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SCHOOL OF GRADUATE RESEARCH COURSE GUIDE



BE WHAT YOU WANT TO BE

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WELCOME TO CQUNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA

At CQUniversity Australia, we pride ourselves on being one of the nation's most engaged universities.

A WEALTH OF CHOICES

Whether you come from an academic, government or industry/practitioner background, CQUniversity has a research higher degree (RHD) or research preparation option that will provide you with the opportunity to learn and consolidate your research skills, and apply them in practical, real-world settings.

CQUniversity offers a strong sense of research community, as well as generous project funding, training and support, so that you can thrive as a researcher.

Our research study options are available in full-time and part-time mode. An application to a research course at CQUniversity may be submitted at any time throughout the year. Plus, we have a national footprint of locations in regional and metropolitan locations, so you can study wherever you choose, including by online education.

Take yourself to a new world of learning and discovery – enrol now and join more than 600 candidates who are already pursuing their research passion with CQUniversity Australia.

Want to know more? Feel free to contact us by emailing sgr@cqu.edu.au. We're always happy to discuss your research goals with you.

WHAT IS A RESEARCH HIGHER DEGREE?

CQUniversity Australia offers a range of RHD courses to meet your needs.

Unlike coursework study, a RHD typically does not follow a structure of lectures, tutorials, assessment items and examinations. Rather, a RHD is a program of supervised research and study leading to the preparation and submission of a thesis. Some coursework units or support and training programs may be prescribed to assist you in preparing for your research project and honing your research skills.

We're proud to be delivering research with real world outcomes and are rated at, above and well above world standards across various research categories¹.

For more information visit www.cqu.edu.au/reputation.

SOCIALLY INNOVATIVE

CQUniversity's commitment to engagement and social outreach has led to CQUniversity being recognised as Australia's first Changemaker Campus by Ashoka U, an exclusive global social innovation group, made up of only 30 other high profile education institutions across the world.

Engagement and social innovation are at the core of our strategic vision and for many years have been entrenched in our core values. CQUniversity strives to empower its staff and students to make a difference, create an impact and influence the world in which we live, for the betterment of society.

For more information visit www.cqu.edu.au/changemaker.



¹ State of Australian University Research 2018-19: ERA National Report.



OUR LOCATIONS

CQUniversity has one of the largest footprints of any university in Australia, with a presence in every mainland state. This means whether you want to stay close to home or move somewhere new, whether you prefer the bustling city life or the relaxed pace of a regional location, we've got the perfect location for you.

Adelaide

CQUniversity Adelaide is situated to the south-west of the city. The campus is home to The Appleton Institute, a multidisciplinary research hub and offers a state-of-the-art sleep laboratory as well as modern learning spaces, a library and student recreational spaces.

Brisbane

CQUniversity Brisbane is located in the heart of the CBD. The campus is also home to the Centre for Intelligent Systems which conducts outcome-driven and theoretical research in the areas of complex intelligent systems.

Bundaberg

CQUniversity Bundaberg is located in the heart of one of Australia's richest agricultural regions, and is home to the Institute for Future Farming Systems.

Cairns

Located in the middle of the vibrant Cairns CBD, CQUniversity Cairns boasts state-of-the-art resources and modern study and recreational spaces. The campus also houses researchers in the Centre for Regional Economies and Supply Chains and the Jawun Centre (for First Nations research).

Gladstone

With its scenic location and strong ties with industry, CQUniversity Gladstone Marina is both an attractive place to study and a powerhouse of innovative research. The campus hosts the Coastal Marine Ecosystems Research Centre, which works with coastal industries and communities to develop a sustainable future.

Mackay

With a vibrant campus in the heart of the Mackay CBD complemented by the spacious Mackay Ooralea campus, our Mackay campuses are home to the Central Queensland Conservatorium of Music and the Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research.

Melbourne

CQUniversity Melbourne is adjacent to Southern Cross Station in the CBD, and boasts high-tech equipment and laboratories alongside student recreational areas and a library, making it the perfect place to study.

