

Master of Social Research Methods

About the course

Become a researcher and help solve the world's problems.

Skillful social researchers are in high demand around the world, as organisations and government seek an understanding of public opinion relating to current issues or proposed changes that may affect people's lives.

The Master of Social Research Methods degree at The University of Western Australia (UWA) is the perfect capstone to any undergraduate degree, or the ideal complement to any professional working across fields that use information about people. Social research can help answer questions about the social world – such as the social patterns of violence; how people are using social media; people's feelings about immigration; how to change unhealthy behaviours; why some groups are seen as deviant; the impact a new business/industry may have on a community; the influence of the media; how relationships have changed over time, and, of course, much more. This course delivers highly transferrable, relevant and much sought after social research skills with a 'hands on' approach, giving students the ability to generate information relevant to creating solutions to pressing social questions. It also provides the skills needed to prepare and present research findings in ways that have an impact.

Students will gain an advanced understanding of a range of research methods, as well as the skills to conduct and present research. They will obtain first-hand experience in understanding, critiquing and undertaking social research and writing up results, including crafting a



research project, understanding the ethics of human research, identifying sources of funding and writing funding proposals. As well as core units on methods and ethics, students can take options in cultural/ethnographic research, biostatistics, gender research, Aboriginal health research, historical research and geographical information systems.

Who is the course for?

The course is designed for either recent graduates from any degree and major who want to pursue a career in social research or for graduates already in the workforce that want to gain further knowledge to advance their career opportunities.

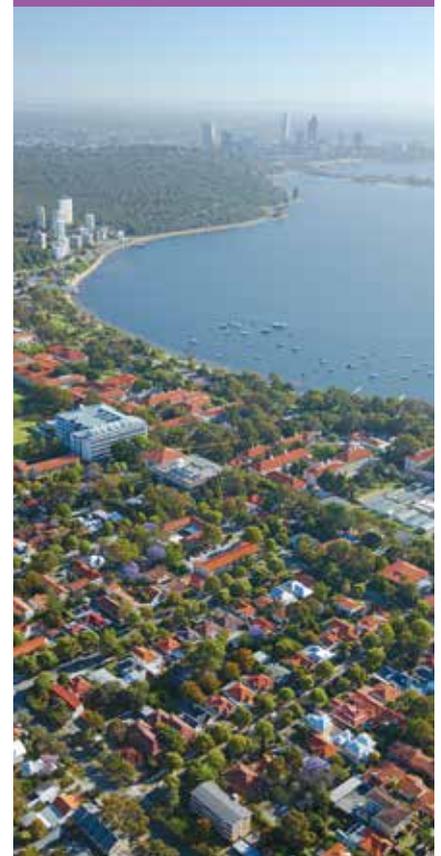
Career prospects

Graduates of the Master of Social Research Methods may find themselves working in a broad range of exciting careers and sites, including public and private policy development and with social research companies, organisations that work with the community, health industry and more.

About UWA

Located on the beautiful Swan River in Perth, Western Australia, UWA is proud to have scored five star rankings in the Good Universities Guide 2014 and is recognised internationally as being a leading university, ranked in the top 100 in the world in the highly respected Shanghai-JiaoTong University's Academic Ranking of World Universities.

It is the only Western Australian university to belong to the Group of Eight – a coalition of the top research universities in Australia – and it is one of only two Australian members of the Worldwide Universities Network.



Course structure

This course may be completed full-time or part-time for domestic students, or full-time for international students. Students have up to 8 years to complete the Master of Social Research Methods. Students who wish to exit the Master prior to completion (96 points) may graduate with a Graduate Certificate (24 points) or Graduate Diploma (48 points).

What topics are studied in the course?

Units may include:

- Research Design and Resourcing
- Social Research Ethics
- Evaluation
- Knowing Social Realities: Theoretical Foundations
- Engaging Cultural Difference
- Advanced Qualitative Methods: Ethnography
- Doing Gendered Research
- Innovative Social Research Methods
- Aboriginal Health Research and Ethics
- Advanced Qualitative Methods: Interviews and Focus Groups
- Knowing Social Realities: Empirical Explorations
- Issues in Researching Asia
- Strategic Communications in a Digital Era
- Quantitative Inquiry
- Geographic Information Systems Applications
- Analysis and Interpretation in the Humanities
- Biostatistics I
- Researching the Past



Your Lecturing Team:

- **Associate Professor Loretta Baldassar**, Chair of Anthropology and Sociology. Research leader in migration and transnationalism research.
- **Associate Professor Farida Fozdar**, Sociologist with extensive applied research experience. Research leader in migration and nationalism research.
- **Associate Professor Alison Bartlett**, Chair of Gender Studies and research leader in feminist studies.
- **Professor Mark Israel**, School of Law. Research leader in criminology, research ethics and research integrity, higher education and racism.
- **Associate Professor Jeannette Taylor**, Chair of Political Science and International Relations. Research leader in the improvement of the operations of public organisations and governments.
- **Associate Professor Rob Cover**, Chair of Communication Studies. Research leader in strategic communication and media.
- **Dr Shino Konishi**, Historian and Associate Professor in the School of Indigenous Studies and the School of Humanities.
- **Dr Bryan Boruff**, Centre for Regional Development, School of Earth and Environment. Research leader in risk and vulnerability
- **Professor Matthew Knuiiman**, School of Population Health. Research leader in diseases epidemiology and physical activity health promotion.

How do I apply?

Admission requirements

Applicants must have a relevant bachelor's degree with an average mark of at least 65 per cent in Level 3 units of the major, or equivalent as recognised by the Faculty. English: IELTS minimum of 6.5 overall with individual items no less than 6.0.

Key dates

Domestic students: Applications for February intake open in September and close mid-January. Applications for July intake open in April and close mid-June.

International students: There are no strict application deadlines, however prospective students are encouraged to apply early, allowing sufficient time for the processing of their application and to secure a student visa.

Apply online

To apply online, domestic and international students should visit studyat.uwa.edu.au/postgraduate-coursework/apply

For further information

The Student Office
Faculty of Arts
The University of Western Australia
35 Stirling Highway Crawley WA 6009
Tel: +61 8 6488 2091
Email: postgrad-arts@uwa.edu.au
arts.uwa.edu.au/courses/postgrad/coursework