

Doctor of Philosophy (DPHD) - PhD

CRICOS code (International applicants): 088073M

You are currently viewing the 2023 Handbook. For study in 2024, please refer to the [2024 UniSQ Handbook](#).

	On-campus	External
Start:	Research 1 (January) Research 2 (February) Research 3 (April) Research 4 (May) Research 5 (July) Research 6 (August) Research 7 (September) Research 8 (November)	Research 1 (January) Research 2 (February) Research 3 (April) Research 4 (May) Research 5 (July) Research 6 (August) Research 7 (September) Research 8 (November)
Campus:	Ipswich, Springfield, Toowoomba	-
Fees:	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place Research Training Program (RTP) - Fees Offset scheme	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place Research Training Program (RTP) - Fees Offset scheme
Standard duration:	Can be studied full-time or part-time (full-time students normally complete in 3 to 4 years).	

Notes:

International students pay full fees unless allocated an UniSQ fees scholarship.

Contact us

Future Australian and New Zealand students	Future International students	Current students
Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 269 500 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 5315 Email: study@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Phone: +61 7 4631 5543 Email: international@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email usq.support@usq.edu.au

Program aims

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree is awarded for research which demonstrates that the student has the capacity to conduct research and make a significant contribution to new knowledge.

Cotutelle

The University of Southern Queensland offers a Cotutelle PhD program as an alternative pathway to achieving the PhD, which enables the student to conduct research across two universities.

The Cotutelle PhD program is subject to the terms specified in the Cotutelle agreement.

Program objectives

Graduates of this program should be able to:

- (1) Investigate a substantial, complex and relevant area of research with specialised research skills that enable them to advance their discipline.

- (2) Critically evaluate relevant research literature, theoretical propositions, methodologies and findings to design and conduct original research.
- (3) Cogently present, verbally and in writing research findings which include propositions, creative works, insights and conclusions to their peers and professional community.
- (4) Independently and systematically apply specialised technical and research skills to plan and execute a research project, undertake research ethically according to the discipline standards and generate new knowledge and original insights that make a contribution to their discipline.
- (5) Apply principles of integrity, research ethics, judgement, adaptability and responsibility in ways appropriate to an expert in their discipline.

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Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

- a written document; and
- an oral presentation to a review panel leading to a recommendation on Confirmation of Candidature.

The Graduate Research School will notify students by email when the Confirmation of Candidature is due.

Student progress will be monitored by compulsory Progress Reports. Students who are deemed to be making adequate progress will be awarded an ongoing grade. Those students who fail to submit a report, or who have been deemed to be making little or no progress may be awarded a Fail grade. When the progress is not satisfactory, the student would normally be placed on conditional academic standing and performance management processes will be implemented as per the Academic Standing, Progression and Exclusion Procedure. The Graduate Research School will notify students by email when Progress Reports are due.

The final assessment in the PhD program is the submission of PhD thesis that will be examined as per the Higher Degree Research (HDR) examination schedule outlined below.

The Cotutelle agreement will specify the assessment requirements for students who elect to complete their PhD through Cotutelle pathway.

Program completion requirements

All PhD students must successfully complete appropriate courses, and complete the Confirmation of Candidature process. Finally, a PhD thesis must be submitted for examination.

All PhD students are required to submit a thesis for examination which will be examined by suitably qualified examiners as per the Higher Degree Research (HDR) examination schedule. A PhD degree will only be awarded on the basis of the student successfully completing the thesis examination process.

There is no prescribed minimum length for a doctoral thesis as this will vary with the research topic and the form of presentation, however, there is normally a maximum prescribed length of 100 000 words for doctoral theses. A PhD thesis may be presented in the form of a:

- Standard Thesis
- Thesis by Publication, or
- Thesis with Creative Works.

Examination Criteria for the Standard PhD Thesis and PhD Thesis by Publication

The thesis will be examined according to the following criteria:

- (1) The extent to which the student has demonstrated:
 - (a) Originality;
 - (b) Critical insight; and
 - (c) Capacity to carry out independent research; and
- (2) The extent of the contribution to knowledge made by the thesis and, in particular, its contribution to the understanding of the subject with which it deals; and
- (3) The suitability of the thesis for publication.

Examination Criteria for a PhD with Creative Works

The PhD with Creative Work Component examination criteria includes the student's demonstrated capacity to produce original creative work. The student's production of original creative work should be evidenced in the creative work itself together with an exegesis.

Required time limits

Students have a maximum of 4 years (Full-time) or 8 years (Part-time) to complete this program.

The Cotutelle agreement will specify the times limits for students who elect to complete their PhD through Cotutelle pathway.

IT requirements

Students should visit the UniSQ minimum computing standards to check that their computers are capable of running the appropriate software and versions of Internet web browsers and to check the minimum and recommended standards for software.

Credit

Exemptions/credit will be assessed based on the [UniSQ Credit and Exemption Procedure](#).

Recommended enrolment pattern - Full-time students

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study.

Full-time candidates undertaking Low cost research will be enrolled in RES9300 Doctoral Research Project (L) Full-time (1 unit) 8 times per year.

Full-time candidates undertaking High cost research will be enrolled in RES9400 Doctoral Research Project (H) Full-time (1 unit) 8 times per year.

or

The Cotutelle agreement will specify the enrolment pattern for students who elect to complete their PhD through Cotutelle pathway.

Recommended enrolment pattern - Part-time students

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study.

Part-time candidates undertaking Low cost based research will enrolled in RES9100 Doctoral Research Project (L) Part-time (0.5 unit) 8 times per year.

Part-time candidates undertaking High cost research will be enrolled in RES9200 Doctoral Research Project (H)(0.5 units) 8 times per year.

or

The Cotutelle agreement will specify the enrolment pattern for students who elect to complete their PhD through Cotutelle pathway.