Rockhampton

The spacious Rockhampton North campus boasts state-of-the-art facilities including the Central Queensland Innovation Research Precinct (CQIRP) with its cattle research facilities, and the Centre for Railway Engineering (with its purpose built laboratories offering full scale testing of bogies, wagons, locomotives and civil infrastructure components) and CREATE, the Centre for Research in Equity and Advancement of Teaching and Education.

Sydney

CQUniversity Sydney is located on Kent Street in the heart of the city, close to Town Hall Station. You can enjoy the diverse and vibrant campus life or take a short stroll to downtown amenities and attractions.

Townsville

Located in the thriving CBD, CQUniversity Townsville is situated close to cafés, accommodation and a cinema, providing great entertainment and recreation options alongside our contemporary study spaces.



Wherever you are

CQUniversity is a leader in supporting students to study from their local communities. For domestic students, a research degree can be studied from any location in Australia, as long as appropriate supervision can be made available through CQUniversity staff and you have the right resources to support your project. Research projects that have specific requirements, such as access to equipment and laboratories, may need to be undertaken at particular CQUniversity locations.

Regional University Centre Partners

At CQUniversity, we know you want to be able to study where and when it suits you. We are committed to providing opportunities to regional students and empower local communities through education. This is why, in partnership with regional university centres around Australia, we provide a wide range of online courses with local support available at our partner centres.

Regional University Centres support the delivery of university courses in regional areas by providing study support and access to facilities to students. The level and type of support offered will vary depending on the partner institution.

Find out more about our Regional University Centre partners at www.cqu.edu.au/locations.

WHY STUDY A RESEARCH HIGHER DEGREE?

All of CQUniversity's masters by research and doctoral courses are based on a research project carried out by the candidate, under supervision of well-qualified, active researchers from amongst the University's academic staff.

The program of study will lead you to the preparation and submission of a thesis, which is then examined by assessors external to CQUniversity. Unlike undergraduate programs, you will generally not be required to attend lectures in a RHD. However, coursework units and/or training and development programs are available to assist you to equip yourself with skills in research design or other research-related areas.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN RESEARCH

The Graduate Certificate in Research (GradCertRes) is a preparatory course designed to provide students with foundation research skills, in a supportive atmosphere. The course provides a pathway for entry into a RHD, and/or enables graduates to more confidently engage with research relevant to their professional settings.

MASTER OF RESEARCH

A Master of Research (MRes) qualification is usually required for an academic career or a professional career in research, either at a university or elsewhere in the research and development sector. In addition, many discipline-specific employers recognise that the skills developed through a research degree can be valuable within a range of workplaces.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) qualification is very well regarded in research roles or in jobs where highly specialised knowledge is required. It is normally a prerequisite for a permanent academic position in many universities and for working in the private research sector. A PhD is the highest academic degree that can be undertaken at an Australian institution.

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

The Doctor of Education (EdD) is a professionally-based RHD available through the University as an alternative to traditional research programs. It offers a program structure combining research tasks and a thesis component. It is particularly well-suited to those people who are already

working in the education and training sector, but desire new skills and the opportunity to create new knowledge in their field.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY BY PORTFOLIO

The Doctor of Philosophy by Portfolio will enable you to complete a PhD thesis that incorporates your pre-existing peer-reviewed research outputs as a substantial component of the thesis; allowing you to gain recognition for your significant contribution to research in your discipline. The PhD by Portfolio degree has specialised entry criteria, based on research already conducted prior to enrolment. You will compile these outputs into a single body of work that is unified through the development of a literature review, discussion and future directions chapters.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (INDUSTRY)

The PhD Industry qualification is uniquely designed for people who aspire to a doctoral degree and who have significant professional experience, but who may lack formal qualifications in research. The course combines preparatory studies and a research project component (thesis dissertation). Candidates will also choose between two study pathways, one offering advanced coursework and the other being a period of industry placement where research skills can be applied in a real-world setting. This course enables graduates to bring high-level research analysis and critical thinking skills to bear on their existing leadership and/or management roles in either industry or academic settings.

