

Master of Arts in Government (Research) (920AA.2)

Please note these are the 2021 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	PG
Delivery mode	
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	2.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Business, Government & Law
Discipline	Canberra School of Politics, Economics and Society
UAC code	
English language requirements	View IELTS equivalences

International students

Academic entry requirements	<p>To study at UC, you'll need to meet our academic entry requirements and any admission requirements specific to your course. Please read your course admission requirements below. To find out whether you meet UC's academic entry requirements, visit our academic entry requirements page.</p> <p>View UC's academic entry requirements</p>
Delivery mode	

Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	2.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Business, Government & Law
Discipline	Canberra School of Politics, Economics and Society
CRICOS code	058968J
English language requirements	View IELTS equivalences

About this course

Use research to explore your chosen area of government

The Master of Arts in Government (Research) allows you to develop relevant research skills through a carefully designed program which includes a dissertation and relevant choice of coursework units. You will undertake advanced study and reflection on practice in the fields of public sector management, politics and public policy, drawing on your previous professional experience in government, while expanding your skills and expertise.

In your dissertation, you can choose to investigate either a purely theoretical subject matter, or one based on current and real issues in the area of government. Completion of this highly professional course will see you make an original contribution to knowledge and research in this important field, ready to progress to the next stage of your career. As a Higher Degree by Research (HDR), this course is covered under the Australian Government's Research Training Program (RTP) funding model, which provides a fee offset for domestic students for the standard duration of the course.

Study a Master of Arts in Government (Research) at UC and you will:

- undertake coursework that develops knowledge and skill in research methodology and research methods
- develop the research, writing and analysis skills which enable you to produce a dissertation which is an original and significant contribution to the relevant literature and/or professional practice
- prepare a substantial dissertation which adds to existing knowledge and forms an in-depth investigation and analysis of a particular professional issue
- initiate closer links between the University and senior professionals in fields associated with public administration and public policy.

Work Integrated Learning

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) is a key component of this postgraduate course, and in your dissertation, you will be encouraged to use

your existing employment knowledge to undertake new academic research in the study of a professional problem in the field of government, engaging regularly with industry over the course of your studies.

Career opportunities

- Sessional academic
- Research officer
- Research fellow
- Research services officer
- Public servant
- Policy officer
- Project officer
- Board member
- Senior analyst
- Program director
- Strategic adviser
- Consultant
- Indigenous program director
- Entrepreneur
- Social impact assessment consultant
- Indigenous program director
- International diplomat
- International project director
- Campaign manager
- International consultant
- Journalist
- International development worker
- International aid worker
- Community development educator

Course-specific information

Before a candidate is admitted to the Master of Arts in Government (Research) program, the University must be satisfied that it is able to supervise the candidate's proposed dissertation and that the candidate satisfies the following admission requirements:

- a. holds a bachelor's degree in a relevant field which is of sufficient quality to gain entry into an honours program, or has completed a bachelor's degree with honours
- b. demonstrates capacity and/or aptitude for research
- c. provides evidence of superior professional performance both intellectually and technically.

A requirement for proceeding to the research component of the degree is completion of the coursework component, along with the acceptance and approval of a research proposal and research plan by the course convener.

Domestic students who are accepted on this course are provided for under the Australian Government's Research Training Program (RTP)

funding model, which provides a fee offset for the standard duration of the course. Once your RTP entitlement is consumed, you will be charged the annual fee rate that applied at the start of your degree. Further information on fees for Higher Degree by Research (HDR) students can be found [here](#).

Admission requirements

Before a candidate is admitted to the Master of Arts in Government program the Faculty must be satisfied that it is able to supervise the candidate's proposed dissertation and that the candidate satisfies the following admission requirements: a. holds a bachelor degree in a relevant field which is of sufficient quality to gain entry into an honours program, or has completed a bachelor's degree with honours; b. demonstrates capacity and/or aptitude for research; and c. provides evidence of superior professional performance both intellectually and technically.

A requirement for proceeding to the research component of the degree is completion of the coursework component of the degree and the acceptance and approval of a research proposal and research plan by the course convener.

Assumed knowledge

None.

Periods course is open for new admissions

This course is not open for new admissions.

Credit arrangements

There are currently no formal credit transfer arrangements for entry to this course. Any previous study or work experience will only be considered as part of the application process in accordance with current [course rules and university policy](#).

Course requirements

Master of Arts in Government (Research) (920AA) | 48 credit points

Required - Must pass 45 credit points as follows

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

[Research Methodology and Research Design PG \(6647\) | 6 credit points — Level P](#)

[Literature Review Seminar \(6650\) | 3 credit points — Level P](#)

[Masters Dissertation in Government R \(33cp\) \(7909\) | 33 credit points — Level R](#)

Candidates are also required to complete a Research Education Program to acquire the generic skills & attributes identified as appropriate for graduates of postgraduate research programs at UC.

Restricted Choice - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

[Quantitative Research Methods B PG \(6648\) | 3 credit points — Level P](#)

Qualitative Research Methods B PG (6649) | 3 credit points – Level P

Additional Academic Activity: In addition to unit enrolment, students are required to attend school and faculty research seminars or equivalent academic activity throughout the duration of the course.

Research Methods: With permission of the Course Convener, students who can demonstrate they have previously studied research methods may be able to substitute up to 6 credit points of PG Level units.

In addition to course requirements, in order to successfully complete your course you must meet the inherent requirements. Please refer to the [inherent requirements statement](#) applicable to your course

Typical study pattern

UC - Canberra, Bruce

Standard Full Time, Semester 1 Commencing

Year 1

Semester 1

[Literature Review Seminar \(6650\)](#)

[Research Methodology and Research Design PG \(6647\)](#)

Semester 2

[Masters Dissertation in Government R \(33cp\) \(7909\)](#)

Year 2

Semester 1

[Masters Dissertation in Government R \(33cp\) \(7909\)](#)

Semester 2

[Masters Dissertation in Government R \(33cp\) \(7909\)](#)

Course information

Course duration

Standard four semesters full-time or equivalent. Maximum twelve semesters

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
<p>The objectives of the Master of Arts in Government course are to enable researchers to make a contribution to the three discipline fields through:</p> <p>a. Coursework that develops knowledge and skill in research methodology and research methods;</p>	.
<p>b. Development of research, writing and analysis skills which enable students to produce a dissertation which constitutes an original and significant contribution to the relevant literature and/or to professional practice;</p>	.
<p>c. Preparation of a substantial dissertation which adds to existing knowledge and constitutes an in-depth investigation and analysis of a particular professional issue or set of issues; and</p>	.
<p>d. Bridging the gap between theory and practice by developing closer links between the University and senior professionals in fields associated with public sector management and related disciplines.</p>	.

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Master of Arts in Government	MA Govt

Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
Current & Prospective Students	Faculty of Business, Government and Law BGLHDR@canberra.edu.au

Download your course guide



Scholarships

Find the scholarship that's the right fit for you

[Explore Scholarships](#)

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UC acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, traditional custodians of the lands where Bruce campus is situated. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Canberra and the region. We also acknowledge all other First Nations Peoples on whose lands we gather.