Macquarie’s law and legal studies research is of an international calibre. In the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2012 evaluation our law and legal studies research received a rating of ‘performance at world standard’.

We are pioneers of interdisciplinary law study in Australia, and as such provide you with unparalleled opportunities to explore some of the globe’s biggest and most diverse legal issues.

Macquarie’s law researchers are leaders in their fields, actively engaged in publishing their research in books with international publishing houses and leading international journals. They engage in collaborative work that spans the globe, bringing together researchers from other leading academic institutions as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations. Collaborations have focused on a range of cutting-edge legal issues, including trade and the environment, the particular concerns of developing countries, comparative constitutionalism, and maritime security.

They are recipients of highly competitive research grants and collaborate with, and consult for, a range of government, community and industry bodies such as AusAid, the United Nations Development Program, and the Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee, as well as several highly-regarded international universities.
Highlights

- Macquarie is home to the Centre for Legal Governance, which draws together legal experts, historians, political scientists, philosophers, medical researchers, and environmental studies experts to research contemporary issues.

- The Centre for International and Environmental Law allows staff and students with specific interest in these areas to work together on a range of publishing and other research projects.

- Many Macquarie Law School’s HDR graduates have successfully obtained academic positions at universities around Australia and overseas.

Support

HDR candidates are provided with strong academic and administrative support. This includes:

- Commencement and Completion programs
- Discipline-specific research training units, including workshops in research communication, presentation skills, academic writing skills, thesis planning, and poster preparation
- Experienced supervisors and department-based higher degree research directors
- Financial support for eligible candidates for a range of research-related activity
- Regular progress reports and interviews, and/or work-in-progress presentations in which research candidates receive feedback on their work from a panel of academics in their field

Research leaders

Macquarie is home to many internationally renowned researchers, including:

Professor Brian Opeskin, co-director of Macquarie’s Centre for Legal Governance, has researched and taught in the broad field of public law. While working for the Australian Law Reform Commission, he oversaw inquiries into federal judicial power, the protection of human genetic information, gene patenting and human health, sentencing of federal offenders, and sedition laws. His current research examines important issues of governance and legal policy relating to international migration, public health, and court systems.

Professor Denise Meyerson’s research interests include jurisprudence, constitutional law, administrative law and comparative human rights law. She is a co-director of Macquarie’s Centre for Legal Governance, and a member of the editorial board of Australian Journal of Professional and Applied Ethics and the South African Journal of Philosophy. She is also a consulting editor for Philosophical Studies Series.

Professor M Rafiqul Islam is an active legal researcher in the Centre for International and Environmental Law, publishing extensively in his areas of teaching and research interest, mostly in public international law. He holds an Outstanding Teacher Award from Macquarie for his contributions to teaching and higher degree research supervision and administration.