RESEARCH HIGHER DEGREES (OFFSHORE)

The Master by Research (Offshore) and Doctor of Philosophy (Offshore) provide you with the opportunity to study a qualification recognised within the Australian Qualification Framework, whilst residing in another country for all, or a substantive part of, your degree. These courses are comprised of an independent research study and thesis preparation, overseen by academic supervisors. These degrees are limited to high-quality applicants wishing to pursue research in discipline areas of mutual interest to CQUniversity and to the research student. For fully offshore candidates, periods of short-term visitation in Australia will be required during these degrees, and travel support is available to facilitate such visits. For candidates undertaking these courses under a co-tutelle model, an extended period of study within Australia will be required, typically lasting at least 12 months or more.



COURSE DETAILS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	DURATION	STRUCTURE
GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN RESEARCH CRICOS 097842M <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » a completed bachelor degree in any discipline from an Australian university or college, or equivalent; or » a recognised diploma (or equivalent vocational training qualifications) together with a minimum three years relevant professional experience; or » a minimum of five years relevant professional experience AND formal skills or training that demonstrates your capacity to undertake the qualification successfully. 	Full-time: 0.5 years Part-time: 1 year	Single unit of study with a range of mandatory and elective modules to suit your individual situation
MASTER OF RESEARCH CRICOS 0100975 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Honours degree from the University or any other approved institution in a relevant discipline, or » three year undergraduate degree and a graduate diploma at a high level of academic performance in a relevant discipline, or » three year undergraduate degree at a high level of academic performance in a relevant discipline, plus a minimum of one year's relevant work experience, or » three year undergraduate degree with a Credit level Grade Point Average (GPA) in a relevant discipline, or » four year undergraduate degree at a high level of academic performance in a relevant discipline, or » such other qualifications and experience as are deemed by the University to be of equivalent scope and standard. 	Full-time: 2 years Part-time: 4 years	Supervised research project
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD) CRICOS 0100976 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Masters degree either by research or with a substantial element of research work within it (typically at least one-third the total volume of the qualification), from a university or any other approved higher education institution, or » bachelors degree in an appropriate discipline with first class or second class honours conferred by a university or any other approved higher education institution, or » such other qualifications and experience as are deemed by the University to be of equivalent scope and standard. 	Full-time: 3 – 4 years Part-time: 6 – 8 years	Supervised research project
DOCTOR OF EDUCATION (EdD) CRICOS 075084D <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Not less than five years of professional experience in the education and training sector, and » Master of Education (Research), or equivalent, or » a coursework masters degree, or » a Bachelor of Education with a minimum of Second Class Division A Honours, or » a Bachelor degree in an education field, in addition to completion of the CQUniversity Graduate Certificate in Research with an average of distinction level of achievement, or » such other qualifications and experience as are deemed by the University to be of equivalent scope and standard. 	Full-time: 3 – 4 years Part-time: 6 – 8 years	Structured research tasks followed by supervised research project
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (INDUSTRY) (PhDIndustry) CRICOS 105148G <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » a coursework masters degree combined with a bachelor-level qualification or equivalent, plus a minimum of three years experience in a relevant professional setting. 	Full time: 3.5-4 years Part time: 7-8 years	Preparatory studies, supervised research project and advanced coursework electives

