



Curtin University

Curtin Credentials

Supervising Indigenous Research



Start:
Coming Soon*



Duration:
30 hours[#]



Delivery Mode:
Fully online
or Face-to-face[^]



Price:
\$750 (GST incl.)^{\$}

Are you a research supervisor? This Curtin Credential will extend your expertise, with the knowledge needed to prepare and guide higher degree by research (HDR) students undertaking projects in Indigenous topics.

This course is designed to equip research supervisors with the expertise to guide and ethically support HDR students (both Australian Indigenous and non-Indigenous) who are undertaking Indigenous-related research.

You will gain a comprehensive understanding of Indigenous ethical research requirements and community protocols, as well as Indigenous knowledge and ways of knowing. You'll also explore the elements of an Indigenous research paradigm and aligned theories and methodologies.

The need to gain competency in supervising Indigenous research is a growth area in the academic sector. This course provides another layer of understanding of the importance of duty of care to Community and Country from an Indigenous perspective. It will therefore not only broaden your supervision capabilities but also contribute to promoting Indigenous pedagogy, and diversity and inclusion within the research community.

Earn a badge

Once you successfully complete and pass the final assessment, you'll earn a digital badge that is instantly shareable to your social networks (including LinkedIn) which showcases your new skills and knowledge mastery.



Essentials

This credential provides foundation knowledge in a discipline and doesn't require previous knowledge.

You will also earn 5 credit points which are in line with Australian Qualification Framework Level 8 criteria (<https://www.aqf.edu.au/framework/aqf-levels#toc-aqf-level-8-criteria-2>), ensuring comprehensive theoretical and/or technical knowledge of the credential. 100 credit points are required to earn a Graduate Certificate at Curtin.

Make tomorrow better.

» creds.curtin.edu.au

Who is this credential for?

This Curtin Credential is designed for HDR supervisors and academics who see the benefits of developing their knowledge of Indigenous research and their ability to guide HDR students (both Indigenous and non-Indigenous) who are undertaking Indigenous-related research.

What you will learn

This course comprises three modules: Indigenous research contexts and ethics; An Indigenous research paradigm; and Indigenous research methodology and methods.

After completing the three modules, you will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of Indigenous approaches to knowledge and research in a supervisory capacity
- identify the key components of an Indigenous research paradigm and demonstrate knowledge of the relevant theoretical and methodological frameworks
- balance the formal research ethics processes with the consideration of cultural protocols to ensure that Indigenous peoples benefit from and are empowered through the research
- apply the principles of a social justice and self-determination approach to your supervisory practice of Indigenous students and non-Indigenous HDR students undertaking Indigenous research
- understand the practical considerations for supervising research of Indigenous topics.

Skills obtained

This course will expand your research supervision scope and repertoire of culturally appropriate methods, build the skills you need to confidently supervise Indigenous-related research projects and guide Indigenous HDR students, and provide knowledge of the contextual factors that contribute to Indigenous research ethics that champion a social justice approach.

Assessment

Both the online and on-campus versions of this course are comprised of various formative activities that support module learning, and culminate with a final graded assessment. In order to pass this course, learners are required to achieve at least 50% on the final graded assessment, in addition to completing the formative module activities.

Choosing your attendance mode

This credential is offered via two different modes of attendance, fully online or face-to-face. You can opt to enrol in this credential as a fully online learner, or attend face-to-face with a facilitator, on-campus at Curtin's Bentley campus in Perth Western Australia.

Both the fully online and on-campus attendance modes of this credential consist of 3 modules and 1 marked assessment. The modules comprise:

- guided instruction
- interactive activities
- independent reading
- an assessment task.

Whether you choose to attend fully online or face-to-face, the credential will expand your research supervision scope and repertoire of culturally appropriate methods, build the skills you need to confidently supervise Indigenous-related research projects and guide Indigenous HDR students, and provide knowledge of the contextual factors that contribute to Indigenous research ethics that champion a social justice approach.

Fully Online Attendance Mode

The fully online attendance mode is delivered fully online.

Run over a period of 6 weeks, it involves approximately 5 hours per week of learning. However to pass and earn 5 credit points, you may need to commit further time.

On-campus Attendance Mode

The face-to-face on-campus attendance mode is delivered at Bentley Campus in Perth Western Australia. You will be attending a class on campus one day per week, for five weeks.

Register your interest

To register your interest and indicate which mode of attendance you would prefer, please complete the form found at creds.curtin.edu.au/courses/supervising-indigenous-research. We will notify you when your course is available to enrol into.

Discover more

Curtin Credentials focus on five themes, which have been carefully curated based on what's most relevant and valuable to professionals today, and in the future. This credential fits within the following theme:



Leadership

Develop positive, sustainable, resilient and inclusive traits to guide your life, career, and organisational directions. Learn what it takes to motivate and inspire in a contemporary business setting.

Make tomorrow better.

» creds.curtin.edu.au

This publication is available in alternative formats on request.

