BSocSc - at a glance

Recommended Prior Knowledge
First year social science units do not require any assumed knowledge, prerequisites or recommended studies. Other units taken as part of a degree may require assumed knowledge, prerequisites or recommended studies and you should refer to the Macquarie University Handbook of Undergraduate Studies for full degree requirements.

Work Experience
No work experience is required.

UAC Code: 300120 CSP

ATAR Cutoff (previous year): 75.30

Minimum Course Duration
3 years full-time / equivalent part-time

Mode of Study
On campus

Enquiries
artsenquiries@mq.edu.au

English Language Requirements
- IELTS (Academic English only): Minimum 6.5 overall, with a 6.0 in each section.
- TOEFL (Paper based test): Minimum 580 overall, with 53 Listening, 52 Reading, 59 Structure/Written Expression, 5.0 TWE
- TOEFL (Computer based test): Minimum 237 overall, with 19 Listening, 19 Reading, 25 Structure/Writing
- TOEFL (Internet based test): Minimum 92 overall, with 18 Listening, 17 Reading, 22 Writing, 22 Speaking

Further areas of study
Graduate & Postgraduate study in Social Sciences

Honours can be studied across the social sciences within any of the cognate disciplines in which a major is offered. Each department contributing to the program offers full Honours programs and information on these is available at request by further consultation with the department administrators and Honours coordinators of these departments.

More information on Honours study can be found at www.mq.mq.edu.au/undergrad/current/honours/

More information on Postgraduate study can be found at www.courses.mq.edu.au

Hear from our students

‘Macquarie provides for the ultimate university experience. Degree programs are flexible, the teaching staff are supportive, the campus is easily accessible by car, bus and train, and our student body is the most culturally diverse I have ever seen.

The university also supports its students in their off-campus endeavours, most notably in relation to overseas exchange and internships.

With the guidance of my social science professors I was able to secure an internship with the NSW Premier’s Department and Cabinet which gave me valuable experience and practical skills.’

Zara Bending
Bachelor of Social Science with Bachelor of Laws

Bachelor of Social Science

Macquarie University is committed to being a leader in both teaching and research across the Social Sciences. We offer graduates the chance to develop a flexible set of skills and capabilities, leaving you ready to face the challenges of employment.

Why study Social Science?
The Social Science program will prepare students for a wide variety of research and policy-related careers in both the private and public sectors.

The diverse interdisciplinary skills embedded in the program offer a range of opportunities for graduates through a focused, skills based curriculum across a range of exciting areas of study.

By engaging with the Social Sciences students will study a number of disciplines, but more importantly our graduates gain a focused set of applied skills and capabilities that are both highly flexible to the challenges of the modern world and are highly sought after by employers.

The program provides specific skills in applied social research and offers a wide knowledge base for understanding challenging issues in a culturally diverse social environment across local, regional, national and global boundaries.

What is Social Science at Macquarie?
There is a strong emphasis in the Macquarie degree on social research design, methods, practice and application using a range of data analysis techniques and technologies.

The core of the program develops the understanding of how we understand our world, what questions we ask about it and challenges students to think about not just why we ask these questions but also what we can and should do with the answers that are found.

There are currently 11 majors offered within the program and more in development, which allows students to taste of several areas and develop skills complementary to their personal interests.

The applied capabilities learned enable graduates to communicate complex issues from theory and research into organisational settings (such as work-place equality, social policy, and criminal justice) and unpack social problems (such as social inclusion, ethnicity, migration, poverty and more).

Graduate will also develop skills in how to ‘do’ research using qualitative and quantitative methods; how to translate and summaries research in the work-place; and develop technical skills using basic and advanced software packages for data analysis - both in university and, through the internship program, in the work-place.

The MQ internships offer a unique chance to gain experience at work by applying skills gained in study to the design and conduct of research project within a placement at one of our partner organisations.

The BSocSc is also available as a combined honours degree with a Bachelor of Law.
What can I study in the BSocSc?

The Degree is designed to offer both a core program of units but also a range of majors that guide the study along particular themes. These emphasise the different disciplines that make up the Social Sciences but also particular areas of study and skills.

There are currently 11 majors offered within the Social Science program:

**Anthropology**
Anthropology offers students the opportunity for critical engagement with questions of culture, knowledge and social transformation as they are experienced in a variety of sites around the globe. Students will learn qualitative research techniques and strong theoretical tools combined in the writing of ethnography.

