

Course Structure

Master of Arts

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Course Description		<p>The Master of Arts is flexible, postgraduate degree that allows you to undertake a bespoke research project on a topic of your choice. It will equip you with deep knowledge to bolster your CV, demonstrate your expertise and prepare you for a PhD should you wish to continue your studies.</p> <p>At CDU, you can choose a research topic that aligns with one of four focus areas, three of which explore unique perspectives on Indigenous Australia.</p> <p>You'll benefit from access to an expert, dedicated research supervisor, who will support you to think critically and creatively. You'll be guided to shape a research thesis or piece of coursework that is unique, carefully considered and robust in its findings.</p> <p>In a world where opinions are rife, but facts and considered thought may not be, your ability to critically evaluate ideas, concepts and information will set you apart.</p> <p><b>CHOOSE A RESEARCH TOPIC THAT ALIGNS WITH ONE OF FOUR AREAS</b></p> <p><b>Cultural and Creative Research</b></p> <p>In this stream, you'll learn to apply systematic research structures to explore a problem or topic of your choice. Your topic must align with one of the following areas of study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communications, Literature and Digital Media</li><li>• Society and Culture</li><li>• Global Humanities in a Digital Age</li><li>• Indigenous Governance and Policy</li><li>• Contemporary Indigenous Australia</li><li>• Languages and Linguistics</li><li>• Creative and Digital Arts</li><li>• Music Making, Production and Performance</li><li>• Architectural Design</li></ul> <p><b>Indigenous Research Methodologies</b></p> <p>In this stream, you'll see first-hand how your research contributions can create positive change and support equitable and meaningful engagement with Indigenous Australians.</p> <p>You'll develop a deep understanding of the epistemological foundations of Indigenous research methodologies and analyse alternative paradigms.</p> <p>These paradigms will be used to inform your research practice, as well as equip you to engage with Indigenous people in a culturally-informed and respectful manner.</p> <p>Ultimately, you'll learn how to deliver research outcomes that both align with the vision and aims of Indigenous communities and may be used to inform community development and public policy.</p> <p><b>Indigenous Policy Development</b></p> <p>In this stream, you'll draw on your professional knowledge, experience and further research to develop your understanding of Indigenous economic and policy development in modern Australia.</p> <p>You will examine key issues of Indigenous policy development and implementation, economic development and participation, traditional and modern governance structures, and intellectual and cultural property rights in current social and political contexts.</p> <p>During your studies, you'll develop a foundation for respectful and accountable engagement with Indigenous people, as well as the social and political issues they face in Australia and internationally.</p> <p><b>Indigenous Engagement</b></p> <p>In this stream, you'll broaden your knowledge and skills in effectively and respectfully engaging with people in Indigenous contexts.</p> <p>You explore and analyse the historical and contemporary contexts of interactions between Indigenous and non-indigenous people.</p> <p>You'll also develop communication skills to assist in establishing, maintaining and promoting respectful interactions and partnerships.</p> <p><b>Yolngu Languages and Culture</b></p> <p>In this stream, you'll explore the life and languages of the Yolngu people in North-East Arnhem Land and gain invaluable insight into the complexity of Indigenous societies found elsewhere in Australia.</p> <p>The focus will be on Yolngu Matha (Yolngu language) forms of Dhuwala. You'll learn the basics for everyday conversation and build on your grammar and basic vocabulary. This will help if you decide to continue learning other Yolngu languages.</p> <p>Other areas you'll explore include Moiety systems, various aspects of kinship, Yolngu life, creation stories, songs, art and ceremonies and how they are related.</p>
Unit type	Credit Points	Specific Requirements
Requirements	160cp	<p><b>You are required to:</b> Complete the two compulsory core units.</p> <p>Complete all requirements from one of the specialist elective areas outlined below.</p>
Core (2 units)	30cp	<p><b>Compulsory Core units totalling 30 credit points as detailed below:</b></p> <p>IAS501 Research Methods 1 (20cp)</p> <p>IAS502 Research Methods 2 (10cp)</p>
Specialist Electives A (3 – 9 units)	90cp	<p><b>CULTURAL AND CREATIVE RESEARCH</b></p> <p>Units totalling 90 credit points selected from unit options detailed below:</p> <p>IAS711 Thesis (10cp) (3 x Repeatable)</p> <p>IAS712 Thesis (30cp) (3 x Repeatable)</p> <p>IAS713 Thesis (20cp) (3 x Repeatable)</p> <p>IAS714 Research Exegesis (2 x 20cp) (Repeatable)</p>
	90cp	<p><b>INDIGENOUS RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES</b></p> <p>Choose the following units totalling 30 credit points:</p> <p>IAS521 Principles of Research in Indigenous Contexts</p> <p>IAS522 Indigenous Research Methodologies</p> <p>IAS524 Indigenous Representation and Ethical Practice</p>

