SPECIALIST STREAMS IN ECONOMICS DOCTORAL PROGRAM

AN ADVANCED PROGRAM FOR OUTSTANDING ECONOMIC SCHOLARS

MONASH UNIVERSITY
REAL SOLUTIONS
DEMAND REAL
WORLD RESEARCH
When you join the Monash Business School research community you become part of a bold, open-minded centre of research excellence that is committed to seeking knowledge in order to serve and transform society.

At Monash Business School, our mission is to deliver practical solutions that make an impact on the business world. We are shaping the future of business, venturing beyond traditional boundaries to bring together interdisciplinary thinking and tackle the big issues in economic research. Our researchers are at the forefront of contemporary knowledge and practice. Every project and challenge is underpinned by our unrelenting commitment to research excellence. We are committed to developing and supporting the research leaders who will shape the future. Are you ready to join us?

WHY A MONASH PHD?

The Monash Doctoral Program gives you an opportunity to challenge the status quo and change things for the better.

We are one of Australia’s leading research intensive universities, ranked among the top 100 universities in the world. And we are a member of the Group of Eight – the top tier universities in Australia recognised for their excellence and achievement.

We have a global reputation

Monash Business School is among the 1% of business schools in the world to have achieved the elite ‘triple crown’ of accreditation by the three major global business school accreditation bodies – AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA – and the only Group of Eight university to have done so.

We offer generous scholarships and grants

We believe in research excellence and we want to work with, and nurture the best researchers out there. That is why we offer generous funding support to graduate researchers. From scholarships and bursaries to cover the cost of your program, to help with your living expenses and travel grants to facilitate international experience, we give you the support you need to focus on your research and professional development, and make the most of opportunities as they arise.

Fostering an environment for success

We want you to have every opportunity to succeed. We provide an environment where new ideas are embraced, where scholarly debate creates new thinking and excellence is the norm. You will be supported by a minimum of two supervisors throughout your enrolment, both of whom are committed to your success.

Your experience is broadened through our vibrant visitors program. We welcome leading scholars from around the world to Monash Business School each year. During their visit, these scholars share their knowledge with our faculty and students through meetings, seminars, and informal discussions.

JOIN THE CENTRE FOR HEALTH ECONOMICS

We are internationally recognised as a leading centre for health economics and have one of the largest independent groups of health economists in Australia.

We have made, and continue to make, a significant contribution to the public debate and policy development in the Australian healthcare sector. Our overriding goal is to undertake and promote high quality health economics research and teaching activities, with both a national and international focus.

We have a vibrant and supportive research culture, which includes:

- Participation in domestic and international conferences, workshops and seminar series
- Expert academic supervision of 10 Higher Degree by Research (HDR) students
- Strong commitment to collaborative research with the business school’s Department of Economics and the Department of Econometrics and Business Statistics
- Interdisciplinary research with the Faculty of Medicine Nursing and Health Science at Monash University
- Full support for our staff and doctoral students to actively pursue grants to further their research.

Many of our projects are funded by NHMRC and ARC grants, as well as through contract research. We have collaborated with institutions such as the World Health Organization (WHO), Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and leading universities in Europe and North America.

Find out more about us at: business.monash.edu/centre-for-health-economics
The Specialist Streams in Economics Doctoral Program

Available on a full-time basis

Normally completed in 3-4 years

Commencement in January each year

WHERE THE RESEARCH HAPPENS, MATTERS

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Major thesis
The principal component of the Specialist Streams in Economics Doctoral Program is a major thesis of up to 80,000 words, comprised of an original research project.

We have strong links with the Department of Economics and Department of Econometrics and Business Statistics within Monash Business School, as well as with the Department of Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine. Co-supervision is possible.

Coursework
Coursework is designed to widen your knowledge, to place the specialised research project within a broader disciplinary context, and to enhance your research skills.

As part of the program you will be required to undertake the following units:

- Philosophy of Research or
- Microeconomics

and then one of the following units:

- Advanced qualitative research
- Advanced quantitative research or
- Advanced health economics

These subjects are designed to ensure you have the theoretical background and capability to be able to read graduate-level content and harvest the knowledge you need from it.

In some instances, students may be required to undertake additional subjects, as determined by the Program Director.

Milestones
Progress through the PhD is evaluated at three milestones to help ensure all students complete their studies in the required time.

Milestones are also an opportunity to receive critical feedback on your project from established academics external to your supervisory team. Milestones also provide a forum for you to acquire presentation skills when presenting your research.

Participation in departmental activities
Participation in the intellectual and academic life of the Centre is an important aspect of your candidature. In addition to improving your own intellectual capital, it provides you with opportunities to network with and present to supportive staff.

To this end, you will meet to discuss your progress with your supervisor fortnightly and attend all HDR seminars. The Centre and the Departments of Economics and Econometrics and Business Statistics also run a number of research seminars throughout the year which you are also encouraged to attend.

