

# Student Information Guide 2009

## Doctor of Education

**A National Program offered by the Faculty of Education  
on the Brisbane, Melbourne and Strathfield Campuses**

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### Contact Details:

**National Course Coordinator:** Associate Professor Denis McLaughlin  
**Room:** FC.43  
**Email:** [denis.mclaughlin@acu.edu.au](mailto:denis.mclaughlin@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 07 3623 7154

**Administration Officer:** Belinda Megson  
**Room:** FC.47  
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**Telephone:** 07 3623 7441

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## 1. Key Contacts

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This *Student Information Guide 2009* provides you with information concerning the conduct of the Doctor of Education program offered in 2009.

### ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION:

**National Course Coordinator:** Associate Professor Denis McLaughlin  
**Room:** FC.43  
**Email:** [denis.mclaughlin@acu.edu.au](mailto:denis.mclaughlin@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 07 3623 7154

**Administration Officer:** Belinda Megson  
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**Telephone:** 07 3623 7441

**State Coordinator VIC:** Professor Philip Clarkson  
**Email:** [philip.clarkson@acu.edu.au](mailto:philip.clarkson@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 03 9953 3269

**State Coordinator NSW:** Associate Professor Paul White  
**Email:** [paul.white@acu.edu.au](mailto:paul.white@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 02 9701 4250

### RESEARCH SERVICES OFFICE:

**Ms Sarah Quillinan**  
**Research Services Officer – EdD**  
**St Patrick’s Campus**  
**Locked Bag 4115**  
**Fitzroy VIC 3065**

**Email:** [sarah.quillinan@acu.edu.au](mailto:sarah.quillinan@acu.edu.au)

## 2. Program Information

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### GENERAL INFORMATION:

The Doctor of Education (EdD) provides an advanced course of study at the doctoral level like the traditional Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree. The EdD is research based but concerned with the reflective application of advanced knowledge to problems of professional practice. The Doctor of Education is designed to service the needs of professionals who wish to undertake doctoral level study so as to expand their theoretical bases for practice, to analyse current ideas and issues, and to address problems in educational practice.

Participants are encouraged to take up research questions that are germane to their current or projected career interests.

Australian Catholic University has the second largest Faculty of Education in Australia with qualified and experienced academics researching in teaching, learning and curriculum, religious education, all aspects of Catholic education, educational leadership, management, governance and policy.

Within the Faculty there are two Research Flagships:

- *Mathematics Education and Literacy Flagship*
- *Creative and Authentic Leadership Flagship*

### COURSE STRUCTURE:

**Stage One:** Three course work units

**Stage Two:** Proposal defence preparation and presentation, then ethics clearance

**Stage Three:** Field work research, thesis crafting and completion, thesis defence presentation, thesis examination

**REQUIREMENTS TO COMPLETE AWARD:**

1. Satisfactory completion of 30 credit points from
  - a. EDFD 705: Research Problem Exploration in Context, (stage 1)
  - b. EDFD 706: Literature and Theoretical Critique and (stage 1)
  - c. EDFD 707: Research Paradigms Methodologies and Methods. (stage 1)
2. Successful presentation of Proposal Defence by the end of the second year (stage 2)
3. Ethics Clearance obtained before progressing to stage 3
4. Annual presentation of Work in Progress Colloquia (stage 3)
5. Successful presentation of internal Thesis Defence Seminar (stage 3)
6. Successful External Examination of Thesis (last part of stage 3)

**STRUCTURE FOR PART TIME CANDIDATES:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
<b>1</b>	<i>EDFD 705:</i> Research Problem and Exploration in Context	<i>EDFD 706:</i> Literature and Theoretical Critique
<b>2</b>	<i>EDFD 707:</i> Research Paradigms, Methodologies and Methods	Proposal defence preparation & presentation
<b>3</b>	Thesis	Thesis
<b>4</b>	Thesis	Thesis
<b>5</b>	Thesis	Thesis
<b>6</b>	Thesis	External Examination of Thesis

**STRUCTURE FOR 2009:**

<b>Stages:</b>	<b>New Enrolments:</b>	<b>Continuing enrolments:</b>
<b>Semester One:</b>	<b>EDFD 705</b>	<b>EDFD 707</b>
<b>Semester Two:</b>	<b>EDFD 706</b>	<b>Thesis proposal preparation</b>

**LENGTH AND MODE OF THE COURSE:**

The normal period of candidature would be three years full-time or six years part-time.

