

1. AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES

CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY¹

Diploma of Indigenous Research

Overview: The course includes an on-ground research project where the student will be supported to develop their own research work in urban or remote Aboriginal communities. All units in the course are available online and can be carried out in the places where the student lives and works.

This is a one-year full-time course or two years part-time. It is exclusively for Indigenous people.

There are 5 core units and 2 speciality units that the students complete.

The entry requirements are here: <https://theuniguide.com.au/institutions/charles-darwin-university-cdu/courses/diploma-of-indigenous-research>

Indigenous research credentials

Indigenous Research Credentials support research capacity development and engage traditional knowledge practice whilst guided by Indigenous authority.

Senior Indigenous Community-Based Researcher credential is available to senior Indigenous researchers with significant previous experience in community based cross-cultural research. It recognises strong cultural authority in the conduct of research projects, and an accumulation of prior achievement.

Recipients of this credential demonstrate strong bilingual and cross-cultural research competency, and high-level skills in research co-design and public communication.

An Indigenous Community-Based Researcher credential provides opportunities for Indigenous people working in their home communities to learn about research work, and to be recognised for their skills in bilingual and cross-cultural facilitation. Training occurs on the job while working closely with CDU research staff.

Participants will learn about designing research projects, interviewing, video and audio recording, research ethics and presenting research outcomes.

They will be recognised for their skills working on the ground and with various organisations to facilitate culturally appropriate research.

The Indigenous Research Collaborator credential acknowledges the participation and contribution made by an Indigenous research mentoree to a collaborative research project.

¹ Michaela Spencer (CDU) presented these opportunities at the September 2025 meeting of the CAAHSN ARN

Earners will have worked in their home community under the guidance of senior advisors and with CDU staff on one or more research projects.

The participants will receive introductory training in research ethics, and be given the opportunity to learn about research by watching research work being carried out by experienced Indigenous community-based researchers with whom they are familiar and comfortable.

Heather's comment: I don't know what this means for level of employment for researchers at the different level. I imagine that it is up to the respective institution.

Indigenous Researchers Initiative

CDU has a page for Indigenous researchers that includes a photo and bio of the researcher.

<https://iri.cdu.edu.au/researchers/>

CONTACT: Dr Michaela Spencer, Northern Institute, michaela.spencer@cdu.edu.au

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

Graduate Diploma of Indigenous Research

1 year full-time or part-time equivalent

Overview: Gain in-depth research training specific to Indigenous knowledge systems. Build your research capabilities and open the door to a masters or PhD.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students can apply directly through the National Indigenous Knowledges, Education, Research and Innovation (NIKERI) Institute.

Selection is based on a holistic consideration of your academic merit, work experience, likelihood of success, availability of places, participation requirements, regulatory requirements, and individual circumstances. You will need to meet the minimum academic and English language proficiency requirements or higher to be considered for selection, but this does not guarantee admission.

A combination of qualifications and experience may be deemed equivalent to minimum academic requirements.

This qualification is a pathway to a Masters or PhD by Research

The availability of a course varies across locations and intakes. This means that a course offered in Trimester 1 may not be offered in the same location for Trimester 2 or 3. Check each intake for up-to-date information on when and where you can commence your studies.

Estimated tuition fee - (CSP) | \$16,992 for 1 yr full-time - Commonwealth Supported Place (CS) (HECS)

[CSP](#) is only available in this course, for Indigenous students enrolled with the [National Indigenous Knowledges, Education, Research and Innovation \(NIKERI\) Institute](#). The 'Estimated tuition fee' is provided as a **guide only** based on a typical enrolment of students completing this course within the same year. The cost will vary depending on the units you choose, your study load, the length of your course and any approved Recognition of prior learning.

<https://www.deakin.edu.au/course/graduate-diploma-indigenous-research>

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Professional Certificate in Indigenous Research

Overview: The Professional Certificate in Indigenous Research (GC-IRPRO) is a single-subject 25-point award. Upon completion of this compulsory subject, students will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Indigenous Research, which will give them 25 credit points towards the Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Research and Leadership.

Course Coordinator: [Dr Sarah French](#).

<https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/professional-certificate-in-indigenous-research/structure/#nav>

Articulation into the Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Research and Leadership

Satisfactory completion of the above course provides participants with 25 credit points towards the [Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Research and Leadership](#).

*Please note that you may **not** undertake the Professional Certificate and the Graduate Certificate in the same year.*

POCHE CENTRES @ MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY & UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

The Poche Indigenous PhD Familiarisation Program

The Melbourne Poche Centre at the University of Melbourne and the Poche Centre at University of Queensland each deliver an [annual program](#) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who may be considering a health-focused PhD.

