Research at Flinders

Research is a core activity at Flinders. We attract and foster high-achieving research students and research staff, creating a vibrant research culture.

Our reputation for research led to Flinders being a founding member of the Innovative Research Universities; a group of seven internationally recognised, student-focused, research-intensive universities.

Flinders fosters strong links between teaching and research, consistently ranking among Australia’s top universities on a per capita basis for research spending, and for the citation of our work in professional journals.

We have national and international leaders in research in many areas, including Culture Policy and Society and Water and Environment.

Visit flinders.edu.au/research for more information.

Flinders Priority Sectors

Three priority sectors have been identified where Flinders University has extensive experience and expertise that will help develop these sectors in Latin America:

**Governance:** development and implementation of public policy; improved financial practices and accountabilities at the central and provincials levels; increased engagement of Community Sector Organisations with the planning and allocation of public funds and resources; increased transparency.

**Natural Resource Management:** good environmental practice; increased employment generation; adapting crops and products to the effects of climate change; increasing food security; community engagement in decision making.

**Water:** public and community access to ground and surface water for human; improved policy development and effective water management; identifying and reducing the impact of mining, agriculture and industry on the water table; water saving methods.

Did you know?

- Flinders has a dedicated AusAID Liaison Officer who provides non-academic support to students.
- According to the Semester 1, 2011 AusAID arrivals survey, Flinders University achieved a satisfaction rate of 100% in the following areas: introductory academic program, services and facilities, and assistance provided by the AusAID Liaison Officer.
- Flinders provides an introductory academic program for all AusAID students that covers the essential skills needed for university and to adjust to life in Adelaide.
Governance

Master of Public Administration

Policy:
Theory and practice of public policy

Management:
Theory and practice of management in public and non-governmental organisations.

Promotes a thorough understanding of public administration, policy and management, and develops qualitative and quantitative skills in policy analysis, planning, implementation and evaluation for candidates wishing to build careers in the public sector.

For more information about this course please visit flinders.edu.au/courses/postgrad/pa

Flinders Institute for Public Policy and Management

The Flinders Institute of Public Policy and Management (FIPPM) is a centre for research and consultancy in policy development and implementation; program evaluation; professional practice; organisational development and change; service user perspectives; the inter-relationships between state, market and civil society; community and social development and role of non-governmental public action.

Doctor of Public Health

Provides advanced knowledge and specialist skills for practitioners in the public health and human services workforce, including those in service delivery and allied health, support services, management, research and policy making in public health, community services and housing fields.

For more information about this course please visit flinders.edu.au/courses/postgrad/dr-publichealth

Research

The Discipline of Public Health has identified the following priority areas for research: community participation in health services and health promotion; food policy; healthy cities and settings; location and health; models of public health; public policy and health; social capital; socioeconomic and gender determinants of health.

For more information about research within the Discipline of Public Health please visit flinders.edu.au/medicine/sites/public-health/research/about-our-research.cfm

Learn from industry leaders:

In keeping with our objective to deliver relevant and dynamic course profiles, Flinders appointed former South Australian Premier Mike Rann as Professional Fellow in the School of Social and Policy Studies.

Mr Rann lectures and conducts workshops on the politics of climate change, voting behaviour and elections, environmental politics, social and strategic planning and social inclusion.

Research

For more information on current research within the School of Social and Policy Studies including political theory, public policy, water policy and environmental policy visit flinders.edu.au/sabs/saps/research

Natural Resource Management

Master of Environmental Management

Examines environmental policies, strategies and management systems, with a major focus on the recognition and development of sustainable environmental management in both urban and non-urban environments.

For more information about this course please visit flinders.edu.au/courses/postgrad/emg

Research

Research areas of particular relevance at Flinders include natural resource management and environmental health.

For more information about current Flinders research areas please visit flinders.edu.au/science_engineering/environment/research/health-envr and flinders.edu.au/science_engineering/environment/staff-postgrads

Environmental Health

Flinders University is at the forefront of research in environmental health. Risk assessment and management provide the framework for projects on water recycling; wastewater treatment, drinking water, recreational water quality and catchment management in partnership with major Australian and international water utilities.

Flinders is one of the only three universities in Australia actively researching in the area of quantitative microbiological risk assessment. This research is unique in Australia and has been developed through collaboration with international colleagues from Canada and the UK.
Natural Resource Management cont.

Some major projects include:

- Conversion of wastewater into usable stationary energy through aerobic treatment and anaerobic digestion followed by algal production
- Assessment of the health risk of using treated wastewater for agricultural and horticultural applications
- Ammonia and chemical removal from drinking and recycled water via the use of biofilters
- Mass algal/cyanobacterial culture (lab & field-scale) for potential use as bioenergy
- Assessment of recreational water quality following rainfall events
- Legionella ecology and control in soils and water systems.
- Bioremediation of hydrocarbon contaminated soils.

Water

Master of Science (Groundwater Hydrology)

Understand the basic scientific concepts relevant to groundwater, current pressing groundwater management issues and the technologies employed to deal with them. Students receive basic training in a range of fields, laboratory and problem-based and critical thinking skills.

This course includes a significant research/industry training project.

For more information about this course please visit flinders.edu.au/courses/postgrad/gh

National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training (NCGRT)

Together with numerous government and private agencies, Flinders University is the leader at the National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training (NCGRT), whose national headquarters is located on the University campus (flinders.edu.au/ncgrt).

Our Research Programs explore the key questions from the basic understanding of groundwater origins and processes, through groundwater interactions with surface water, vegetation, and the environment, to the decisions we are taking about the management of this resource.

Research

For more information on current research within the School of Environment, visit flinders.edu.au/science_engineering/environment/research

Water and Environment Research Hub

Addresses environmental issues including those relating to terrestrial, freshwater, marine and coastal resources.

The research that results, assists water and other environmental management practitioners, policy makers and aligned professionals to address complex problems through the development of integrated solutions.

flinders.edu.au/science_engineering/research/werhub

Flinders Research Centre for Coastal and Catchment Environments

This large group of distinguished scientists conduct research in many hydrology related fields, including atmospheric science, surface hydrology, terrestrial ecology, environmental chemistry, water quality, environmental microbiology, bioremediation, coastal environmental processes, remote sensing and GIS.

Tap into knowledge from global experts

Flinders University is a recognised international leader in groundwater hydrology education and research with one of the largest groups in any Australia University working in the area.

Leading international hydrogeologist Okke Batelaan (pictured) has been appointed Strategic Professor of Hydrogeology and is set to undertake a number of research projects around the world, including Vietnam, Africa and South America.

“Groundwater research is something that’s done very well at Flinders and with my background in groundwater I’m keen to expand our work in the area,” Professor Batelaan said.

For more information on AusAID at Flinders, please visit flinders.edu.au/international/adslatam

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Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this publication is accurate at the time of publication: September 2012 Flinders University reserves the right to alter any course or topic contained herein without prior notice. Alterations are reflected in the course information available on the University’s website.