

Master of Arts (MARA) - MA

CRICOS code (International applicants): 081818J

	On-campus	Distance education	Online
Semester intake:	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)
Campus:	Toowoomba	-	-
Fees:	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place
Standard duration:	1.5 years full-time; up to 6 years part-time		
Program articulation:	From: Graduate Certificate of Editing and Publishing ; Bachelor of Arts ; Bachelor of Creative Arts . or other approved degree program. To: Doctor of Philosophy Although there is no formal articulation pathway, there is a pathway for progression to this program or an approved professional award.		

Contact us

Future Australian and New Zealand students	Future International students	Current students
Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 269 500 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 5315 Email: study@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Phone: +61 7 4631 5543 Email: international@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email usq.support@usq.edu.au

Program aims

This program is specifically designed for prospective students who require professional development or qualifications upgrade. The program also aims to produce graduates who have an advanced awareness, understanding and appreciation of the complexities of human thought, expression and behaviour as reflected in a specified discipline area. Graduates will also have demonstrated their capacity for specialised study, research and scholarship at a higher level and/or in applying knowledge in employment or community service, and have enhanced further their personal, cultural, creative and intellectual capacities.

Program objectives

On successful completion of the program students should:

- have advanced their professional knowledge in a manner that is appropriate to career progression
- be able to evaluate and to analyse critically a range of ideas and theories pertaining to the creative arts or humanities
- have acquired advanced knowledge, skills and competency in the content, epistemology and appreciation or practice of a particular discipline
- be able to conceive, plan and execute a project requiring research, scholarship, composition, and interpretation at an advanced level.

Australian Qualifications Framework

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a single national, comprehensive system of qualifications offered by higher education institutions (including universities), vocational education and training institutions and secondary schools. Each AQF qualification has a set of descriptors which define the type and complexity of knowledge, skills and application of knowledge and skills that a graduate who has been awarded that qualification has attained, and the typical volume of learning associated with that qualification type.

This program is at AQF Qualification Level 09. Graduates at this level will have specialised knowledge and skills for research, and/or professional practice and/or further learning.

The full set of levels criteria and qualification type descriptors can be found by visiting www.aqf.edu.au.

Admission requirements

The requirements described in this section are the generic requirements for entry to the Master of Arts program. Some majors may have additional specific requirements

Standard Entry

To be eligible for admission to the program, applicants are required to complete a three year bachelor degree such as a [Bachelor of Arts](#) or [Bachelor of Creative Arts](#) . or equivalent from a recognised university normally with a minimum GPA of 5.0

Additional Entry Requirements

- Applicants for entry into the Master of Arts **Creati**

If you do not meet the English language requirements you may apply to study a University-approved [English language program](#). On successful completion of the English language program, Applicants may be admitted to an Award Program.

Program fees

Domestic full fee paying place

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for [FEE-Help](#).

International full fee paying place

International students pay full fees. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken and whether they are studied on-campus, via distance education/online. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Program structure

The following majors are available in the Master of Arts:

- Corporate Communication
Students have the opportunity to undertake a Corporate Communication specialisation with 8 units of coursework and a dissertation.
- Creative Arts
The major includes coursework in areas of interest and a dissertation or exhibition/performance-based research project. The following disciplines can be studied:
 - Applied Media (based on-campus at Springfield)
 - Creative Media
 - Music
 - Theatre
 - Visual Arts.
- Editing and Publishing
Editing and Publishing gives students the opportunity to further develop their skills and understanding of the theoretical, legal, ethical and practical elements of editing and publishing and of publishing management. Study consists of coursework and a dissertation.
- Humanities and Communication
The major includes coursework in areas of interest and a dissertation. The following disciplines can be studied within this major:
 - Communications and Media Studies
 - English Literature
 - History
 - International Relations
 - Journalism
 - Social Sciences.

Depending on the discipline chosen, Master of Arts students choose 12 courses of study comprising either:

- 8 units of coursework and 4 units of supervised dissertation work (20,000 words) or supervised advanced project work that could include work-integrated learning, professional placement, documented exhibition,

performance or studio practice. The dissertation/project component must be completed over two consecutive semesters

- 6 units of coursework and 6 units of supervised dissertation work (30,000 words). The dissertation component must be completed over three consecutive semesters.

