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 1</th>
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<td>Compulsory University Unit:</td>
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<td>MRES700 Research Communications</td>
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<td>Compulsory Faculty Unit:</td>
<td>FOAR701 Research Paradigms</td>
<td>FOAR700 Research Frontiers 1</td>
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<td>Compulsory Disciplinary Unit:</td>
<td>AHIS709 Advanced Study in Archaeology</td>
<td>AHIS710 Principles of Archaeological Theory</td>
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<td>Compulsory Trans-disciplinary Unit:</td>
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<td>FOAR705 Digital Research Methods for Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences</td>
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<td>Plus:</td>
<td>Two Disciplinary and/or Transdisciplinary units with Department MRes Director approval</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.

**AHIS709 – ADVANCED STUDY IN ARCHAEOLOGY**

*Compulsory – Session 1, Day – Dr Yann Tristant*

Students undertake advanced study to provide a disciplinary basis for future research activity in Archaeology, examining methodology and interpretative issues related to the discipline. This unit exposes students to significant issues relating to Archaeology in one of six identified areas. These six areas –field archaeology, archaeological sciences, cultural heritage, indigenous archaeology and bioarchaeology - are central to an understanding of Archaeology within a rapidly changing Australian and international context. The unit challenges students to test the limits of research in a selected area of study and identify effective research methodologies relevant to this area.
**ELECTIVE UNITS – SESSION 1**

Students may choose their electives from the following units (check 2018 MQ Handbook and Timetable for offerings):

- AHIS700 Historiography and Ancient History
- AHIS701 Advanced Study in Ancient History 1
- AHIS703 Advanced Study in Graeco-Roman History 1
- AHIS705 Advanced Study in Egyptian History 1
- ANTH701 Core Issues in Anthropological Theory I
- BIOL701–2 Research Topic in Biology 1–2
- BIOL 711 Topics in Evolution
- BIOL 761 Conservation of Australasian Wildlife
- BIOL 766 Advanced Studies in Palaeobiology
- CBMS780 The Research Experience
- CBMS785 Laboratory Skills for Molecular Science Research
- CBMS791 Research Topic: Advanced Organic Chemistry
- ENVS708 Geographic Information Science
- ENVS791 Research Topic in Environmental Sciences 1
- FOAR703 Living in the Anthropocene (S1)
- FOAR706 Feminism, Queer Theory and the Problem of Identity (S1)
- GEOS701 Geophysics: Special Topics 1
- GEOS704 Readings in Geoscience
- GEOS705-6 Advanced Field Techniques 1-2
- PHYS703 Computational Science
- STAT704 Statistical Methods for Research (TBD)
- STAT710 Statistical Theory

**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 – Ancient History 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 how research is carried out in a disciplinary area and will demonstrate competence in the application of research skills to the disciplinary area.

**AHIS710 – PRINCIPLES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL THEORY**

**Compulsory – Session 2, Day – Dr Ronika Power**

Knowledge of the theoretical context and content of research design, excavation methodology and interpretation of evidence is considered a fundamental basis for practitioners of the modern discipline of archaeology. This unit aims to provide students with a range of analytical, interpretative and professional skills by introducing theoretical approaches to the spectrum of archaeological praxes. Taking as its basis the history of archaeological thought, the unit will expand to address recent discussions and approaches in particular sub-fields, including the theoretical implications of morals, ethics and the exponential growth of scientific technologies. Taking as its mandate inclusivity and diversity, the unit will draw on case studies across cultural and temporal frames. Through independent research, students will be encouraged to explore areas of particular interest to discover the fundamental role that archaeological theory has played – and continues to play – in shaping the interpretations, identities and politics of the past, present and future.

**FOAR705 – DIGITAL RESEARCH METHODS FOR HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**Compulsory – Session 2, Day – A/Prof Shawn Ross**

This unit explores cross-disciplinary approaches to research that fall under the rubric of eResearch, the aim of which is to use technology to solve scholarly problems in humanities, arts and social science disciplines. We will begin by asking what forms eResearch can take, specifically how digital approaches can help answer particular research questions. Students will learn how to frame questions, find appropriate tools and solutions, acquire the knowledge required to deploy those solutions and present results in an accessible way. In short, students will cultivate their ability to 'learn how to learn' digital approaches and software tools. The main output of this class is a proof-of-concept deployment of a digital tool or approach that advances each student’s provisional thesis topic.

This unit includes approaches used by or useful for research in many disciplines. Students are encouraged to bring their own disciplinary perspectives to the course and will explore how their own research can benefit from digital methods.

**CONTACTS**

**DR GUNNER MIKKELSEN & DR PETER EDWELL**

Ancient History MRes Directors

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[pete_edwell@mq.edu.au](mailto:pete_edwell@mq.edu.au)

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Information in this flyer is current as of 12 January 2018