The Melbourne Poche Centre has been delivering this program since 2015 and the one at UQ, for about the last 3 years.

<https://research.unimelb.edu.au/strengths/updates/supporting-pathways-to-phds-for-indigenous-researchers>

The Poche Centre at UQ will hold this program on the 19 – 21 August 2025 and are open for Expressions of Interest.

<https://poche.centre.uq.edu.au/study/pathways-program-phd-doing-research-mob>

Heather's note: UQ has dates for their program but not sure if Melb Uni has a date. The program goes for 2 – 3 days. My understanding is that the Poche Centres at both university

pick up a fair bit of the cost – flights and accommodation. There is no expectation that the attendees are then expected to enrol in a PhD or Masters, AND if they do, there is no expectation that they enrol in the respective university.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Health Promotion

Designed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers, our Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Health Promotion aims to improve Indigenous health at a community level. This program will give you the knowledge and skills to identify community needs, develop a plan of action and execute it.

Duration: 1 year full-time (Not available part-time)

<https://www.sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/pc/graduate-diploma-in-indigenous-health-promotion.html>

NOTRE DAME (BROOME CAMPUS) | THE NULUNGU RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Aboriginal Research Methodology Course | Two stages

The Nulungu Research Institute has been delivering the Aboriginal Research Methodology Course since 2017.

[The Aboriginal Research Methodology Course \(ARMC\) | Notre Dame](#)

The course development and delivery were subsequently funded by Mary Mackillop Foundation (currently known as Mary Mackillop Today), for a period of three years. With ongoing collaboration with Madjulla, Nulungu has delivered the course on seventeen separate occasions between 2017-2024. The course has proven to be both successful and popular, with demand increasing each year. It is a unique program within the research field and our region, therefore we have decided to continue to deliver this course for years to come.

2025 Course Dates

Stage One: 11 – 13 March and 9 – 11 September

Stage Two: 14- 16 October

Course Delivery

The Aboriginal Research Methodology Course is available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It is held on Broome campus over three days. *We are also liaising with partnering organisations to deliver the course in other locations, with participant numbers pending.*

Course Structure

The courses consist of two stages: 'Stage One: Introduction to Aboriginal Research Methodology for Aboriginal People' and 'Stage Two: Aboriginal Research Methods for

Aboriginal People'. The course involves workshops and lectures over three consecutive days. For further information on each stage see below. Stage One is delivered twice a year and Stage Two once a year.

Course Fees

Please contact nulungu for fees nulungu@nd.edu.au or 08 9192 0670. For payment, enquiries contact the Nulungu Research Institute office on (08) 9192 0670.

2. NON-UNIVERSITY ORGANISATIONS

LOWITJA INSTITUTE

Certificate IV in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Theory and Practice

In 2025 the course will also be delivered in Victoria by Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) Education and Training, Yagilaith Djerring.

Expressions of Interest now open: If you're considering enrolling in 2025 for the Certificate IV in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Theory and Practice, register your details here and we'll keep you updated.

<https://www.lowitja.org.au/product/certificate-iv-in-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-research-theory-and-practice/>

Online Courses

Lowitja have developed 7 online courses (unit). These online courses were developed to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers. They're also highly valuable for non-Indigenous people working in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and research sectors.

<https://www.lowitja.org.au/lowitja-/courses/>

Heather's note: I am not sure if the online courses are currently available.

AUORA FOUNDATION

This is an Indigenous organisation. They provide several programs to open pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and executives to further their academic excellence through The Study Tour, The Scholarship Program and Executive Education Scholarships.

The study tours are to universities in the USA and Great Britain including Columbia, Harvard, and New York University in the US, and Cambridge, London School of Economics and Oxford in the UK.

Worthwhile checking out their website to see what is on offer.

[Study Tour and Scholarships | Aurora Foundation](#)

ACADEMIC HEALTH RESEARCH ALLIANCE

The Alliance advertises events on their website for their respective partners. There are useful webinars that are conducted by their partners.

[One Voice - AHRA](#)

WINSTON CHURCHILL TRUST

Are looking for the next cohort of Churchill Fellows

A Churchill Fellowship offers Australian citizens and permanent residents a life-changing opportunity to travel overseas for four to eight weeks to learn more about a topic or issue that they are passionate about.

The Trust is on the lookout for the next cohort of Churchill Fellows!

