



# The Professional Doctorate

## UNDA Course Code Varies Depending on Discipline

### INTRODUCTION

The professional doctorate seeks to improve the relationship between professional and academic knowledge. In particular, it aims to generate a research-based approach providing answers to questions relevant to the professions or industry and encouraging a systematic way of collecting, analysing and interpreting data. Consequently, prospective students must seek the support of a relevant professional body / employer / industry group in defining the research area to be explored.

The University's Sydney Campus currently offers the following professional doctorates:

#### Doctor of Business Administration

Course Code 6100 CRICOS Code 040396K

#### Doctor of Education

Course Code 6200 CRICOS Code 032064G

#### Doctor of Medicine

Course Code 6903 Not available to international students

#### Doctor of Nursing

Course Code 6301 CRICOS Code 052527E

Please inquire for courses available at the Sydney Campus.

### SUPERVISION

Each candidate will be assigned University-based supervisors who will provide support and academic guidance throughout the coursework and research components of the degree.

The supervisor will be complemented by a professional mentor, familiar with the intended topic area, who will come from the industry or profession relevant to the student's research area.

The candidate's professional mentor and research supervisors will assist the candidate with the preparation of their research proposal although the bulk of the work will be undertaken as part of the coursework unit: *Developing a Research Proposal*. The professional mentor and research supervisors will continue to mentor and direct the candidate throughout the research until the thesis is examined.

### COURSE STRUCTURE

The professional doctorate comprises a coursework component and a substantial research component leading to the submission of a thesis.

The coursework is comprised of four compulsory research training units to be completed as a prerequisite to the student's individual research project.

The coursework units provide opportunities for candidates to formulate substantial elements of their planned research (e.g. topic refinement, identification and justification of the preferred research method(s), preparation of a draft proposal) and to develop personal competencies in critical analysis and scholarly writing relevant to their profession. The structure of the degree is as follows:

- four coursework units (equivalent to one semester of full-time study)
- supervised research (equivalent to two and a half years of full-time study)

Candidates will, ideally, complete the four coursework units within the first semester of full-time enrolment (first year of part-time enrolment).

The completion of the coursework is facilitated by a unit delivery schedule which takes into consideration that the majority of candidates will be working.

An appropriately high standard (a minimum of a Credit grade in each unit) must be achieved in the coursework as a prerequisite to proceeding to the research component.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following criteria are required for a student to be admitted to the professional doctorate:

- Completion of a research Masters degree appropriate to the professional field of the candidate (or equivalent) at a high level of achievement; or
- Completion of a Bachelor's degree with honours (usually level 1 or 2A or equivalent); or
- An equivalent academic or professional background that is considered by the Dean of the School to be an appropriate preparation for independent study and research work at doctoral level.
- An applicant may be required to demonstrate an ability to understand and communicate in both written and spoken English at a level deemed appropriate by the Dean of the School.
- Normally, a minimum of three years of relevant professional experience;
- Formal support of an industry or professional mentor.

### MODES OF STUDY

All professional doctorate degrees can be undertaken full-time or part-time.

### FEES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

#### Domestic Students

In accordance with the Higher Education Support Act 2003, domestic research students are eligible to have all Higher Degree by Research (HDR) course fees paid for by the Commonwealth Government under the Research Training Scheme (RTS) for the length of their degree.

Domestic students are also encouraged to apply for both an *Australian Postgraduate Award (APA)* and the *University Postgraduate Award (UPA)* offered through the University of Notre Dame Australia.

#### International Students

All international research students are required to pay full fees for the length of their research degree. Please refer to the International Prospectus for current cost per year to complete a Professional Doctorate.

The University is also keen to support high calibre international students. International students are eligible to apply for the *Australian Postgraduate Award (APA)* as well as the *Endeavour International Postgraduate Award (EIPRS)* and the University equivalent *International Fee Remission Research Scholarship (IFRRS)*. For more information please refer to the International Prospectus or visit [www.nd.edu.au/research/scholarships.shtml](http://www.nd.edu.au/research/scholarships.shtml).

#### Prospective Students Office

(for further information on the University and admissions process)  
140 Broadway, Chippendale, NSW | PO Box 944 Broadway NSW 2007  
Tel: +61 2 8204 4404 | Email: [sydney@nd.edu.au](mailto:sydney@nd.edu.au)

#### Admissions Office

(if an application has already been submitted)  
140 Broadway, Chippendale, NSW | PO Box 944 Broadway NSW 2007  
Tel: +61 2 8204 4430 | Email: [sydney.admissions@nd.edu.au](mailto:sydney.admissions@nd.edu.au)