YOU TO THE POWER OF US
CAN HELP PEOPLE GET BACK INTO ALIGNMENT

Department of Chiropractic
The Department of Chiropractic aims to advance knowledge in musculoskeletal health by undertaking high-quality, impactful research and research training to improve clinical practice, inform healthcare policy and improve community health outcomes.

ABOUT US
The Department of Chiropractic has a long history at Macquarie University. The current chiropractic degree offered by the University is an evolution of a course that was established in 1959 at the former Sydney College of Chiropractic. In 1990, the Sydney College course and its staff and other resources became part of Macquarie.

Macquarie’s Department of Chiropractic offers students a rigorous, fully accredited program, featuring a three-year undergraduate degree and a two-year masters degree. The curriculum delivers learning experiences across clinical, diagnostic and therapeutic fields essential for registration as a healthcare practitioner. The internationally recognised degree supports work-ready graduates in practicing person-centred, ethical healthcare.

Additionally, the department offers a one- to two-year Master of Research, and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

The chiropractic program is taught by academics who have extensive experience in clinical practice and excellent track records in musculoskeletal research. Our teaching facilities include basic science and wet laboratories, purpose-built chiropractic facilities, digital radiology and simulation mannequins.

PURPOSE
The department plays a significant role in the growth and development of the chiropractic profession through the delivery of excellence in learning and teaching, research and service.

Chiropractic education at Macquarie is founded on the principles of evidenced-based care acknowledging the biopsychosocial model of health care and underpinned by biologically plausible theories and peer-reviewed research.

Our research vision is to improve the musculoskeletal health of the community.

RESEARCH STRENGTHS
Macquarie has distinguished itself as one of Australia’s leading research-intensive universities. We have outstanding achievements in attracting research income, improving citations ranking, supporting Centres of Research Excellence and supervising higher degree research students.

The department’s research vision is to improve the health of the community, especially in the area of musculoskeletal conditions. The department aims to actively foster academic staff and postgraduate research in areas of population health, evidence-based chiropractic practice and innovative teaching approaches. Our staff maintain a diverse range of research interests in areas such as clinical research, basic and applied chiropractic sciences, and population health.

Research is supported by collaborations with outstanding internal and external musculoskeletal research groups, including the chiropractic industry, professional associations and other research funding bodies.

Our research strengths and priorities include:

- Musculoskeletal conditions across the life span, including adolescence, adulthood and older age
- Spinal biomechanics, including mechanical properties of spinal tissues and instrumentation and quantification of forces used in manual therapies
- Implementation research, particularly the use of imaging for low back pain
- Intervention research for chronic musculoskeletal-related conditions such as chronic respiratory disease and osteoarthritis
- Promoting ways to incorporate physical activity and structured exercise into the chiropractic consultation
- Safety of chiropractic treatment
- Educational research, with a focus on innovative ways to teach anatomy
RESEARCH ACTIVE STAFF

SIMON FRENCH
PROFESSOR
- Management of low back pain and osteoarthritis
- Improving the quality of healthcare
- Trials and systematic reviews of interventions relevant to primary care settings

ROSEMARY GIURIATO
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
DIRECTOR OF CLINICS
SENIOR LECTURER
- Anatomy in chiropractic education programs in Australia

ROGER ENGEL
SENIOR LECTURER
- Chronic respiratory disease
- Aged care
- Clinical trials
- Adverse events
- Multidisciplinary care

ARON DOWNE
LECTURER
- Recovery from spinal pain
- Accuracy of screening tools for detection of pathology for people with back pain

CURTIS RIGNERY
LECTURER
- Education
- Diagnostic accuracy
- Mixed method design

MICHAEL SWAIN
SENIOR LECTURER
- Sports injury epidemiology
- Adolescent musculoskeletal disorders
- Health behaviour in school-age children

STEPHNEY WHILLIER
SENIOR LECTURER
- Biopsychosocial aspects of chronic pain
- Curriculum program design and development

HAZEL JENKINS
LECTURER
- Appropriate use of imaging for low back pain in clinical practice
- Correlation of radiographic findings with symptomatology
- Chiropractic clinical management

STEPHANIE MARHOFF-BEARD
ASSOCIATE LECTURER
- Improving methods for time since death determinations of human remains in an Australian context

MATTHEW FERNANDEZ
LECTURER
- Physical activity and exercise promotion within chiropractic practice

KATIE de LUCA
POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW
- Epidemiology and management of musculoskeletal conditions in older people
SCHOLARLY TEACHING FELLOWS

CHRISTOPHER BURRELL
SCHOLARLY TEACHING FELLOW
• Adverse event reporting in chiropractic and regulatory issues in healthcare

ANNELIESE HULME
SCHOLARLY TEACHING FELLOW
• Assessment of anatomy knowledge retention rates in clinical programs aligned with current evidence-based pedagogy and curricula designs
At Macquarie, we know that research is the key to unlocking a secure future. It’s central to everything we do. And everything we do is for the benefit of humanity and life. Our research is influenced by the big picture: finding solutions to critical global challenges – such as health, safety, climate crisis, and food and water security.

 Ranked in the top one per cent of universities around the world*, we are home to leading researchers – a community of accomplished academics that unites collective thinking and expertise across all disciplines and areas of study.

 As a researcher, research student or collaborator, you’ll work alongside world-leading experts, and have access to world-class facilities and partnerships. We encourage you to find out more about our research priorities and projects.

*QS World University Rankings. 2019