**Demographics**
Demographic analysis is a powerful tool that can explain a number of social, economic and business phenomena. Demography includes the study of the size, structure and distribution of populations, and how populations change over time due to births, deaths, migration and ageing.

**Development Studies & Culture Change**
The effects of development and culture change in a globalising world draw together the disciplines of anthropology and human geography, with options to study in other fields relevant to your interests, the development studies and culture change program offers opportunities to contribute to significant work for human benefit.

**Gender Studies**
Gender Studies investigates what it means to be a woman or a man in society and culture. Units look closely at the impact of gender, sex and sexuality on our lives in a variety of arenas: at home, at work, on the streets, in the classroom. Who are we? Why are we the way we are? What directions is society taking and how can it be transformed? Gender Studies offers new approaches to unravelling these questions.

**Human Geography**
Human Geography provides an important bridge between the social and environmental sciences. Two common themes within Human Geography are understanding similarities and differences between places, localities and areas in a range of social, cultural, economic and political aspects of human life and understanding interactions between people and their environments.

**Indigenous Studies**
Indigenous Studies offers the chance to gain greater understanding of Aboriginal society and culture. The emphasis of these units is to provide not only an academic understanding of the issues, but to have them delivered as much as possible by Indigenous Australians.

**Philosophy**
Through the major in Philosophy students become skilled in the art of philosophical questioning, construction of philosophical arguments and the evaluation of philosophical beliefs. Courses that cover internationally relevant traditions and fields of enquiry, including logic, epistemology, philosophy of science, metaphysics, philosophy of mind, philosophy of religion, phenomenology and existential philosophy, ethics and applied ethics.

**Politics**
Politics at Macquarie covers Australian politics, political theory and international relations. Students learn about institutional structures and recent political history, and how to link antipodean politics to global issues. Major debates in the field and different ways of political thinking are also linked to influential political theorists and to debates about democracy, liberalism, justice, feminism and civil society.

**Psychological Science**
Macquarie’s psychology program has a long tradition of interest, at both basic and applied levels, in individual and social issues as well as in the more fundamental psychological processes. The program provides students with a firm grounding in theory and empirical research as well as sensitive understanding of practical and community-related issues.

*To major in psychological science, you must have the appropriate ATAR to qualify to study psychology.

**Socio-Linguistics**
Students will examine the links between linguistic and social structures from different perspectives: variation studies, multilingualism and interactional sociolinguistics. Students will gain applied vocational as well as theoretical knowledge on language in modern society and professional skills in the broader discipline.

**Sociology**
The study of the social world reflects habits and practices of modern society. Exciting areas of study in Sociology include contemporary Australian society, popular culture, the sociology of media, the sociology of work and social policy, the place of intimacy in social life, social movements and social theory.

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**BSocSc - Sample program of Study Philosophy major**

This is a suggested study plan for how to obtain the Bachelor of Social Science with a major in Philosophy. This document is to be used as an example only and does not replace the Handbook of Undergraduate Studies - http://handbook.mq.edu.au/ or the University Timetable - http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/.

**Full-time Students, First Year Program**

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<td>SSC100</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Science</td>
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<td>STAT170*</td>
<td>Introductory Statistics</td>
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<td>PHL132</td>
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<td>Mind, Meaning and Metaphysics</td>
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Maximum number of credit points at 100 level in this degree = 30 (over 3 years of study).

**Full-time Students, Second Year Program**

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Please choose your 200 level units carefully as they may not form part of the prerequisite requirements for your preferred 100 level units. If you are unsure about your selection of elective units please seek advice from Department of Sociology.

**Full-time Students, Third Year Program**

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<td>PHL357</td>
<td>Theories of Justice</td>
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**Total Credit points in Degree = 69**

Notes:
- All students must complete a designated People and Planet unit during study at Macquarie University. Those above marked (*) are examples but a full list of units is available in the online undergraduate handbook.
- Those units in bold are required units to qualify for a Bachelor of Social Science.
- The unit in red is the capstone unit for the Philosophy major.
- The units in italics may be taken to contribute towards the major from a range of options, but are used only as examples.

Important:
1. Only for students who transfer or enrol into this degree in 2011
2. Students are governed by the rules of the year they enrol
3. For any further enquiries, please email: artsenquiries@mq.edu.au