Sara Fuller, W3A–412, <a href="mailto:sara.fuller@mq.edu.au">sara.fuller@mq.edu.au</a></td>
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<td><strong>GEOP743 Understanding Environmental Decision Making</strong>&lt;br&gt;Teaches foundational skills for environmental decision makers. Students learn to triangulate technically, politically and managerially: looking for ways forward that are respectful of networks of cause and effect, make sense in the light of stakeholders’ diverse interests, and give reasonable assurance of outcomes. Principled negotiation, creative thinking and reflective practice are also emphasised. Students develop their skills in these areas via two research projects: triangulating on a case study of their choice, and using reflective practice to develop their decision making skills. Session 1 – Evening, Dr Greg Walkerden, W3A–430, <a href="mailto:greg.walkerden@mq.edu.au">greg.walkerden@mq.edu.au</a></td>
<td><strong>GEOP710 Research Project in Geography and Planning A</strong>&lt;br&gt;Provides students with an opportunity to undertake a small supervised research project in a relevant field. Supervision is provided by department staff and the aim of the unit is to allow students to develop skills and capacity for independent research. Students must have reached an agreement with a supervisor regarding a research project before enrolling in the unit. Session 2 – Day, Session 2 – External. A/Prof Andrew McGregor, W3A–412 <a href="mailto:andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au">andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au</a></td>
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