Macquarie’s history and archaeology researchers enjoy an international reputation as leaders in their fields. In the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2012 evaluation our history and archaeology research received a rating of ‘performance above world standard’.

The scope of research in history and archaeology at Macquarie is unique in Australia. Our research spans periods from Eurasian and Australian prehistory to the present, utilising diverse archival and archaeological materials; and varying approaches from big history to microstudies, including innovative reflection upon the nature of historical inquiry.

Our high-profile researchers, who include six Fellows of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, two Fellows of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, and a Feodor Humboldt Research Fellow, enjoy valuable international collaborations with institutions such as the Universities of Cambridge, Göttingen, London, Oxford and Tsinghua; the British Museum; Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities; Institute for Historical Research; L’Institut français d’archéologie orientale, Cairo; New School New York; and Quanzhou Maritime Museum, China.

As an HDR candidate you will have the opportunity to research alongside some of the best academics and researchers not just in Australia but the world, and have access to outstanding facilities.
Highlights

• Macquarie is the only Australian university with a licence to dig in Egypt’s Nile Valley, supported by a state-of-the-art Archaeological Fieldwork Laboratory

• Macquarie houses the Australian Centre for Ancient Numismatic Studies, an internationally recognised leader in the study of ancient numismatics

• Macquarie is home to the Big History Institute, which provides a hub for scholars interested in interdisciplinary research on the interconnected history of the cosmos, Earth, life and humanity

Support

We give HDR candidates 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 David Christian’s research focuses on ‘big history’, of which Macquarie is the intellectual birthplace. Big history presents new ways of understanding our universe, our world, and our humanity. In 2004, he published the first text on big history, and is currently working with the support of Bill Gates to create an online course in big history for high schools.

Professor Naguib Kanawati AM is one of the most distinguished Egyptologists of his generation and his work in archaeology and art history is internationally recognised. He is credited with establishing the Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology (now with 600 members) and the Australian Centre for Egyptology, of which he is director. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and holds a Centenary Medal for services to the Australian society and the humanities in the study of archaeology.