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	DURATION	STRUCTURE
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY BY PORTFOLIO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Entry into this course is by special application to the School of Graduate Research. The University will consider applications for admission to candidature for the Doctor of Philosophy by Portfolio from individuals who can clearly demonstrate existing peer-reviewed research output(s) to be considered for an award of a doctoral degree. In particular, such output must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) work for which the applicant is largely responsible (for example, as demonstrated by authorship sequence) b) cogent; occurring within a unified area of study, and c) of a volume and quality that aligns with the expectations of an Australian doctoral degree. Applicants intending to apply for this course should make contact with the School of Graduate Research (sgr@cqu.edu.au) prior to lodging their documentation. 	Full-time: 1 year Part-time: 2 years	Supervised period of research focused on preparing existing works into thesis format
MASTER OF RESEARCH (OFFSHORE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Honours degree from any approved institution, in a relevant discipline, or » three or four year undergraduate degree with a credit level GPA preferably in a relevant discipline, or » such other qualifications and experience as are deemed by the University to be of equivalent scope and standard. 	Full-time: 2 years Part-time: 4 years	Supervised research project, undertaken mostly or wholly outside of Australia
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (OFFSHORE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Recognised Masters degree either by research or with a substantial element (typically one-third) of research work, or » bachelors degree in an appropriate discipline with first class or second class honours, or » bachelor degree in an appropriate discipline, plus completion of the CQUniversity Graduate Certificate in Research at an average of Distinction level of achievement, or » such other qualifications and experience deemed by the University to be of equivalent scope and standard. 	Full-time: 3 – 4 years Part-time: 8 years	Supervised research project, undertaken mostly or wholly outside of Australia



SUPPORT FOR YOUR DEVELOPMENT

CQUniversity provides excellent skills training and development opportunities to all research candidates. Sessions are scheduled year-round and many are offered flexibly or out-of-hours, so you can balance your research, employment and family commitments.

RESEARCH PATHWAY

If you want to study a masters or doctorate by research but do not meet the admissions requirements, the Graduate Certificate in Research provides an entry pathway to our research higher degrees.

FEES AND CHARGES

Pursuing your RHD or preparatory course at CQUniversity is more affordable than you think.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND CQUNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

The Australian Government, through the Research Training Program (RTP), provides block grants to the University to support students undertaking RHDs at CQUniversity. Specifically, the RTP provides for:

- » RTP Fees Offset Scholarships – to cover tuition fees for eligible domestic students;
- » RTP Stipend Scholarships – to assist students with living costs; and
- » RTP Allowances – to assist students with the ancillary costs of a RHD.

CQUniversity, our industry partners and the Australian Government may also offer a range of scholarships that you may be eligible for, to assist with living expenses. Find out more about current scholarships here: www.cqu.edu.au/rhdscholarships.

Students who are not eligible for allocation of an RTP or CQUniversity Fees Offset Scholarship, or who have exceeded their standard duration of enrolment, will be liable for tuition fees.

OTHER FEES AND COSTS

CQUniversity domestic candidates will be charged a Student Services and Amenities Fee levy, which is currently around \$160 per half year term. The Student Services and Amenities Fee is a compulsory fee charged by universities and other higher education providers to fund and improve services and amenities of a non-academic nature.

Note: Please note that all fees and charges are correct at time of printing, but are subject to change.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN RESEARCH

The Graduate Certificate in Research is a full-fee paying course, however domestic applicants are able to access a Commonwealth Supported Place and FEE-HELP to assist with meeting tuition costs. Visit www.cqu.edu.au/rhdfees for more information on course costs.

PHD BY PORTFOLIO

The Doctor of Philosophy by Portfolio is a full fee-paying course which will enable candidates to complete a PhD thesis incorporating pre-existing peer-reviewed research outputs. Candidates will enrol for a minimum of one year to complete this course. Students enrolled in a PhD by Portfolio are not eligible for the award of an RTP or CQUniversity Fees Offset Scholarship, and separate course fees apply.

For more information visit www.cqu.edu.au/rhdfees.



HOW WE SUPPORT YOU

CQUniversity's focus on student experience ensures that you will be well supported on your journey. An impressive range of training and other support is available to RHD candidates.

Participation in many of our support programs is also offered to Graduate Certificate in Research students, creating a rich and inclusive research community.

RESEARCH TRAINING

A RHD is an opportunity to undertake a project that is meaningful and will create positive impacts in your community and/or industry. It is also your chance to develop skills in high-quality, rigorous research.

