



Fact sheet

MASTER OF RESEARCH – PSYCHOLOGY

The Bachelor of Philosophy/Master of Research (BPhil/MRes) equips students with intensive research preparation before beginning doctoral study.

YEAR 1

The first year of BPhil/MRes allows you the flexibility to undertake advanced topics from the list of units offered by your department as well as those offered by other disciplines at Macquarie University (with academic approval).

ADVANCED DISCIPLINARY TOPICS

You may select units from Psychology and from other discipline areas to supplement your studies.

Begin by discussing your plans with your MRes Advisor first. If you select a unit or units from a different department or faculty, provided the topic is relevant for your research and you have sufficient background to undertake studies at the advanced undergraduate level, this may be possible. Your MRes Advisor will liaise with counterparts in other departments or faculties to facilitate your unit selections.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

If you think you might be eligible, ask your MRes Advisor. You may request recognition of relevant prior learning especially if you have completed:

- Master by coursework
- Honours degree

YEAR 2

Year 2 follows a planned program of goals leading to the completion of an individual research project. These goals align with required tasks and are assessable. You will also meet regularly with your supervisory team and will attend presentations, colloquia or workshops (either on campus or online).

GOALS 1-5

Goal 1: Research Frontiers 2 Essay – the goal of RF2 is to extend candidates' knowledge of research innovations in their discipline, and be able to develop their individual research projects in the context of the latest research developments in their field.

Goal 2: Literature Review – candidates will survey the current literature relating to their individual research project and be able to situate their project within a broad field or paradigm, producing a literature review.

Goal 3: Research Methods – training at the postgraduate level is self-directed. Any training needs will be tailored in consultation with the supervisor to equip the candidate to attain the required skills to conduct their research.

Goal 4: Research Planning – candidates will receive training and project management, producing a detailed plan for a major (3 year) project and their MRes Project.

Goal 5: Thesis – Candidates are expected to complete a significant individual research project of their own design in order to demonstrate individual research capability to conduct a major (PhD) research project.

Year 1 Example Pattern

Psychology

Core Unit	Research Communication	MRES700
Core Unit	Research Frontiers in Human Sciences: Psychology	FOHS700
Compulsory Disciplinary Unit	Advanced Research Design and Statistics	PSYC718
Elective Units	Advanced Issues in Developmental Psychology: Child Abuse & Neglect	PSYC732
	Advanced Issues in Thinking and Reasoning	PSYC737
	Advanced Psychology of Driving	PSYC740
	Advanced Issues in Physiological Psychology	PSYC761
	PACE for Research	MRES701
	Choose 5 units from the range of Psychology units, see also 700-level MRes Units of Study in the MQ Handbook for all units/descriptions	



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