

Higher Degree by Research (HDR)

College of Business and Law

The College of Business and Law (CoBL) fosters a world-class research environment for Higher Degree by Research (HDR) candidates to produce cutting-edge knowledge and impactful research outcomes for society.

We provide a supportive research environment that enables high quality doctoral education, training and research to solve real-world problems in industry, government, not-for-profit and the community.

Our candidates graduate with broader capabilities, skills and expertise to make an impact on business, ethical and social dilemmas. We provide professional development through workshops, seminars, industry internships and networking events to foster a strong intellectual climate promoting knowledge sharing and learning.

Our research

We offer PhD and Masters by Research degrees across a range of disciplines including:

- Accounting, auditing and tax
- Economics, blockchain and international markets
- Entrepreneurship and innovation
- Finance, financial markets and sustainable investing
- Information systems and data analytics
- Labour, gig economy and union transformation
- Marketing, branding and consumer culture
- People, organisation performance and healthy workplaces
- Supply chain, logistics and transport

What the journey looks like



Three milestone presentations: formal assessments on research progress.



Coursework to build skillsets in research design and methodology feedback.



External engagement with industry and internship opportunities.



Supervision by expert academics and mentorship throughout research degree.



Learn more about research at RMIT

rmit.edu.au/research/research-degrees

Why choose RMIT?

RMIT is a global university of technology, design and enterprise. Established in 1887, we are one of the top universities in Melbourne and one of Australia's oldest tertiary institutions.

#1

in QS World University Ratings for our International Faculty (academic)₁



Committed to sustainability

RMIT is on track to achieving certified carbon neutral status by 2025. Aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), sustainability is embedded across our research. As a member of the Australian Technology Network, we are committed to driving sustainable innovation and impact.

#1

SCImago ranking for the 'Business, Management and Accounting' subject area₁

#11

For employment outcomes in Australia₁



World-leading facilities

RMIT paves the way for industry innovation through internationally recognised research centres across our campuses in Melbourne, Vietnam, and Barcelona - delivering real-world impact on a global scale.

#1

In QS World Rankings Melbourne is best student city in Australia and #5 in the world₂

#10

In QS World University Rankings for Academic Reputation₁



Champion of inclusion

RMIT celebrates the diversity of our students and promotes cultural inclusion. Recognised with multiple Platinum Employer Awards, we are committed to fostering an inclusive environment. This includes our 'Responsible Practice' approach, enacting positive change for First Nations People in work and study.



Life in Melbourne

A diverse, vibrant and welcoming city, Melbourne is full of exciting possibilities home to students from 194 countries. Experience life in the bustling city while obtaining a world-class qualification.

The world's 3rd most liveable city

- Internationally recognised arts, culture and entertainment scene with over 8,000 events spanning music, fashion, theatre and festivals
- Delicious dining options and renowned coffee scene
- Sporting capital of Australia with international events in action
- Beautiful parks, gardens and recreational spaces
- Convenient transport options and experience Melbourne's trams

This guide provides information about RMIT's Melbourne-based research programs. Prepared June 2025. Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate and current at the date of printing. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the RMIT University website.

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¹ Ranking information sourced from <https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/facts-figures/reputation-and-rankings>

² Ranking information sourced from <https://www.topuniversities.com/city-rankings>

