From research into reproductive and sexual health, infectious disease and contemporary religion to urban regeneration, climate adaptation and social housing, Macquarie's human society researchers are uniquely positioned to help shape the complex issues that define the future of humanity.

Macquarie has a long and distinguished record of contributions in social theory, geographies of environment-human relations, contemporary sociology, and applied social research and policy. Our research is driven by a critical approach to social theory and to the policy and social problems confronting Australian and global societies.

Current scholars are making contributions to fields including ethnic and migration studies, ageing, Australian and comparative social policy, health care, the sociology of children, precarious work, the changing social significance of friendship, migrant identity and belonging, social inclusion, climate change mitigation and adaptation, the environmental humanities, environmental management and political ecology, and Indigenous geographies and critical development studies of Australia and the Asia-Pacific.

Our researchers, who include Fellows of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and several Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies members, make key ideas and analyses accessible to a wide range of end-users including community and public sector groups, governments, industry and students, and are working to encourage innovative collaborations and co-productive partnerships with diverse stakeholders.

As a higher degree research candidate at Macquarie, you will benefit from the extensive expertise of our internationally respected and active social researchers whose focus is on research that is both critical and responsive to the needs of national and international communities.
Highlights

- Our researchers regularly publish in high-profile local and international journals including Ageing and Society; Australian Geographer; Australian Journal of Anthropology; Australian Journal of Indigenous Education; Australian Journal of International Affairs; Australian Journal of Political Science; Australian Journal of Social Issues; British Journal of Sociology; Criminology and Criminal Justice; Cultural Anthropology; Current Sociology; European Journal of Social Theory; Geoforum; Global Environmental Politics; Government and Opposition; International Politics; Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies; Journal of Sociology; Political Science Quarterly; Progress in Human Geography; Review of International Studies; The Pacific Review; and Work, Employment and Society.

- In recent times we have had valuable collaborations with the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute; Australian Human Rights Commission; Australian Red Cross; Centre for Policy Development; Community Relations Commission; Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations; Department of Immigration and Border Protection; National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network; NSW Health and local government authorities, as well as with international institutions such as Asian Development Bank, Ibis Reproductive Health and Stockholm Environment Institute.

Support

You will be provided with individualised support, as well as a range of opportunities, at all stages of your research degree, including:

- higher degree research learning skills advisers who provide valuable training options such as workshops in research communication, presentation skills, academic writing skills, thesis planning and more
- inspirational supervision and mentoring
- a candidature management plan that closely supports progress, commencement programs, work-in-progress reviews, and presentations providing opportunities for feedback from a panel of academics
- real-world engagement with opportunities for cotutelle and joint degrees
- financial support for a range of research-related activities
- world-class facilities
- a transformative research experience that fosters cross-disciplinary collaboration.

RESEARCH LEADERS

Meet some of our internationally renowned researchers.

Professor Richie Howitt focuses on Indigenous geographies and the interfaces between Indigenous communities, natural resource development, governments and corporations, the community, the landscape and the nation.

Professor Stephanie Lawson has research interests concerning culture, nationalism and democracy, and combines comparative and normative approaches to the study of world politics. Her books include Culture and Context in World Politics and The New Agenda for International Relations: From Polarization to Globalization in World Politics?.

Associate Professor Chris Lyttleton’s research interests include HIV education in Laos; cultural identity; male sexuality in Laos; and mobility and social change in border areas of Thailand, Laos and China.

Professor Marion Maddox is the leading authority on the intersection of religion and politics in Australia, publishing God under Howard: The Rise of the Religious Right in Australian Politics in 2005.

Professor Gabriele Meagher is a leader in the field of care work and care organisations with expertise in Australian and Nordic welfare models.

Associate Professor Aleksandar Pavkovic is an internationally recognised authority on the theory and practice of secession. He is the author or editor of 11 books and has published numerous journal articles and chapters.

Dr Jocelyn Pixley is a leading researcher into the sociology of emotions and finance. She has recently published Emotions in Finance: Distrust and Uncertainty in Global Markets, and contributed articles to British Journal of Sociology and Theory and Society.

Dr Ben Spies-Butcher’s research is contributing to the study of welfare states, policy change and electoral patterns.

Associate Professor Amanda Wise is making a major contribution to the study of multicultural societies.