The program can be undertaken full-time in 1.5 years, or part-time over 3 to 4 years. Part-time enrolment will normally be coursework in years one and two, and dissertation and/or project work in year three, depending on the pathway chosen.

Please refer to the recommended enrolment patterns for further details on offerings from each discipline.

Please note: Students must choose either the Dissertation OR Project pathway for Masters enrolment across the degree program. Students will not be able to change from dissertation to project courses within this Masters program.

Semester 3: No courses will be offered in Semester 3 and students will not be able to commence the Masters program in Semester 3.

Program completion requirements

Students are required to complete 12 credit points within a consistent pattern as described within the Program Structure.

Required time limits

Students have a maximum of 6 years to complete this program.

Core courses

Core courses are essential to developing the skills required to conduct scholarly activity and independent research at Masters level.

All students in the Corporate Communication major must enrol in:

- [MGT8037 Team Leadership](#)

All students in the Editing and Publishing major must enrol in:

- [BCA8001 Critical and Creative Thinking](#)

All students in the Humanities and Communication major must enrol in:

- [HMT4005 Research Design](#)

All students in the Creative Arts major must enrol in:

- [BCA8000 Aesthetic Dimensions](#)
- [BCA8001 Critical and Creative Thinking](#)
- [BCA8002 Research Methods in Studio Practice \(Masters\)](#)

All students in the Corporate Communication; Editing and Publishing; and Humanities and Communication majors must enrol in:

- [MAR8001 Dissertation A \(Masters\)](#)
- [MAR8002 Dissertation B \(Masters\)](#)

All students in the Creative Arts major must enrol in:

- [MAR8001 Dissertation A \(Masters\)](#)
- [MAR8002 Dissertation B \(Masters\)](#)

OR

- [MAR8003 Masters Project A](#)

- [MAR8004 Masters Project B](#)

Students wishing to undertake 6 units of supervised dissertation courses in preparation for future PhD studies must enrol in:

- [MAR8001 Dissertation A \(Masters\)](#)
- [MAR8002 Dissertation B \(Masters\)](#)
- [MAR8008 Dissertation C \(Masters\)](#)

Major studies

A Major Study is a group of courses having 12 units in value within the program, and is designed to provide students with:

- specialised knowledge in selected areas of a particular discipline
- the opportunity to develop research and/or practical skills in a particular discipline.

Coursework

The Coursework component of the Master of Arts degree program constitutes of at least 8 specific units of study in a major. For details, consult the recommended enrolment patterns.

Research

Intending Master of Arts students should contact the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts during their first semester of study to ensure that appropriate supervision is available for the proposed dissertation topic and other projects. As the research and advanced project pathways available within the Master of Arts degree constitute 4 (or 6) of the 12 units required for successful completion of the program, it is essential that students have developed a project plan which is able to be effectively supervised and resourced.

IT requirements

For information technology requirements please refer to the [minimum computing standards](#).

Exit points

Students who have completed 4 approved units of postgraduate study in the Master of Arts program may exit with the award of a Graduate Certificate in Arts. Students who have completed 4 courses in the Editing and Publishing major will be eligible to exit from the Master of Arts with a [Graduate Certificate of Editing and Publishing](#). Students who have completed 8 approved units of study in the Master of Arts program may exit with the award of Graduate Diploma in Arts.

Credit

Credit may be granted on the basis of completed equivalent postgraduate or undergraduate study (Honours AQF Level 8 only) from a recognised university. The application for credit based on accredited prior learning normally is submitted when applying for admission to the program. In order for a credit to be granted, the claim must meet the following specific requirements:

- the course was passed within five years prior to the application (courses up to 10 years old may be considered if evidence is provided that the applicant has been employed in that field)
- the course passed is equivalent in objectives, content and weightings to a course prescribed in the Master of Arts degree, or alternatively, the course is suitable as an elective
- credit for research activity will be dependent on currency and relevance to the proposed Masters study
- the maximum number of units which may be credited in the Master of Arts program is six
- credits approved in this program will not automatically apply to other programs offered by the USQ.

Claims for credit should be submitted prior to or at the time of enrolment in a course. Each claim will be assessed on individual merit in line with the University's credit policies.

Editing and Publishing recommended enrolment pattern

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.
