Welcome to Higher Degree by Research

Faculty of Engineering and IT
Welcome

On behalf of the Associate Dean (Research Education) Associate Professor Javid Atai we warmly welcome you to the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies. You have now begun a most exciting time in your life, a journey that may take you in many directions. We hope that upon completion of this journey you will have initiated your research career and had the opportunity to publish, present your findings at conferences and meet colleagues in your field.

University Policy for Research Students
Please familiarize yourself with the various University Policies and Procedures relating to Higher Degree by Research which can be found on the Policy Register website.

Higher Degree by Research Administration Centre (HDRAC)
Support services and contact information
The University Higher Degree by Research Administration Centre (HDRAC) provides advice, information and resources to support your candidature from enrolment to graduation. If you have any questions related to your enrolment, your progression (including progress reviews), taking leave/suspension and/or your thesis submission and examination, please contact the HDRAC.

The contact details are below:

HDRAC website
Email – hdrac.3@sydney.edu.au
Phone - 1800 SYD UNI (1800 793 864) or 8627 4343
Location – Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Building (enter at Student Centre and turn right, access level 5 via the lifts).

Scholarships
If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please review the scholarships website for more information.
If you are a scholarship recipient, please refer your enquiries to:
hdrac.scholarships@sydney.edu.au

University Services
The University offers a range of services for all students including counselling and independent advice and advocacy, the details of which can be found on the Campus Life website.
Your first year of candidature
All Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy candidates are expected to complete certain milestones during their first year of candidature, independent of whether they are full time or part time. You will be required to attend your first progress review within your first year of candidature at which point your progress will be assessed as ‘meeting or exceeding expectations’ or you will be asked to undertake additional tasks and be reviewed again in a couple of months.

In order to meet/exceed expectations as a candidate in the Faculty of Engineering and IT, you will need to satisfy the following criteria for your first review:

- Attendance at both the Research Methods Induction and Research Methods Workshop*;
- Preparation of a satisfactory draft literature review;
- Preparation of a draft research proposal and progress plan;
- Completion of compulsory online modules
- Satisfactory progress.

*Students enrolled in the School of IT must satisfactorily complete INFO5993 – Research Methods in IT within their first year of candidature in place of the Research Methods Workshop. SIT students must only attend the Induction (morning session) of the event.

Students that commence in research period 2 (March) will complete their probation review in November/December 2017.
Making satisfactory progress is a compulsory University requirement and forms part of your commitment for the continuation of your candidature.

For more information on Progress Reviews including the criteria for your research proposal and literature review, please visit the Planning your Progress site.

Research Methods Induction and Workshop
All commencing Higher Degree by Research students in the Faculty of Engineering and IT are required to attend this event as a condition of their first year of enrolment. The event is designed to introduce new research students to a variety of important topics including research ethics, workplace health and safety and progression. Regardless of your research background, you must attend this event. Failure to attend may result in your being asked to Show Good Cause.
This event is held after the census date in semesters 1 and 2 (31 March and 31 August). The exact date and time of this event will be sent to you by email.
For all enquiries about this event, please contact the team at hdrac.3@sydney.edu.au.

Compulsory Online Modules
The University requires all commencing HDR students to complete the following online modules:
RSCH9010 Work Health and Safety
RSCH9001 Responsible Research Practice
These can be accessed and completed online through MyUni – LMS Blackboard according to the coursework semesters.
More information on this can be found on the HDRAC Units of Study website.

INFO 5993 Research methods in IT
For students enrolled in the School of Information Technologies, it is also mandatory to satisfactorily complete INFO 5993 Research Methods in IT (6 credit points). You will complete modules such as how to do a literature survey, experimental method and statistics and an introduction in how to do research.
INFO5993 will be run in semester 1, 2017 commencing 6 March.
HDRAC will enroll you automatically in this unit of study and email you timetable information in early 2017.
You will be automatically enrolled in this unit of study in your first semester of candidature and will be required to attend lectures each week. This course is run over the course of one semester and you will be given a final result which will appear on your academic transcript. For more information on this unit of study, please visit CUSP.