



## **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 kno

### **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. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

### **Research Training Program (RTP) - Fees Offset scheme**

All Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents and New Zealand citizens commencing a Higher Degree by Research (HDR) program will have their tuition fees paid by the Australian Commonwealth Government under the Research Training Program (RTP) Fees Offset scheme. The RTP Fees Offset scheme covers program fees for an HDR student up to a maximum period of four years for full-time study or up to eight years part-time study for a Doctoral program, and up to a maximum period of two years for full-time or four years part-time for a Masters by Research program.

As part of the enrolment process, students are required to submit proof of citizenship or permanent residency status and transcripts of all previous academic study. This documentation enables the University of Southern Queensland to determine eligibility for an RTP Fees Offset place.

If a student's RTP Fees Offset entitlement expires before completion of the program, the student will be required to pay full tuition fees.

Students eligible for an RTP Fees Offset place are those who:

- have not used RTP Fees Offset funding in the previous three years; or
- have already used RTP Fees Offset funding and have successfully completed an HDR program. Once a student completes an HDR program, full entitlements of RTP Fees Offset are restored.

The Australian Commonwealth Government's contribution to program fees must be acknowledged on all published material relating to a research project via a statement identifying the support received through the RTP Fees Offset scheme.

### **Program structure**

The Doctor of Creative Arts is a 24-unit program comprising two Creative Arts research training courses of two units each and 16 units of exegesis and practice courses. Students are required to undertake:

- [DCA9000 Research Methods in Creative Arts Practice](#) (2 units)
- [DCA9001 Professional Creative Arts Practice](#) (2 units)
- [DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A](#) or [DCA9501 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice B](#) (4 units). Students will need to re-enroll in the course each semester to complete the required 20 units of exegesis and practice.

#### **Note:**

The exegesis and practice courses [DCA9500](#) (2 units) and [DCA9501](#) (4 units) allows students to enrol in the appropriate course load level each semester depending on their enrolment status (full-time versus part-time) and depending on the completion of the two creative arts research training courses. A full-time equivalent load is equal to four units per semester and a part-time load two units per semester.

Student progress and achievement will be measured by student performance in the initial two research training courses and thereafter will be evidenced by their achievement of research milestones as documented by successful confirmation of candidature and ongoing assessment of research progression reported in progress reports.

### **Required time limits**

Full-time students normally complete in 3 years. Part-time candidates normally complete in 6 years. Students have a maximum of 4 years (full-time) or 8 years (part-time) to complete this program.

### **IT requirements**

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

## Other program requirements

Students must successfully complete all coursework units before progressing to the research exegesis.

Should students wish to change their proposed research topic, they must apply for permission to do so to the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts, stating their reasons and providing a new research proposal.

It is recommended that Australian students visit their supervisors at least once each year while they are completing their thesis. For overseas students, visits by Faculty staff could be arranged through the University's agents/partners, subject to minimum numbers.

Students must maintain good standing in this program. Please refer to the Academic Standing, Progression and Exclusion Procedure .

## Exit points

Students are able to exit with a Graduate Certificate of Arts (GCAR) or Graduate Diploma of Arts (GDAR) provided they meet the relevant requirements for their programs. Students can transfer to the lower award of [MARA Master of Arts \(AQF9\)](#) provided all requirements for the award of the MARA are satisfied.

## Credit

Normally, no credit will be granted in this 24-unit research program. However, an applicant may have specialist knowledge built up in their previous Master's degree as well as extensive working experience in their area of interest. The candidate may be granted up to four units of credit for the Master of Arts specialisation courses based on their completed postgraduate studies and relevant extensive experience.

## Recommended enrolment pattern - full-time

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.

It is recommended that students complete all of [DCA9000 Research Methods in Creative Arts Practice](#) and [DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A](#) before commencing [DCA9501 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice B](#).

A suggested enrolment pattern for a student commencing in semester 1 is set out in the following table:

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