The EdD program has been designed to promote opportunities for candidates to engage with qualified academic staff in each coursework unit of the program and to meet a range of academic staff who may be able to provide supervision of the research component of the program.

For part time students the maximum number of units in which candidates may enrol in any one year is two units.

**CANDIDATE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:**

Applicants normally would have completed a Master's degree in Education or equivalent, appropriate studies with an average grade of Second Class Honours or higher (or an average of Credit or higher). It is expected that candidates would have a minimum of at least five years experience in their field.

Applicants whose educational qualifications do not satisfy the requirements for admission to the course, but who have a sound and sufficient basis for application, supported by documentation, may be granted admission if they satisfy special admission criteria, determined by the University Research Committee (URC) in consultation with the relevant Faculty Research Standing Committee (FRSC).

Candidates are required to supply two confidential references indicating their suitability for undertaking the EdD and their capacity to complete a thesis. At least one of these must be an academic reference; one may be provided by a professional referee. Both referees should possess doctoral qualifications or relevant professional experience. There will be no recognition of prior learning for professional experience. Recognition may be granted for relevant coursework study done at the doctoral level.

**FOR SPEAKERS OF A FOREIGN LANGUAGE:**

In addition to all of the above, speakers of English as a foreign language must also meet the University's current English language requirements as follows:

- IELTS (International English Language Testing System) with an overall score of 7.0, including an individual score of 6.0 for writing and speaking tests and 6.0 for listening and reading tests; OR
- TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score of 600 and a TWE 5.0; or a computer-based score of 250 with an essay rating of 5.0; OR

Applicants must also have a minimum of three years study with English documented as the medium of instruction at accredited and NOOSR recognised secondary and/or tertiary institutions.

Applicants without the necessary academic background in the area of study in which they intend to research may be required to undertake specific units of study as a pre-requisite for admission.

#### **FEES & ADDITIONAL COSTS:**

**All Research Higher Degree (RHD) students have their tuition fees paid for by the University for the duration of approved candidature. This is known as a “fee waiver scholarship”.**

For further information contact Sarah Quillinan, Research Services Officer (refer 1. Key Contacts)

#### **LEAVE CONDITIONS:**

Leave entitlements apply as per the RHD regulations (6 months initially and 12 months for extreme circumstances; a doctor certificate must be provided).

Approved leave is factored into the expiry timeline.

#### **EXTENSION OF CANDIDATURE CONDITIONS:**

Extension of candidature as per the RHD regulations is initially 6 months and 12 months for extreme circumstances. Approved extensions are factored into the expiry timeline.

Students have access to supervisors during this time.

#### **APPLICATION FORMS:**

Application forms for all variations of candidature eg leave, extension, change of supervisor, conversion to PhD, withdrawal, change of thesis topic etc, can be obtained from Sarah Quillinan, Research Services Officer (refer 1. Key Contacts) or refer to website:

[http://my.acu.edu.au/staff/organisation/research/research\\_services/postgraduate\\_degrees\\_by\\_research/](http://my.acu.edu.au/staff/organisation/research/research_services/postgraduate_degrees_by_research/)

## **SUPERVISION:**

Candidates will be appointed a supervisor by the beginning of the second semester of the course. To facilitate this, a process of consultation between the student and potential supervisors will be initiated half way through the first semester.

The following web address provides access to the staff directory:

<http://apps.acu.edu.au/staffdirectory/?p=1>

Select Organisational Department as *Faculty of Education*

Select Unit: *School of Education, School of Educational Leadership or School of Religious Education* (if required)

Select Campus: ie. *Brisbane, Strathfield, Melbourne* etc. (if required)

This search will provide a list of staff attached to the School and Campus selected. You will be able to obtain contact information and view academic profiles to match suitability for areas of interest and specialisation.

Please note: School of Religious Education and School of Educational Leadership are national schools.

### ***Current Regulations***

After receiving the advice of the Dean, the University Research Committee (URC), shall appoint a Principal Supervisor and, if appropriate, one or more additional supervisors (to be known as Co-Supervisors) for each candidate at the same time as it approves admission to the thesis stage of the candidature.