As a RHD candidate, you are eligible to attend a comprehensive calendar of training events staged throughout the year, at either our research-active campuses or by online, video-conferenced sessions. These events provide rich opportunities to hone your skills in statistics, research ethics, oral presentations, thesis writing and many more areas. Attendance at these events is free and travel support may be available for those wishing to attend in-person at a CQUniversity location.

GENEROUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT

All RHD and Graduate Certificate in Research candidates will be eligible to access CQUniversity systems and software in order to conduct their research.

Full-time, on-campus candidates will be provided with access to a dedicated study space. Part-time or distance candidates are encouraged to make use of research hot desk areas. Students in the Graduate Certificate in Research may have access to research study spaces or other student spaces by negotiation.

Funding is also provided by CQUniversity to support RHD student project costs, and to support national and international conference presentations and potentially other research dissemination activities. This includes:

For masters by research onshore candidates:

- » up to A\$4000 in Project Support Funds
- » up to A\$3000 for Conference Travel Support.

For doctoral onshore candidates:

- » up to A\$6000 in Project Support Funds
- » up to A\$4500 for Conference Travel Support.

For masters by research offshore candidates:

- » up to A\$4000 in Visitation Funds*
- » up to A\$1500 in Project Support funds
- » up to A\$1500 in Conference Travel Support.

For doctoral offshore candidates:

- » up to A\$6000 in Visitation Funds*
- » up to A\$2500 in Project Support funds
- » up to A\$2000 in Conference Travel Support.

Project support funds and conference travel support are not available to Graduate Certificate in Research students. Separate funding support may be negotiated for candidates in the Doctor of Philosophy by Portfolio degree.

SCHOLARSHIPS

CQUniversity, our industry partners and the Australian Government may offer a range of scholarships that you may be eligible for, to assist with living expenses. For more information visit www.cqu.edu.au/scholarships.

The RHD Elevate Program is a co-funded industry scholarship scheme that offers the chance to work on real-world problems, with support from both the University and an industry partner.

RHD ACADEMIES

Our RHD academies are purpose-built to support groups of candidates who share a common interest or discipline area. The Academies deliver extra support and opportunities to RHD candidates to maximise their research potential, including access to high-level expertise, mentoring and industry networking.

Find out more www.cqu.edu.au/research/research-higher-degrees/research-higher-degrees-academies.

INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT

CQUniversity's Office of Indigenous Engagement provides teaching, research and support activities to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities. For more information visit www.cqu.edu.au/indigenous.

INCLUSION AND ACCESSIBILITY

CQUniversity's Inclusion and Accessibility Service aims to minimise barriers and encourage participation by all students. In order to achieve this, reasonable adjustments can be made to assist students with disability, illness, injury, medical or mental health conditions which are permanent or temporary. For more information visit www.cqu.edu.au/support.

* Visitation Funds are for the purposes of supporting candidate travel to a CQUniversity campus or another agreed location, 1 – 2 times during the degree, in order to satisfy academic requirements.

HOW TO APPLY

CQUniversity has a two-step application process for RHDs.

Apply online at www.cqu.edu.au/research/apply.

You are required to submit a preliminary proposal to assist the University to organise a potential research supervisor and suitable research topic before being invited to submit a full application.

PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL

At the preliminary proposal stage, you will be required to enter your personal details, provide information about your preferred research topic and field of research, and upload your current CV (curriculum vitae).

Your preliminary proposal will be received by the School of Graduate Research team at CQUniversity, and directed on to the relevant Academic School for review and identification of available supervisors. You may be contacted directly by a potential supervisor to discuss your proposed topic. If your preliminary proposal is accepted, you will be invited by the University to prepare a full research proposal in collaboration with your nominated supervisory team.

DEVELOP A RESEARCH PROPOSAL

The full research proposal will clarify your chosen area of study, identify a research area and/or research question, describe its importance and provide an outline of your research approach. Your research question will form the basis of your activities for the full duration of your degree so it is important that you consult a wide variety of resources before selecting a topic that fits with your research interests and passion.

