ACCOUNTING DOCTORAL PROGRAM
An advanced program for outstanding scholars

MONASH.EDU/BUSINESS
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 one of only 86 business schools in the world to have been awarded ‘Triple Accreditation’ by three global accrediting bodies: The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB); EFMD Quality Improvement System (EQUIS); and the Association of MBAs (AMBA).

We offer generous scholarships and grants

We believe in research excellence and 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 and 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.

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

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.
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 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.

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 biannually

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 specialized research project within a broader disciplinary context, and to enhance your research skills. In addition to your thesis, you will be required to complete four coursework units as part of your program. They are:

- Philosophy of Research
- Advanced Quantitative Research Methods or Advanced Qualitative Research Methods
- Foundations of Accounting Research
- Current Issues in Accounting Research

These units are designed to ensure you have the theoretical background to harvest the knowledge you need from advanced graduate-level content. In some instances, students may be required to undertake additional units as determined by the PhD Director.

Profile

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

Monash Business School has an excellent global reputation in accounting research with four 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.

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THE POWER OF GREAT RESEARCH STARTS HERE

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 are:
- 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.

Scholarships and Fees
Monash University spends more than $47 million each year on graduate 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:
www.monash.edu/business/research/grad-research-program/scholarship-and-fees

Entry Requirements and How to Apply
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:
www.monash.edu/business/research/grad-research-program/dk-of-phil/how-to-apply

How to Apply
Applying for the Accounting Doctoral Program involves four basic steps.

Step 1
Submit an Expression of Interest online at:
www.monash.edu/business/research/grad-research-program/dk-of-phil/how-to-apply#tabs__1584302-01

Step 2
Preliminary Assessment
Your Expression of Interest will be assessed. A positive outcome will result in an Invitation to Apply. 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 application closing dates.

Step 3
Invitation to Apply
If you meet the conditions of the preliminary assessment process and the Department of Accounting has the necessary facilities, resources and supervision for your project, you will be invited to apply for a Monash Business School PhD – this can take up to four weeks. The invitation will direct you to the online application system where you can commence a formal application.

Step 4
Accept your offer.

Monash Business School
Accounting Doctoral Program

Staff within the Department of Accounting are active within a broad range of accounting disciplines. Our researchers are world-renowned for the quality and standard of their research findings and are widely published in leading national and international journals. Their body of work contributes to the academic field of knowledge as well as policy and business practice in Australia and internationally.
Further information
www.monash.edu/business/research/graduate-research-program

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