

Higher Degrees by Research (HDR)

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Our Areas of Research

- [Nursing and Midwifery](#)
- [Health Workforce Development](#)
- [Brain, Behaviour and Cognition: Social Perceptions](#)
- [Exercise, Health and Human Performance](#)

Research Report 2014

<http://scu.edu.au/health-sciences/index.php/14>

- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Allied health (OT, Speech Path, Podiatry, Pedorthics)
- Clinical sciences (osteopathy)
- Clinical exercise physiology
- Exercise science
- Psychology
- Cognitive neuroscience
- Public health
- Biomedical Science (from 2016)

An original and sufficient contribution to knowledge

- MSc Research

- 2 years full time (4 part time)
- Confirmation at 6 months (12 months part time)
- Approximately 40,000 wd thesis
- 2 Supervisors (as minimum) preferred
- 2 Examiners of Thesis (1 external to SCU)

- PhD

- 4 years full time (8 part time)
- Confirmation at 12 months (24 months part time)
- Approximately 80,000-100,000 wd thesis
- 2 Supervisors (as minimum) preferred
- 3 Examiners of Thesis

Today

- 1. Eligibility
- 2. Value of proposed research
- 3. Motivation to do an HDR
- 4. Availability of supervisors
- 5. The HDR Journey

Eligibility – what do you need?

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University

Admission Criteria PhD

- Rule 9 (5)
- To qualify for admission to candidature, applicants must:
- possess a degree that is the **equivalent to a Bachelor's degree from this university with first class Honours or with second class Honours, first division**; or
- possess a Masters degree that is equivalent to a Masters degree from this university, with a **relevant research component**; or
- submit **other evidence of relevant professional qualifications and experience, or research experience, to satisfy the Higher Degrees Research Committee that the applicant possesses a level of relevant research experience equivalent to an award in either clause (5)a or (5)b**; and
- satisfy such additional requirements for admission to a PhD candidature, if any, as may be prescribed by the Higher Degrees Research Committee.

Admission to Master of Science by Research

- Rule 7 (5)
- To qualify for admission to a Masters degree by thesis course, applicants must:
- possess **a degree that is equivalent to a Bachelor's degree** from Southern Cross University; and
- satisfy such additional requirements for admission to Master by Thesis candidature, if any, as may be prescribed by the Higher Degrees Research Committee.

Transition up to PhD or down to MScR

Value of Proposed Research

- New knowledge and expertise to your chosen field
- Innovative, relevant and progressive
- A contribution to knowledge

Motivation to do an HDR?

- Extrinsic
 - Required for desired career
 - Beneficial to career progression
 - Accolades for being the expert
 - I am doing the research anyway – why not get a higher degree?
- Intrinsic
 - Finding new solutions to real world problems
 - Translating clinical to research and vice versa
 - Personal challenge – extending oneself
 - Learning for learning sake

Supervisors

Research Supervision Booklet

<http://scu.edu.au/health-sciences/index.php/14>

- Principal Supervisor
- Co-Supervisor
- Associate Supervisor

Cost of an HDR

- Commonwealth Research Training Scheme
- <https://education.gov.au/research-training-scheme>
- **Research Scholarships Contact (living)**
- Ms Helen Wolton
Manager, Research Training Unit
- **t:** +61 2 6626 9426
f: +61 2 6626 9145
e: hdrschorships@scu.edu.au

\$ Support during HDR

- **School Funding**
 - \$3000 PhD
 - \$1500 MSc
- **The Graduate School**
 - Conference Funding Scheme – currently \$1000 per year per candidature

Research Training

- The Graduate School
 - Online modules
 - Training sessions throughout the year
 - “7 Secrets to a PhD”
- School
 - Training sessions
 - Resources
 - Funding to use for training
- Supervisors

HDR Symposium – 4 November 2015

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School of Health and Human Sciences

2ND ANNUAL HIGHER DEGREES BY RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Wednesday 4 November 2015

9.00 am to 4.30 pm

The Health and Human Sciences Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) Symposium is the annual event when current HDR students showcase their research. Attendance by HDR students, supervisors, industry stakeholders, along with other students and staff will allow HDR students to gain useful feedback about their projects; promote networking; and enhance our research culture.

"wonder is the seed of knowledge" (Francis Bacon, 1605)

The theme of this year's symposium is research methodology – the challenge of how we turn an initial experience of wonder to a research question that can be explored, tested, or challenged to contribute to knowledge.

The Symposium will be conducted from both Lismore and Coffs Harbour campuses via videoconference.

For more information contact Kathryn Chrystal on (02) 6620 3450 or kathryn.chrystal@scu.edu.au.

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Facebook Page

- <https://www.facebook.com/SCU.SHHS.Research/?ref=hl>

Tips for Success

- **Have a vision**
 - a general idea turned into a research proposal
- **Develop a strategy**
 - Goals
 - Deadlines
 - One step at a time
- **Passion**
 - Non one will be more interested in your PhD than you

- **Be truthful to yourself**
 - Be self-critical and accept criticism from others
 - Set realistic standards and expectations
- **Be flexible – and learn to juggle!**
 - It won't go to plan
 - Don't plan too far ahead
 - A good PhD has a good story – the twists and turns make this
- **Take risks**
 - Back yourself and your ideas
 - Follow your instinct
 - Challenge yourself

- **Pick a 'good' supervision team**
- **Create a strong support base**
 - Find a good working area, it may be by yourself...
 - Use people who have information that you don't!
 - Make friends with people who can help you
 - Hope that there might be something you can help them with also...
- **Take Action**
 - Read, write, work.
 - GET SOME DATA
- **Set priorities**
- **Take Care of yourself**

The HDR Journey

- Getting Started
 - Talk to me about your ideas
 - Find a supervision team (with my help!)
 - Application
 - Offer
 - Enrollment and Supervisor Candidate Contract
- Stage 1 – working towards Confirmation
 - Literature review and honing research question
 - Ethics application
 - Maybe pilot study

The HDR Journey

- Stage 2
 - Data collection
 - Running the study
 - Writing as you go
- Stage 3
 - Final write up
 - Submission
- Stage 4
 - Examination
 - Written Defence



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