A research proposal template will be provided to you during the admissions process, and this will include the following:

- » project title (maximum 30 words)
- » research background (max 500 words)
- » significance and/or impact (max 200 words)
- » research methods (max 300 words)
- » research timeline (max 100 words)
- » resources, facilities, equipment and/or fieldwork requirements (max 200 words)
- » alignment with CQUniversity research focus areas (see page opposite)
- » research outputs and contribution to research culture (max 300 words).

SUBMIT YOUR FULL APPLICATION ONLINE

CQUniversity's online admission website is a safe and secure way to apply online for any RHD and you are able to save and change your application details as often as you like before submission.

Information about how to complete the full application will be provided to you by the School of Graduate Research team. If you need help with the online admissions process, please contact sgr@cqu.edu.au and one of our team will be glad to assist.

TIMELINE FOR APPROVALS

You should receive advice within 14 days of submitting your full application.

Your advice will be sent to you via email to your nominated email address.

ACCEPT YOUR OFFER OF CANDIDATURE

Your outcome will contain an offer of admission to candidature. Please ensure that you follow the instructions to accept your offer, as this is the final step of your application and enrolment.

IDENTIFYING YOUR RHD PROJECT

Not sure where to start? Browse our online list of projects that are available for study. You can select a project from this list, or gain inspiration for your own project by perusing the topics at www.cqu.edu.au/rhdprojects.

CONNECTING WITH A SUPERVISION TEAM

All research candidates are required to have at least two academic Supervisors supporting their research endeavour. Graduate Certificate in Research students are required to work with at least one Supervisor. Your relationship with your Supervisor will be a key ingredient for success in your research.

You can explore potential supervisors by checking out the staff in our research organisations (www.cqu.edu.au/research/organisations). Need help finding someone to match your interest areas? Contact sgr@cqu.edu.au for advice. Or, submit your application online and we'll be in contact with some suggestions for you.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN RESEARCH

The application process for the Graduate Certificate in Research is a streamlined version of that required for a RHD. For more information and to apply visit cqu.edu.au/rhd.

RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS



CQUNIVERSITY RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS

CQUniversity provides supervision to RHD candidates across a range of research areas, with an emphasis on the University's areas of research strength.

Please review the following list of CQUniversity research focus areas to determine if your proposed research topic aligns with one of these areas. If your topic can be positioned under a CQUniversity research focus area, this will increase your chances to choose from high-quality supervisors and to join a vibrant community of like-minded researchers, with the right resources to support your project.

CQUniversity is proud to have research focus areas in the below categories.

- » Health Behaviours at Work, Rest and Play
- » Psychology and Wellbeing
- » Public Health and Health Promotion
- » Creative Arts
- » Learning Equity, Access and Participation
- » Economics
- » Management
- » Nursing Workforce, Education and Health Service Delivery
- » Mental Health
- » Domestic Violence
- » Railway Engineering
- » Smart Systems
- » Clean Energy

- » Automation
- » Agricultural Systems
- » Environmental Systems
- » Exercise and Sports Science
- » Applied Medical Health

Find out more about CQU research focus areas by visiting cqu.edu.au/researchexcellence and scrolling to 'Research Focus Areas'. If your research interest falls outside of these areas, it may still be possible for CQUniversity to support your project. Please lodge your application so that we can consider whether we have the right resources and expertise to assist you.

CQUNIVERSITY'S WELCOMING AND UNIQUE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

At CQUniversity, we regard research candidates as an essential part of our research community. The School of Graduate Research strives to support every candidate to succeed. We regularly share relevant information and opportunities, host training sessions and events, provide mentoring and support. We see our research trainees as individuals who are often balancing a range of study, work, family and community commitments. We'll work with you on flexible study structure and the right resources to ensure your research stays on track, and that your research journey is enjoyable and rewarding.



CONTACT US

www.cqu.edu.au/rhd

Domestic Students

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The information contained within this guide is for domestic students. Information specifically for international students is available by contacting the University's International Office.

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