- **Applications open 28 February**
- Information sessions during February and March
- Please share this link among your networks to help spread the word: <https://www.churchilltrust.com.au/events/>

The **8 virtual sessions** are grouped by topic areas: Arts and Trades, Education, Health and Medicine, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Public Service Courts and Emergencies, Science Technology and Environment, Agriculture Horticulture and Food Production, Community and Inclusion.

The **face-to-face sessions** will be held in Toowoomba, Cairns, Alice Springs, Darwin, Newcastle, Launceston, Geelong and Bendigo.

For further information, check out the Trust's website [here](#).

3. ONE OFF EVENTS | WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS

Lowitja Institute and the Indigenous Futures Centre offering

Capability Seminar by Distinguished Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson

Workshop overview:

Our Indigenous Research Methodologies Workshop is designed to introduce participants to Indigenous research methodologies and their use within Indigenous-related research.

The workshop aims to meet the needs of current PhD candidates and early career researchers by providing them with knowledge of coherent methodologies.

Indigenous research methodologies are informed by Indigenous epistemologies (ways of knowing), our axiologies (ways of doing) and our ontologies (ways of being).

Three understandings underpin the interpretive framework for the workshop:

1. This framework encapsulates Indigenous methodologies of which, the range and breadth of is diverse, culturally specific and divergent.
2. A presupposition of Indigenous methodologies is that all knowledge is socially situated and partial and are grounded in Indigenous experiences of everyday life.
3. This is an active field of knowledge production with Indigenous methodologies emerging and developing in different disciplines and fields of study.

Event details: Face-to-face only

Dates: Tuesday 25 to Wednesday 26 March 2025 **Time:** 9.00am to 5.00pm ACDT

Venue: University of Adelaide: Tirkanthi Yangadlitya

Expressions of interest close: Friday 14 February 2025 - Get in quick as places are available now and will fill up fast. Our **Expression of Interest** form can be found [here](#)

Eligibility: This workshop is open to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander PhD students and early career researchers who have completed their PhD and are a Member of Lowitja Institute's Members Community or have applied for Membership. If you are not already a Member, please [apply here](#)

Australian Stroke and Heart Research Accelerator

Connecting Hearts & Minds Webinar

Presenter: Dr Angie Dos Santos | Dr. Angela Dos Santos is a proud Kwiamble and Gumbaynggirr woman and Australia's first Aboriginal neurologist. She graduated in medicine from Western Sydney University in 2011 and completed her physician and neurology training in Sydney in 2018. Dr. Dos Santos then pursued further stroke specialty training with a Fellowship at the Royal Melbourne Hospital in 2019.

Angela is a key clinical expert for the Australian Stroke Alliance's aeromedical prehospital retrieval plans, co-chairs the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Council within the Australian Stroke Alliance and is a member of the Pre-hospital Stroke Council. Her doctoral research focusses on stroke in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

Date: Monday 17th February 12:30pm – 1:30pm AEDT

[Register in advance for this meeting here.](#)

Academic Health Research Alliance

The Alliance advertises events on their website for their respective partners. There are useful webinars that are conducted by their partners. I keep an eye on their website to see what is on offer.

[One Voice - AHRA](#)

TRAVEL BURSARIES

These are advertised from different organisations to support Indigenous people to attend events. The one below is currently on offer for those working in the area of communicable diseases and immunisations.

Communicable Diseases & Immunisation Conference | 10 – 12 June 2025 Adelaide Convention Centre

Scholarship opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Key Dates

- Applications opened Thursday 31 October 2024
- Applications close at 11:59pm AEST, Wednesday 9 April 2025
- The successful applicant(s) will be notified by mid-April 2025

For details, [click here.](#)

4. OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

There are other opportunities that Aboriginal researchers and clinicians may be interested in where they can share their knowledge and connect with other Aboriginal people.

NATIONAL CENTRE IMMUNISATION RESEARCH SURVEILLANCE (NCIRS)

Call for Expressions of Interest | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference Group

NCIRS is the leading research organisation in Australia that provides objective expert advice on all aspects of vaccine preventable diseases, and other issues related to immunisation, to inform policy and planning for government immunisation services in Australia.

To ensure NCIRS is working to meet the needs of Australian First Nations peoples, stakeholders and communities, the Centre is seeking Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to join its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference Group.

The Group will collaborate with the Director and staff of NCIRS and other relevant stakeholders on optimising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander immunisation policy, research, surveillance, communication strategies, service delivery, and ways to increase vaccination timeliness and coverage. We invite health service providers, academics, clinicians, and public health professionals – as well as community members such as Elders, youth and parents who are not health professionals – to express their interest in joining the Group.

For NCIRS's website and details on applying, [click here.](#)

Heather D'Antoine | 28/01/2025