Overview

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree is offered in all faculties of the University of New South Wales and encourages initiative and originality in research. Candidates should make a significant contribution to knowledge in their field.

This program involves a minimum of three years full-time study. Students undertake supervised research leading to the production of the thesis. The length of a doctoral thesis normally should not exceed 100,000 words of text and should be submitted for examination within 4 years of full-time study.

In some faculties advanced coursework is also prescribed.

See UNSW Higher Degree Research Learning Outcomes.
Faculty
Faculty of Science

Campus
Kensington

Study Level
Research

Typical duration
3 Years

Delivery Mode
Research

Academic Calendar
Research Calendar

Minimum Units of Credit
144

Award type
Doctor of Philosophy

Award(s)
Doctor of Philosophy - PhD

CRICOS Code
008976A
Admission Requirements

Entry Requirements

- A candidate for the degree shall have been awarded an appropriate degree of Bachelor with Honours from the University of New South Wales or a qualification considered equivalent from another university or tertiary institution at a level acceptable to the Research Committee of the appropriate Faculty.
- Candidates may be admitted to the PhD program after one year’s full-time enrolment in a Masters by Research program, with the approval of the Faculty Postgraduate Affairs Committee.
- In exceptional cases an applicant who submits evidence of such other academic and professional qualifications as may be approved by the Committee may be permitted to enrol for the degree.

However, as each Faculty manages its own PhD programs, prospective local and international research students should check with the relevant Faculty and/or School for specific entry requirements.

English language requirements also apply please see: English Requirements

For further information, see the Admission to Higher Degree Research Programs Procedure.

For more information about admission requirements for various UNSW programs, visit the following website(s):

Domestic Students
International Student
Additional Information

If you are considering applying for a PhD at UNSW you will need to make contact with the relevant School or Faculty. This is necessary in order to establish that your research interests and those of the School and Faculty are aligned, and that there is a suitable supervisor for your particular area of research. Prospective students are strongly advised to make contact with potential supervisors before applying for research study at the University.

Please refer to the following web-pages for further information on how to apply, scholarships, thesis preparation and other research related matters:

- Progress Review and Confirmation of Research Candidature Procedure
- Thesis Examination Procedures
- Conditions for Award of Doctor of Philosophy Policy

For further information on policies, procedures and forms, see the Graduate Research website.
Program Fees

At UNSW fees are generally charged at course level and therefore dependent upon individual enrolment and other factors such as student's residency status. For generic information on fees and additional expenses of UNSW programs, click on one of the following:

- Domestic Students
- Commonwealth Supported Students
- International Students
Pre-2019 Handbook Editions

Access past handbook editions (2018 and prior)

Pre-2019 Handbook Editions
© UNSW Sydney (CRICOS Provider No.: 00098G), 2019. The information contained in this Handbook is indicative only. While every effort is made to keep this information up-to-date, the University reserves the right to discontinue or vary arrangements, programs and courses at any time without notice and at its discretion. While the University will try to avoid or minimise any inconvenience, changes may also be made to programs, courses and staff after enrolment. The University may also set limits on the number of students in a course.

Authorised by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
CRICOS Provider Code 00098G
ABN: 57 195 873 179