



**Batchelor Institute**  
of Indigenous Tertiary Education



PROGRAM INFORMATION

# Doctor of Philosophy Indigenous Perspectives



*Strengthening identity, achieving success and transforming lives*

## Award description

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

At the centre of this unique PhD 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 operating at the frontier of knowledge
- The development of high level critical thinking and academic argument
- The ability to articulate complex ideas to those within, across and outside of their professional and research fields.

Batchelor Institute encourages and facilitates an International research experience for all PhD candidates and supports professional development activities.

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.

- Honours degree with a 2A grade or above
- A Masters by Course work with a substantial research component
- A Masters by Research

If applying for admission on the basis of there being a practice-based or practice-led component within the research, evidence of experience and/or recognition in the relevant field must be provided.

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 3 to 4 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
- Support from the Postgraduate Course Coordinator and other Research Division staff as appropriate
- Annual allowance for research expenses
- The Institute makes available a Conference Fund to 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 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.

### PhD Graduate Attributes

- Ability to make a substantive and independent contribution to knowledge in the discipline or field of study in an original and scholarly way
- An international perspective on knowledge and learning
- 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 Doctor of Philosophy 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**

## 240 Credit Point Award

### Doctor of Philosophy Indigenous Perspectives

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PIP501

**PhD**  
**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.

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PIP502

**PhD**  
**Qualifying**  
**Unit**

(part-time)

20 credit points

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.

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 continue in the program.

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PIP520

**PhD**  
**Thesis Unit**

(part-time)

20 credit points

On successful completion of the Qualifying Unit, candidates will be eligible to enrol in the Thesis Units and expected to progress towards identified milestones.

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PIP540

**PhD**  
**Thesis Unit**

(full-time)

40 credit points

## Standard Full-Time Study Plan

## Standard Part-Time Study Plan

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>	
PIP501 PhD Qualifying Unit 40cp	PIP501 PhD Qualifying Unit 40cp
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>	
PIP540 PhD Thesis Unit 40cp	PIP540 PhD Thesis Unit 40cp
<b>THIRD YEAR</b>	
PIP540 PhD Thesis Unit 40cp	PIP540 PhD Thesis Unit 40cp

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
<b>FIRST YEAR</b>	
PIP502 PhD Qualifying Unit 20cp	PIP502 PhD Qualifying Unit 20cp
<b>SECOND YEAR</b>	
PIP502 PhD Qualifying Unit 20cp	PIP502 PhD Qualifying Unit 20cp
<b>THIRD YEAR</b>	
PIP520 PhD Thesis Unit 20cp	PIP520 PhD Thesis Unit 20cp
<b>FOURTH YEAR</b>	
PIP520 PhD Thesis Unit 20cp	PIP520 PhD Thesis Unit 20cp
<b>FIFTH YEAR</b>	
PIP520 PhD Thesis Unit 20cp	PIP520 PhD Thesis Unit 20cp
<b>SIXTH YEAR</b>	
PIP520 PhD Thesis Unit 20cp	PIP520 PhD Thesis Unit 20cp



### Program enquiries

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