

Doctor of Creative Arts (DCAR) - DCA

CRICOS code (International applicants): 091551D

This program is offered only to continuing students. No new admissions will be accepted. Students who are interested in this study area please [contact us](#) directly

	On-campus	Online
Start:	No new admissions	No new admissions
Campus:	Toowoomba	-
Fees:	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place Research Training Program (RTP) - Fees Offset scheme	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place Research Training Program (RTP) - Fees Offset scheme
Standard duration:	Full-time candidates 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.	

Notes:

Where credit is granted, maximum and minimum duration will be adjusted in the same proportion as credit, for example, where the maximum of four units of credit is granted, maximum time will be four years.

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

The program aims to produce graduates who have a sophisticated understanding of creative arts theory and practice, as well as demonstrated capacity to produce original works of art at an international standard. Students will acquire the ability to conduct independent creative arts research, apply relevant theories to their practice, and develop creative and academic expertise in their chosen discipline.

Program objectives

On successful completion of the Doctor of Creative Arts program students will be able to:

- develop a substantial body of knowledge and make an original contribution to creative arts practice and theory
- effectively communicate knowledge of traditional and contemporary arts practice, creative research methods and practice-led research principles
- demonstrate expertise as a professional creative artist and practice-led researcher according to international standards
- exercise intellectual independence and accountability involving critical and creative thinking in hybrid and/or discipline specific arts practice.

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 10. Graduates at this level will have systematic and critical understanding of a complex field of learning and specialised research skills for the advancement of learning and/or for professional practice.

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

Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- Completion of an Australian university Bachelor degree in Arts with First Class Honours or Second Class Honours (Division A) or equivalent, **or** a Masters degree (with a research component) in Arts, or equivalent, together with evidence of professional standing as an arts practitioner.
- English Language Proficiency requirements for Category 3.

Applicants are advised to also note the following:

- Admission by written application and artist portfolio. The application will include a written proposal of 5-8 pages including conceptual framework and research background, central question, significance, and original contribution of project. Further, a portfolio of creative work/s will be required with specifications varying between disciplines. For example, Visual Arts candidates will be required to submit 20 images of past work signifying possible directions for the proposed Doctor of Creative Arts.
- Submission of a satisfactory preliminary research proposal, as determined by the Higher Degrees Review and Admissions Committee.

Notes:

Admission to the Doctor of Creative Arts is dependent upon the Faculty's capacity to supervise the proposed exegesis and creative work. Prospective candidates should contact the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts for up-to-date information regarding research areas before preparing their preliminary exegesis and creative work proposals.

All students are required to satisfy the applicable [English language requirements](#).

If students do not meet the English language requirements they may apply to study a University-approved [English language program](#). On successful completion of the English language program, students 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. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Schedule](#)

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, external or online. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Schedules](#).

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.

S1 offer at Toowoomba is not available in 2022

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

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:

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements	Comments
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
DCA9000 Research Methods in Creative Arts Practice	1	1			1	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following programs: DCAR or DPHD	2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	1	1			1	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units
DCA9501 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice B *	1	2			1	2	Pre-requisite: DCA9500 and Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	4 units
DCA9001 Professional Creative Arts Practice	2	1			2	1		2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	2	1			2	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units
DCA9501 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice B *	2	2			2	2	Pre-requisite: DCA9500 and Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	4 units

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements	Comments
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
DCA9501 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice B *	3	1			3	1	Pre-requisite: DCA9500 and Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	4 units
DCA9501 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice B *	3	2			3	2	Pre-requisite: DCA9500 and Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	4 units

Footnotes

S1 offer at Toowoomba is not available in 2022

- * For the exegesis component of their studies, students re-enrol in the two Creative Arts Exegesis courses DCA9500 (2 units) or DCA9501 (4 units) to satisfy the 24 units required.

Recommended enrolment pattern - part-time

The flexibility of the Doctor of Creative Arts means that there will be a range of enrolment patterns and many students will have a unique enrolment pattern. Students requiring assistance should contact the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts. A suggested enrolment pattern for a student commencing in semester 1 is set out in the following table:

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements	Comments
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
DCA9000 Research Methods in Creative Arts Practice	1	1			1	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following programs: DCAR or DPHD	2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	1	2			1	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	2	1			2	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	2	2			2	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units
DCA9001 Professional Creative Arts Practice	3	1			3	1		2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	3	2			3	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	4	1			4	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	4	2			4	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	5	1			5	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	5	2			5	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	6	1			6	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units

Consult the Handbook on the Web at <https://www.unisq.edu.au/handbook/current> for any updates that may occur during the year.
 (DISCONTINUED) Doctor of Creative Arts (DCAR) - DCA (2023)

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements	Comments
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
DCA9500 Creative Arts Exegesis and Practice A *	6	2			6	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the DCAR Program	2 units

Footnotes

S1 offer at Toowoomba is not available in 2022

* For the exegesis component of their studies, students re-enrol in the Creative Arts Exegesis course [DCA9500](#) (2 units) to satisfy the 24 units required.