From research into human rights, social justice and genocide to assisted reproduction, surrogacy and cloning, Macquarie’s law and legal studies researchers are uniquely positioned to help shape the complex issues that define the future of humanity.

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

Research initiatives bring the understanding of law into context, develop world perspectives, and bring social inclusion and justice into the mainstream legal discourses to maximise access to, and the reach of, law. Higher degree research and supervision are conducted in a collegial and supportive environment with opportunities for engagement in teaching, research publications and professional development.

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 international law, constitutionalism, terrorism and counter-terrorism, special position of developing countries, trade, and the environment.

Our researchers are also recipients of highly competitive research grants and collaborate with, and consult for, a range of government, community and industry bodies such as AusAid, the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee, and the United Nations Development Programme, as well as several highly regarded international universities.

As a higher degree research candidate at Macquarie, you will benefit from the extensive expertise of our researchers with international reputations for cutting-edge research in wide-ranging areas.
Highlights

• Higher degree research candidate Uchechukwu Ngwaba is investigating how an engagement with the language of human rights can form the basis for reform of the healthcare systems of Nigeria.

• Graduate Jed Goodfellow was awarded the Law Society of New South Wales’ Young Lawyer of the Year 2013 for his research into the development of a regulatory framework within the Australian agricultural sector.

• Our legal scholars are involved in interdisciplinary collaborations with the Centre for Agency, Value and Ethics; the Centre for Climate Futures; and the Centre for Workforce Futures.

• Macquarie draws together legal experts, environmental studies experts, international law experts, historians, medical researchers, philosophers and political scientists to research contemporary issues.

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 M Rafiqul Islam is an active legal researcher in the Centre for Environmental Law, publishing extensively in public international law, including trade and economic law. He holds several awards from Macquarie for his contributions to teaching and higher degree research supervision and administration.

Professor Natalie Klein is the Dean of Law and has extensive research experience in international dispute resolution, arbitration, law of the sea and humanitarian law.

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

Professor Brian Opeskin, co-director of the Centre for Legal Governance, researches governance and legal policy relating to court systems, public health and international migration. While working for the Australian Law Reform Commission, he oversaw inquiries into federal judicial power, the protection of human genetic information and gene patenting.

Professor Peter Radan is a leading researcher in contract law, law and religion, equity and trust, and secession/self-determination with an extensive publication record. He is a member of a number of law societies and administrative bodies.