* Curtin may cancel or reschedule a credential at any time and for any reason as it sees fit. The Start Date and the other details of this credential are provided as a general guide only and may change from time to time.

This credential involves 30 hours of online resources, readings, activities and assessments at your own pace. However to pass and earn 5 credit points, you may need to commit further time.

^ Depending on your choice of attendance: Fully online: learning is done completely online, Face-to-face: Onsite face-to-face learning.

§ Price subject to change. Please check price at time of purchase.

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This publication is correct as at October 2025 but is subject to change. In relation to courses, Curtin University may change the content, delivery, assessment methods and tuition fees; withdraw courses or limit enrolments; and vary other arrangements, including the academic

area where courses are offered. For current information relevant to this publication, visit study.curtin.edu.au.

Some information in this publication may not apply to international applicants. International students studying in Australia on a student visa must study full-time and meet other entry requirements, and are subject to international student fees. Domestic and international students studying outside Australia may have the choice of full-time, part-time and external study, depending on course availability and in-country requirements. Visit curtin.edu.au/study/international-students/ for more information.

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For
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information

Curtin Credentials

Postal Address
GPO Box U1987
Perth Western Australia 6845

Tel: +61 8 1300 222 888

Email: curtincredentials@curtin.edu.au

Web: creds.curtin.edu.au

Meet your facilitators



Professor Robyn Heckenberg

**Dean, Learning & Teaching
Centre for Aboriginal Studies**

Robyn has worked in the Higher Education sector for many years and actively contributes to numerous community projects and endeavours concerned with social justice,

environment and Country and accompanying Human Rights. As a Wiradjuri academic, Robyn feels privileged to be given the opportunity to work on Whadjuk, Noongar Country, and across W.A. more broadly. She has worked in universities across several Australian states and is an Alumni with the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (formerly Batchelor College); University of Newcastle; La Trobe University and Monash University. Robyn is dedicated to supporting Indigenous Australians and their ways of knowing, being and doing to flourish through decolonising and Indigenising approaches to higher education and research. Robyn is currently the Dean of Learning and Teaching at the Centre for Aboriginal Studies at Curtin university, Perth.

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/robyn-heckenberg-7ba4a31b5/>



Dr Carol Dowling

**Lecturer
Centre for Aboriginal Studies**

Carol is a proud Badimia (Yamatji) woman (Nyarlu) knowledge holder/leader (Madya) whose strong family ties are in the Central West of WA. She has worked as Lecturer of Aboriginal Studies for over 33 years at Curtin

University, Edith Cowan University and the University of Western Australia specialising in Aboriginal arts, Indigenous Research Methodologies/postgraduate studies, human rights, sustainability, politics and culture. Carol holds a Bachelor of Arts (Aboriginal & Intercultural Studies) from Edith Cowan University and a Master of Arts (Indigenous Research and Development) from Curtin University. Carol has a Doctorate in Social Sciences from Curtin University with her PHD research involving an auto-ethnography of five generations of Badimia women in her maternal family. Carol is a highly knowledgeable community advocate and activist.

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/carol-dowling-b63b373b/>



Associate Professor Shaouli Shahid

**Senior Lecturer
Centre for Aboriginal Studies**

Shaouli is an Associate Professor at the Centre for Aboriginal Studies. She is a teaching-research academic with extensive experience supervising postgraduate students and in

developing and delivering Indigenous research-related units. Dr. Shahid has almost 20 years of experience in working with Indigenous peoples in Australia and currently contributes to the Indigenous Community Management and Development program, as well as the Graduate Certificate and Postgraduate programs at CAS. She has recently coordinated and delivered an Indigenous research methodologies unit to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous postgraduate students. Shaouli, as a non-Indigenous researcher, brings invaluable experience, insight and wisdom to the role and responsibilities of working in this space.

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/shaouli-shahid-39b17b167/>



Dr Cally Jetta

**Senior Research Fellow
Centre for Aboriginal Studies**

Cally has cultural and kinship connections to Barngarla and Noongar Country, as well as the Tiwi Islands. She worked in secondary education for approximately 14 years specialising in Aboriginal education, coordination

and leadership before embarking on a career as a university academic, first as a lecturer, then as a senior lecturer. Cally has a particular passion for improving the educational experiences and outcomes of students through the promotion of Indigenous knowledges, pedagogies and methodologies and has developed numerous original, Indigenous-related courses and units. Cally completed her PhD in 2023 earning an Excellence in HDR Award from UniSQ. Her thesis focused on Aboriginal self-determination and privileged Indigenous research methodologies such as yarning, storying, visual representation and autoethnography. Cally is currently employed as Senior Research Fellow with the Centre for Aboriginal Studies where she supports Indigenous HDR students and delivers the postgraduate unit Indigenous Research Methodologies.

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dr-cally-jetta-918394259/>

For more information

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Postal Address
GPO Box U1987
Perth Western Australia 6845
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