Sonja Kassenboehmer is a research fellow at the Centre for Health Economics at Monash Business School. She received her doctorate in economics (summa cum laude) from the Ruhr University of Bochum in 2011. She is a Research Fellow at IZA and at the ARC Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course.

Sonja’s articles can be found in such journals as The Economic Journal, Industrial and Labour Relations Review, Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization, Economics Letters, Economic Record and Education Economics.

DR SONJA KASSENBOEHMER
Deputy Director of the PhD Program
Research area: Individual wellbeing (wages, wealth, life satisfaction, mental health) in the labour market context and on non-cognitive skills.
Anthony’s research focuses on major early-life physical health problems in the developed world that have received little attention in the existing economics literature. Using rigorous econometric methods and two detailed panel datasets (including the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children and the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth – Child Supplement), he has carefully investigated a number of issues relating to childhood injuries, such as parental socioeconomic determinants, future cognitive outcomes, medical/pharmaceutical utilisations and prevention policies.
The main research themes for each of the research groups are provided as a guide for your research proposals.

We conduct research across the entire breadth of the health economics field. However, our primary focus is on the following four broad areas:

- Economic evaluation of health programs
- The socioeconomic determinants and dynamics of health and subjective wellbeing
- Measuring quality of life and social preferences
- Preferences, choice, behaviour and performance in the health system.

We have developed an impressive portfolio of achievements in health economics research. These include:

- Pioneering work on the measurement of social values, including the development of the Assessment of Quality of Life instrument
- Developing and applying research methods for priority setting in healthcare
- Significant contributions to public policy in the areas of hospital funding, health insurance, and health technology assessment
- Playing a major role in the development of policy and practice of economic evaluation of health services through work with the Pharmaceutical Benefits and Medical Services Advisory Committees
- Efficiency and performance measurement in healthcare organisations.

THE POWER OF GREAT RESEARCH STARTS HERE

Staff within the Centre for Health Economics are active researchers across the disciplines of health economics.

CURRENT PHD STUDENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>PhD title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miranda Blake</td>
<td>Investigating the impact of food pricing strategies on socioeconomic inequalities in health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Irving</td>
<td>The economics of the blood supply in Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Jackson</td>
<td>National Disability Insurance Scheme: Economic essays on the transition to choice and competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claryn Kung</td>
<td>Sensitive periods of childhood mental health for outcomes in adulthood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tania MacLeod</td>
<td>Evaluating the factors that influence and determine funding decisions for innovative therapeutics across a range of public healthcare systems with a focus on oncology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthony Niu</td>
<td>Childhood injuries from an economic perspective: Multiple longitudinal analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebekah Pinto</td>
<td>How does linking sanitation programming within existing nutrition and social protection programs promote greater uptake of improved sanitation options, particularly for the poorest families?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jemimah Ride</td>
<td>Efficiency and equity of perinatal mental health services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harini Swaminathan</td>
<td>Linkages of HDI to nutrition in the transient economy of India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Vandenberg</td>
<td>Three essays on the relationship between economic factors and alcohol purchasing</td>
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Scholarships and financial aid
Monash University spends more than $47 million each year on postgraduate research scholarships.
We also offer living and other allowances, travel grants, publication grants, residential scholarships and more. Stipends and other allowances help with living and other costs, such as relocation costs from outside Victoria, including overseas.
The Australian Government’s Research Training Program (RTP) covers course fees for research candidates who are Australian or New Zealand citizens or Australian permanent residents for the specified duration of their course.
Our tuition scholarships for international students cover the cost of tuition fees, and in some cases include the cost of compulsory Overseas Student Health Cover.
For more information visit:
monash.edu/graduate-research/future-students/support
Entry requirements
All applicants must be able to demonstrate a capacity to carry out independent research and have adequate training and ability to pursue the proposed course of study. Minimum qualifications and English language skills required are provided at:
monash.edu/graduate-research/future-students/apply
How to apply
Applying for the Specialist streams in Economics Doctoral Program involves four basic steps.
Step 1
Submit an expression of interest to Monash Business School Research Services Office at:
buseco-research.degrees@monash.edu
Tel: +61 3 9905 1055
Step 2
Receive an invitation to apply.
Applications may only be submitted once you have obtained an invitation from the Centre for Health Economics. This can take up to four weeks. If you hope to secure a scholarship, it is recommended that you start the process no later than one month prior to scholarship closing dates. Closing date information is available at:
monash.edu/graduate-research/future-students/support
Please see more information on commencement dates at:
monash.edu/graduate-research/future-students/apply/accept/scholarship/commencement-date
Step 3
Submit a formal application for admission.
You can apply online at:
monash.edu/graduate-research/future-students/apply
Step 4
Accept your offer.
Further information
monash.edu/business/future-students/research-degrees

Centre for Health Economics
Doctoral program director
Professor Anthony Harris
Email: buseco-che.hdr.enquiries@monash.edu

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