		<p>Units totalling 60 credit points selected from units detailed below:</p> <p>IAS711 Thesis (10cp) (3 x Repeatable)</p> <p>IAS712 Thesis (30cp) (2 x Repeatable)</p> <p>IAS713 Thesis (20cp) (3 x Repeatable)</p> <p>IAS714 Research Exegesis (2 x 20cp) (Repeatable)</p>
	90cp	<p><b>INDIGENOUS POLICY DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p>Choose the following units totalling 60 credit points:</p> <p>IAS530 Neocolonialism, Advocacy and Critique of Development</p> <p>IAS531 Indigenous Policy Agendas in Federal and State Politics</p> <p>IAS532 Indigenous Knowledges, Property Rights and Economic Participation</p> <p>IAS533 Indigenous Knowledges and Epistemology</p> <p>IAS713 Thesis (20cp)</p> <p>Units totalling 30 credit points selected from units detailed below:</p> <p>IAS534 Partnerships and Engagement in Indigenous Land and Sea Management</p> <p>IAS535 Indigenous Peoples in the Context of Colonised Australia</p> <p>IAS536 Indigenous Sovereignty and the Challenges of Reconciliation</p> <p>IAS537 Building Relationships in Indigenous Contexts</p> <p>IAS538 Challenging Educational Paradigm</p> <p>IAS541 Yolngu Languages and Culture 1</p> <p>IAS542 Yolngu Languages and Culture 2</p> <p>IAS547 Indigenous Knowledges and Wellbeing</p> <p>IAS548 Healthy Country, Healthy People</p> <p>IAS549 Learning an Indigenous Australian Language</p> <p>IAS521 Principles of Research in Indigenous Contexts</p> <p>IAS522 Indigenous Research Methodologies</p> <p>IAS523 Indigenous Research Project (2 x repeatable)</p> <p>IAS524 Indigenous Representation and Ethical Practice</p> <p>IAS713 Thesis (20cp) (repeatable x1)</p>
	90cp	<p><b>INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT</b></p> <p>Choose the following units totalling 50 credit points:</p> <p>IAS535 Indigenous Peoples in the Context of Colonised Australia</p> <p>IAS536 Indigenous Sovereignty and the Challenges of Reconciliation</p> <p>IAS537 Building Relationships in Indigenous Contexts</p> <p>IAS713 Thesis (20cp)</p> <p>Choose units totalling 40 credit points selected from units detailed below:</p> <p>IAS534 Partnership and Engagement in Indigenous Land and Sea Management</p> <p>IAS530 Neocolonialism, Advocacy and the Critique of Development</p> <p>IAS531 Indigenous Policy Agendas in Federal and State Politics</p> <p>IAS532 Indigenous Knowledges, Property Rights and Economic Participation</p> <p>IAS533 Indigenous Knowledges and Epistemologies</p> <p>IAS538 Challenging Educational Paradigm</p> <p>IAS541 Yolngu Languages and Culture 1</p> <p>IAS542 Yolngu Languages and Culture 2</p> <p>IAS547 Indigenous Knowledges and Wellbeing</p> <p>IAS548 Healthy Country, Healthy People</p> <p>IAS549 Learning an Indigenous Australian Language</p> <p>IAS521 Principles of Research in Indigenous Contexts</p> <p>IAS522 Indigenous Research Methodologies</p> <p>IAS523 Indigenous Research Project (2 x repeatable)</p> <p>IAS524 Indigenous Representation and Ethical Practice</p> <p>IAS539 Intercultural Mediation</p> <p>MRA501 Mawul Rom Studies (5x repeatable unit)</p> <p>IAS713 Thesis (20cp) (repeatable x1)</p>
	90cp	<p><b>YOLNGU LANGUAGES AND CULTURE</b></p> <p>Choose the following units totalling 40 credit points:</p> <p>IAS541 Yolngu Languages and Culture 1</p> <p>IAS542 Yolngu Languages and Culture 2</p> <p>IAS713 Thesis (20cp)</p> <p>Choose units totalling 50 credit points selected from units detailed below:</p>

		IAS543 Yolngu Literature IAS544 Indigenous Language Project (2 x repeatable) IAS545 Yolngu Conversation 1 IAS546 Yolngu Conversation 2 IAS521 Principles of Research in Indigenous Contexts IAS522 Indigenous Research Methodologies IAS523 Indigenous Research Project (2 x repeatable) IAS524 Indigenous Representation and Ethical Practice IAS713 Thesis (20cp) (repeatable x1)
<b>Specialist Electives B (up to 4 units)</b>	<b>40cp</b>	<b>Choose 40 Cp from any of the Specialist Elective A units identified above or from approved Masters level units from across CDU offerings, or approved cross-institutional enrolments from other universities.</b>
		<b>Course Total 160cp</b>