At the Centre for Social Research in Health we conduct a world class program of social and behavioural research on HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs.

Our success in these key areas has opened up new avenues and partnerships in other related research areas such as sexual health, sex education, drug use and harm reduction, mental health, young people and risk practices, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, evaluation of health service provision, and GLBTI health.

Our research isn’t just theoretical … it translates into policy and practice.
What we do ...

Our innovative and multidisciplinary research not only contributes to and strengthens health-related knowledge, but also informs policy and practice. We employ a wide range of qualitative and quantitative research methods to:

- assess the health interests and needs of different groups
- describe, monitor and explain sexual and drug-related practices
- explore and analyse experiences, discourses and narratives
- comprehensively test factors that shape behaviours, and
- evaluate health education programs and health promotion services.

Close engagement with affected communities is the cornerstone of our research. And we work collaboratively across disciplines and with clinicians, advocates and policy makers.

Who we want ...

Passionate, engaged and motivated students interested in understanding and influencing change in the fields of health, sex, drugs and risk.

We welcome applications for research into the social and cultural aspects of HIV, sexual health, sexual practices, viral hepatitis and drug use but also encourage proposals in related areas of education, health and wellbeing, and from a diversity of social and behavioural science perspectives.

Why study with us?

Our research degrees provide you the skills to:

- produce high quality research
- contribute to academic and policy debates, and
- inform best practice.

You will be guided by supervisors who are experts in a variety of disciplines. Your supervisors will help you develop relationships with community organisations, health and education service providers, and policy makers to inform your research and strengthen the impact and relevance of findings.

Our students form an integral part of our diverse community of talented researchers. You will benefit from the active research culture of CSRH and be encouraged to participate in seminars, workshops, lectures and conferences.

You will have access to one of the best libraries in Australia and 24-hour access to computer resources and an email account. Individual access to workstations, research costs, conference attendance and teaching experience are provided on a competitive basis.
Degrees offered at CSRH

PhD
Doctor of Philosophy

Duration: Three to four years
Entry: A degree with First Class Honours (85% or above) or Second Class Honours Upper Division (75–84%) from an Australian university, or a completed MA by Research degree, or equivalent qualifications approved by the Faculty Higher Degree Committee.

A PhD degree requires you to complete an original piece of research and a 70–100,000 word thesis, demonstrating a significant and original contribution to knowledge, plus coursework appropriate to the research topic and skills of the candidate.

MA
Master of Arts by Research

Duration: One and a half to two years
Entry: An honours degree from an Australian university that includes a substantial research component, or equivalent qualifications approved by the Faculty Higher Degree Committee.

An MA by Research degree requires you to complete an original piece of research, more limited in scope and nature to that required for a PhD, including a 30–40,000 word thesis, demonstrates high level research skills, plus three units of postgraduate coursework.

GradDip
Graduate Diploma

Duration: One year
Entry: An undergraduate degree from an Australian university or equivalent qualifications approved by the Faculty Higher Degree Committee.

A Graduate Diploma requires completion of original research and a 15,000 word thesis, plus three units of postgraduate coursework.

Applications due in January (S1) and May (S2)
Courses can include those provided by CSRH (subject to demand), other schools and faculties, and the optional courses for postgraduate students provided by our faculty.
Getting started ...

1. Ensure you meet the UNSW admission requirements, including English proficiency.
2. Contact our postgraduate coordinator and be ready to send your research proposal, detailed CV, evidence of meeting the admission criteria, and a sample of your written research work.
3. The availability of appropriate supervision and resources for your research proposal will be assessed.
4. Submit a formal application to the Graduate Research School when requested.

More information ...

The websites of both CSRH and the Graduate Research School contain more detailed information on the application process and what you may be asked to provide.

https://csrh.arts.unsw.edu.au/education-training/postgraduate-research/
http://research.unsw.edu.au/units/graduate-research-school

Working with the best ...

CSRH is based in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at UNSW, internationally recognised as a lively and progressive faculty, combining outstanding scholarship in foundation disciplines and interdisciplinary fields, with a commitment to public engagement and social impact.

Located on the eastern beaches of diverse, dynamic Sydney, UNSW is a founding member of the Group of Eight (Go8) key teaching and research universities in Australia and is a member of Universitas 21, a consortium of the world’s leading research universities.

UNSW is acknowledged as a national leader in the 2012 Excellence for Research in Australia reports, and is ranked in the top three Australian universities for the social sciences. The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences received top rankings across disciplines, with above world-standard recognition across the Faculty as a whole.