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

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 either
1 x Compulsory Disciplinary Unit and 1 x Disciplinary and/or Transdisciplinary Unit, or
2 x Disciplinary and/or Transdisciplinary Units
SOCIOLOGY
Bachelor of Philosophy / Master of Research (BPhil/MRes)

DISCIPLINARY UNITS

Students must take both the compulsory unit SOCI703 in Session 1 and a second compulsory unit (either SOCI702 in Session 1 or SOCI701 in Session 2), and choose 3 electives from the Disciplinary and/or Transdisciplinary units.

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SESSION 1

SOC1703 Social Theory Compulsory Unit
The unit examines social theory and how this can inform research and the critical project of the social sciences. The theoretical content may vary according to staff expertise and student interest. The unit also provides core theoretical training for those completing a PhD in Sociology. The candidate will acquire advanced disciplinary understanding, awareness of how research is carried out in a disciplinary area and will demonstrate competence in the application of research skills to the disciplinary area.
Session 1 – Day
Dr Norbert Ebert, W6A–836, norbert.ebert@mq.edu.au

SOC1702 Social Survey Research: Issues and Practices Additional compulsory unit
(Choose either SOCI702 in Session 1 or SOCI701 in Session 2)
Social surveys are now used widely in policy making, public debate, and social research. This unit explores the potentials and limits of social survey research in the social sciences. As well as exploring the theoretical issues of this approach, students will gain a practical and theoretical guide to the use of surveys in social research. Social surveys are usually designed to enable statistical analysis of survey data, so students will also be introduced to a range of data techniques including multivariate analysis. Students will use SPSS in data analysis.
Session 1 – Evening
Dr Markus Hadler, W6A–823, markus.hadler@mq.edu.au

SOC1706 Gender and Society
This unit provides a survey of the field of gender studies by introducing key debates and theories in feminist thought. The emphasis will be on gender as an object of inquiry, as well as an epistemological and methodological practice. The unit design invites students to consider how the idea of theory as practice is reflected in the ways in which they plan and conduct their own research. This unit welcomes both gender studies majors seeking further theoretical training, as well as those new to the field for whom the content provides intensive introduction.
Session 1 – Day
Dr Kumiko Kawashima, W6A–834, kumiko.kawashima@mq.edu.au

SOC1707 The Sociology of Food and Eating
In this course students will explore cutting edge literature and the latest empirical research on the social, political and cultural dimensions of food and eating from both the production and consumption perspective. The course will be organised around seminars on particular topics that may vary depending on student's research interests and projects but may include the following: understanding the modern food system; food security and food colonisation; food scarcity, inequality and hunger; food in moral economies; ethical eating practices and debates; food and cultural heritage; and food and migration.
Session 1 – Day
Dr Alison Leitch, W6A–832, alison.leitch@mq.edu.au

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SESSION 2

SOC1701 Qualitative Methods: Issues and Practices Additional compulsory unit
(Choose either SOCI701 in Session 2 or SOCI702 in Session 1)
This unit explores the potentials and limits of qualitative methods in the social sciences. As well as exploring the theoretical issues of this approach, students will develop practical skills collecting, analysing and presenting data to address essential research questions. The unit adopts a hands-on approach to provide an opportunity to develop research skills and a critical perspective of the research process itself.
Session 2 – Evening
Dr Tobia Fattore, W6A–837, tobia.fattore@mq.edu.au

SOC1704 Developing Social Policy
This unit focuses on a specific aspect of social policy making and applied social research. This unit will have three parts. The first part engages with key concepts of social policy and the welfare state. The second part outlines three historical welfare models (Australia, Sweden and the United States) and offers tools for classifying political and social dynamics surrounding welfare states. The third part looks at the contemporary political and social dynamics surrounding welfare states. Across the semester, we keep a focus on welfare policy-making in Australia and recent social policy changes.
Session 2 – Evening
Dr Adam Stebbing, W6A–824, adam.stebbing@mq.edu.au