



**Batchelor Institute**  
of Indigenous Tertiary Education



PROGRAM INFORMATION

# Masters by Research



*Strengthening identity, achieving success and transforming lives*

## Award description

The Masters of Indigenous Perspectives by Research provides eligible Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals with the opportunity to undertake an advanced post-graduate research degree in or across the three discipline areas of Education, Language and Creative Arts.

At the centre of this unique Masters by Research award is recognition of the richness and diversity of Indigenous perspectives, ontologies/epistemologies and methodological approaches. Individual Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples' knowledge, experiences and ways of working are valued from the commencement of candidature and acknowledged as the ground for engaging with and building capacity in the Education, Creative Arts and Language fields of research. Candidate's connections and accountabilities to community/ies are recognised as a fundamental component for the production of high quality research.

The program is underpinned by standards of excellence that acknowledge the practical expertise, experience and knowledge of candidates and works from this base to develop fundamental research skills including:

- The identification and exploration of research questions of cultural value
- The development of critical thinking and academic argument
- The ability to articulate complex ideas to those within, across and outside of their professional and research fields.

For individuals with practice-based experience and/or recognition in their field the program offers the opportunity to undertake research that can incorporate to varying degrees, practice within research expression, methodology presentation and dissemination. Batchelor Institute as 'a site of national significance in Indigenous Education' is operating at the forefront of actions to build Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research capacity and leadership and as a small institution can tailor effective support to individual candidates.

- Bachelor Degree with Honours
- A Graduate Diploma which included a research component
- A Bachelor Degree in relevant discipline plus practice based experience and/or recognition in their field that demonstrates a capacity to undertake study at this level.

An identified primary supervisor at the Institute and evidence of the supervisor's support of the application and commitment to the supervision role.

As a full-time candidate the work load equates to 40 hours a week or 20 hours a week for part-time candidates. Compulsory attendance at an orientation workshop is required and participation in 2 to 3 Master Classes per year is highly recommended and encouraged. Engagement with Primary Supervisors and Supervision Panel members on a regular basis is also a requirement of the program.

Panel supervision arrangements will be the preferred structure for all candidates with a primary supervisor being based at the Institute. Two panel members will be from the discipline area(s) of the individual candidate and the inclusion of an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander panel member will be of high priority. Representation from community and/or industry is also recommended.

Candidates have access to the following minimum resources:

- Access to adequate library services and research databases
- Sufficient computer facilities and software programs
- Annual allowance for research expenses
- The Institute makes available a Conference Fund to HDR candidates on an application and case by case basis
- Laptops are available to candidates on a loans basis where a need can be demonstrated
- When on campus a dedicated workspace is provided including necessary office facilities.

## Admission requirements

## Workload and campus attendance requirements

## Supervising and resourcing

## Professional benefits of this award

Individual professional and personal development aspirations are fundamental to the delivery of this award and development through individually tailored research plans which build the following graduate attributes:

### Batchelor Institute Graduate Attributes

- Embrace a both-ways philosophy in lifelong learning and professional practice
- Have self-confidence and a strong sense of identity
- Value learning, critical analysis, creativity and Indigenous scholarship
- Be a strategic thinker who can make and implement decisions
- Appreciate, value and operate in culturally and intellectually diverse environments
- Work professionally and ethically, independently or with others
- Accept individual and community responsibility and obligations.

### MIP Graduate Attributes

- Advanced understanding of key theoretical perspectives and methodologies related to their field of research
- Justify a position by the use of evidence and argument in written and oral or other relevant forms of research presentation to academic audiences
- Communicating complex issues to a variety of audiences inside and outside the field of research and to the wider community
- Developing and participating in research, professional and community networks
- Setting research goals, planning, and ordering activities to complete a complex project within available resources
- Intellectual openness and curiosity, and an appreciation of the interconnectedness, and areas of uncertainty, in current human knowledge

- Capacity to respect interdisciplinary and diverse cultural perspectives and demonstrate social integrity through ethical practice
- Employ sophisticated information technology skills for undertaking research, communication and dissemination
- Capacity to cope with the contingencies and demands of complex lives and exit with enhanced resilience

Candidates undertaking a postgraduate research program, at a Masters by Research level, are covered by the Research Training Scheme (RTS) and are exempt from the payment of tuition (HECS) fees.

Each year a limited number of Australian Post-Graduate Awards (APA) are offered and can be applied for through a competitive process.

**Student fees  
and support  
available**

## 160 Credit Point Award

### Masters of Indigenous Perspectives by Research

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MIP501

#### Masters Qualifying Unit

(full-time)  
40 credit points

This unit is a compulsory unit which candidates will be required to enrol in on commencement of candidature. For a full-time candidate this is a one semester (6 month) unit and for a part-time candidate it is a two semester (year) unit.

Successfully completing the Qualifying unit(s) requires the oral and written presentation of a research proposal to a Qualifying Panel of experts who will determine whether the candidature is confirmed.

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MIP502

#### Masters Qualifying Unit

(part-time)  
20 credit points

If the Qualifying Panel does not initially confirm candidature, candidates will be provided with appropriate feedback and support for a second attempt at presentation to the Qualifying Panel. This second attempt will normally occur within four months of the first attempt. If the Qualifying Panel does not confirm candidature on a second attempt, the candidate will not be able to continue in the program.

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MIP520

#### Masters Thesis Unit

(part-time)  
20 credit points

On successful completion of the Qualifying Unit, candidates will be eligible to enrol in a Thesis Unit (either a part-time or full-time unit) and are expected to progress towards identified milestones.

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MIP540

#### Masters Thesis Unit

(full-time)  
40 credit points

<b>SEMESTER 1</b>		<b>SEMESTER 2</b>	
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>			
MIP501 Masters Qualifying Unit 40cp		MIP540 Masters Thesis Unit 40cp	
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>			
MIP540 Masters Thesis Unit 40cp		MIP540 Masters Thesis Unit 40cp	

<b>SEMESTER 1</b>		<b>SEMESTER 2</b>	
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>			
MIP502 Masters Qualifying Unit 20cp		MIP502 Masters Qualifying Unit 20cp	
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>			
MIP520 Masters Thesis Unit 20cp		MIP520 Masters Thesis Unit 20cp	
<b>THIRD YEAR</b>			
MIP520 Masters Thesis Unit 20cp		MIP520 Masters Thesis Unit 20cp	
<b>FOURTH YEAR</b>			
MIP520 Masters Thesis Unit 20cp		MIP520 Masters Thesis Unit 20cp	

**Standard  
Full-Time  
Study Plan**

**Standard  
Part-Time  
Study Plan**



### Program enquiries

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