Master of Research in Sociology – 2018

BACHELOR OF PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM STRUCTURE

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.

### 2018 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Session 1</th>
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<td><strong>Compulsory University Unit:</strong></td>
<td>MRES700 Research Communications</td>
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<td><strong>Compulsory Faculty Unit:</strong></td>
<td>FOAR701 Research Paradigms</td>
<td>FOAR700 Research Frontiers 1</td>
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<td><strong>Compulsory Disciplinary Unit:</strong></td>
<td>SOCI703 Social Theory</td>
<td>SOCI702 Social Survey Research: Issues and Practices</td>
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#### FOAR701 – RESEARCH PARADIGMS

**Compulsory – Session 1, Day & External**

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.

#### SOCI703 – SOCIAL THEORY

**Compulsory – Session 1, Evening – Dr Norbert Ebert**

The unit introduces social theory and how it informs research and the critical project of the social sciences. The unit provides core theoretical training for postgraduate students across the Faculty of Arts. Students acquire an advanced understanding of social theories and how they can be used to identify and analyse contemporary social issues..

#### SOCI701 – QUALITATIVE METHODS: ISSUES AND PRACTICES

**Additional Compulsory – Session 1, Evening Dr Tobia Fattore**

*(Choose either SOCI701 in Session 1 or SOCI702 in Session 2)*

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.
SOCI706 – RESEARCHING GENDER: THEORIES, METHODOLOGIES AND PRACTICES
Session 1, Day – Dr Kumiko Kawashima
This unit provides a survey of the field of gender studies and familiarises students with key feminist debates and theories, past and present. This unit welcomes both gender studies majors seeking further theoretical training, as well as those new to it for whom the content provides an intensive introduction. The unit is designed to support students with various interests (not limited to gender) in their journey to becoming researchers, and to help them find a lens through which to explore a research topic of their own. Academic skill training is incorporated throughout to assist students in their transition to a more advanced level of learning.

MRES700 – RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS
Compulsory – Session 2, Day – Faculty Staff
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.

FOAR700 – RESEARCH FRONTIERS 1
Compulsory – Session 2, Day – Sociology Staff
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.

SOCI702 – SOCIAL SURVEY RESEARCH: ISSUES AND PRACTICES
Additional Compulsory – Session 2, Evening
Dr Hang Young Lee
(Choose either SOCI701 in Session 1 or SOCI702 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 R in data analysis.

SOCI704 – DEVELOPING SOCIAL POLICY
Session 2, Evening – Dr Adam Stebbing
This unit focuses on a specific aspect of social policy making and applied social research. This unit has three parts. The first part sets the scene by examining welfare state developments in Australia and engaging with key social policy concepts. The second part applies social theories to explore the economic, political and social dynamics of contemporary welfare states. The third part turns to examine recent social policy developments and debates. Across the semester, we keep a focus on welfare policy-making in Australia and recent social policy changes.

SOCI705 – SOCIOLOGY OF WORK AND EMPLOYMENT
Session 2, Evening – Dr Norbert Ebert
This unit focuses on a specific aspect of social policy making and applied social research. This unit invites you to explore the relevance of work for individuals at the workplace and contemplates the future role of work. The unit develops a maps of how work fits into the structure of broader societies by making sense of your own work experiences, facts about work and contemporary policies.

CONTACTS
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