ACCOUNTING
DOCTORAL
PROGRAM

AN ADVANCED PROGRAM FOR
OUTSTANDING SCHOLARS

MONASH
BUSINESS
SCHOOL
REAL SOLUTIONS DEMAND REAL WORLD RESEARCH
When you join the Monash Business School 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 multi-disciplinary thinking to tackle the big issues in accounting and accounting research.

Our researchers are at the forefront of contemporary knowledge and practice. Every project and every 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 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’ 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.

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**The Department delivers quality and impactful research that influences industry**

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WHERE THE RESEARCH HAPPENS, MATTERS

The Accounting Doctoral Program

Available on a full-time or part-time basis

Normally completed in 3-4 years

Commences in February each year

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Major thesis
The principal component of the Accounting PhD is a major thesis of up to 80,000 words, comprised of an original research project.

Coursework
At Monash Business School, coursework is designed to widen your knowledge, to place your specialised research project within a broader disciplinary context, and to enhance your research skills.

In addition to your thesis, you will be required to complete two coursework units as part of your program.

- Philosophy of Research, plus one unit from the following:
  - Advanced quantitative research methods
  - Advanced qualitative research methods

These units 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 units, as determined by the PhD Director.

Milestones
Progress through the doctoral program 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 develop presentation skills when presenting your research.

Participation in departmental activities
Participation in the intellectual and academic life of the department is an important aspect of your candidature.

To this end, you will meet regularly to discuss your progress with your supervisors and attend graduate research seminars. The department runs a number of research seminars throughout the year which students are expected to attend.
Monash Business School has an excellent global reputation in accounting research, with a five-star ERA rating, and world-class academics, which really appealed to me as the number of potential supervisors was endless. I had my first taste of research during my Honours year at Monash, and chose to continue on with a PhD as it gave me the opportunity to transition to a career as a teacher and researcher.

My PhD experience has been incredibly positive, largely thanks to the quality of my supervisors, who have constantly encouraged me to explore my interests and discuss my ideas. I have presented at conferences and doctoral symposiums, which have provided me with invaluable feedback on my research and given me the opportunity to network with other researchers. While the Accounting Doctoral program is challenging, I’ve found it to be extremely rewarding.

ILIYAS YUSOFF
PhD candidate
Research focus: Financial accounting and international finance

“BEHIND EVERY GREAT SOLUTION, IS A GREAT RESEARCHER.”

PROFILE
Financial accounting
Financial accounting is concerned with the summary, analysis and reporting of an organisation’s financial transactions in a manner that conforms to the accounting standards. It also entails understanding incentives and opportunities that may explain accounting policy choice and the implications of accounting information for external users such as shareholders and creditors.

Our main strengths in financial accounting are:
- earnings quality
- accounting policy and disclosure choices
- capital markets
- corporate governance
- corporate social responsibility.

Management accounting
Management accounting deals with the generation of accounting information within firms (for example, information relating to budget, control and costing systems). Such information is expected to assist management in planning and control business operations and in strategic decision making.

Our key areas of strength in management accounting are:
- management control systems in public, private, and not-for-profit sectors
- performance measurement systems
- incentive system design.

Auditing
Auditing deals with the systematic examination of books, accounts, documents and vouchers to ensure an organisation’s financial statements provide a true and fair view. It also ensures that an organisation’s books of accounts are properly maintained, as required by law.

Our research strengths in auditing are:
- audit quality
- audit industry experience and specialisation
- audit regulation
- audit fees
- audit effort and efficiency.

Accounting information systems
Accounting information systems generally refers to a computer-based method for tracking accounting activity. It is a system used for collecting, verifying, storing, processing and reporting financial and accounting data that is used by decision makers. Research in accounting information systems involves investigation of the relationship between business, including the functional area of accounting, and information technology.

Our key areas of focus in accounting information systems include:
- exploration of the governance of technology
- strategic deployment of inter-organisational systems
- risk management and internal controls in the context of business processes and systems
- business process modelling
- marketplace and business simulation
- measurement of the behavioural usage of information technology.

Research infrastructure
We support our researchers by providing a range of state-of-the-art facilities and resources, including the Monash Business School Behavioural Laboratory. This multi-disciplinary research facility assists our staff and research students to produce innovative consumer and practitioner research.

We subscribe to a wide range of databases and provide some financial support to aid student data collection.
Entry requirements
All applicants must be able to demonstrate a capacity to carry out independent research, have adequate training and the ability to pursue the proposed course of study. The minimum qualifications and English language skills required to be considered for entry into our program are provided at: monash.edu/graduate-research/future-students/apply

How to apply
Applying for the Accounting Doctoral Program involves four basic steps.
Step 1
Submit an expression of interest to Monash Business School Research Services office at:
Email: buseco-research.degree@monash.edu
Tel: +613 9905 1055

Step 2
Receive an invitation to apply.
Applications may only be submitted once you have obtained an invitation from the Department of Accounting. 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

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.

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
Further information
monash.edu/business/future-students/research-degrees

Department of Accounting
Professor Matthew Hall
Doctoral Program Coordinator
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