Before making a recommendation, the Dean shall consult with the Head of School, proposed supervisor(s), other staff, as may be appropriate, and, if necessary, the candidate. The Dean must provide an assurance of continuity of expert supervision for the duration of candidature in the field of study. On the advice of the Dean, the URC may appoint a Co-Supervisor. All supervisors shall follow the procedures outlined in the University's Supervision Policy. For further information regarding supervision:

[http://www.acu.edu.au/\\_data/assets/file/0018/45027/Appendices\\_21\\_August\\_2003.rtf](http://www.acu.edu.au/_data/assets/file/0018/45027/Appendices_21_August_2003.rtf)

## **STUDENT ID CARD**

Student ID cards are available from your local Student Centre.

In order to obtain your student ID card your enrolment must be recorded on the student database.

If you are unable to come to the campus to have your ID card photo taken during normal business hours, you can forward to the Student Centre a passport sized colour photograph for scanning or an electronic image file in jpeg format. Please ensure you include your full name, course and student ID number when providing your photograph to the Student Centre.

Please note that “happy snaps” are not appropriate and are not acceptable. Only passport-sized photos [head & shoulders] will be accepted.

You must allow a minimum of **ten working days** after returning your enrolment material (if all the information you have provided is correct) before an ID card can be produced.

## **OBLIGATIONS**

Students in stage one are obliged to attend all face to face meetings and submit assessment items.

Students in stage two are expected to submit a thesis proposal defence by the end of stage two.

Students in stage three are expected to present annually a Work In Progress seminar.

Failure to meet these obligations invites termination of enrolment.

### 3. Units Offered

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#### Unit EDFD 705

##### *Research Problem Exploration in Context*

Candidates will be introduced to and guided to use a comprehensive array of data bases. They will be mentored through critical reflective experiences to generate a logical narrative, culminating in the justified articulation of their research problem as they appreciate it at this early stage. This understanding in turn is employed flexibly in the incipient investigation of the scholarly literature to produce a literature map with a major annotated literature framework accompanying it. The framework represents an initial synthesized understanding of the substantive content knowledge which underpins the research pursuit. This stage is the prerequisite of the literature review to be attempted in the following unit. The outcome of this unit is the basic scaffolding for three chapters of a thesis or dissertation.

#### Unit EDFD 706

##### *Literature and Theoretical Critique*

This unit will engage the candidate, in close consultation with his/her supervisors in identifying the appropriate literature. From the concepts embedded in the problem articulation, and by synthesising the relevant literature, the candidate will generate a conceptual framework. This allows the candidate to use the literature to illuminate an understanding of the problem as well as, where appropriate, to generate the research question. The final literature review will be a complex and unique reconceptualisation of the relevant literature in order to demonstrate and argue for the research question and its sub-questions.

#### Unit EDFD 707

##### *Research Paradigms, Methodologies and Methods*

In writing a research thesis, it is imperative to communicate comprehensively and to justify the research design underpinning the study. Thus clarity, coherency and comprehensiveness of the research design are pivotal. The purpose of this unit is to assist students to construct the research design chapter of their thesis. The unit addresses the need to develop and defend a theoretical framework and research methodology generated from the research problem, an issue identified by examiners as often lacking in the design chapter. Likewise, the unit guides candidates to argue logically for a research design based on the justified research questions.

#### **Assessment:**

**The assessment item for each of the units above totals 10,000 words in length.**

While all assessment is considered work in progress, not end points in the gradual construction of the thesis, successful completion of each unit is required to continue on to the next stage of the course.

## 4. Key Academics

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**National Course Coordinator:** Associate Professor Denis McLaughlin  
**Room:** FC.43 McAuley Campus  
**Email:** [denis.mclaughlin@acu.edu.au](mailto:denis.mclaughlin@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 07 3623 7154

### State Lecturers:

#### EDFD 705: RESEARCH PROBLEM EXPLORATION IN CONTEXT

**QLD Unit Coordinator:** Dr Eugene Kaminski  
**Room:** FC.32 McAuley Campus  
**Email:** [eugene.kaminski@acu.edu.au](mailto:eugene.kaminski@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 07 3623 7155

**VIC Unit Lecturer:** Dr Helga Neidhart  
**Room:** 4/32 Main Building St Patrick's Campus  
**Email:** [helga.neidhart@acu.edu.au](mailto:helga.neidhart@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 03 9953 3267

**NSW Unit Lecturer:** Associate Professor Charles Burford  
**Room:** Edward Clancy Building  
**Email:** [charles.burford@acu.edu.au](mailto:charles.burford@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 02 9701 4166

## **EDFD 706: LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL CRITIQUE**

**QLD Unit Lecturer:** Professor Peta Goldberg rsm  
**Room:** AC.44 McAuley Campus  
**Email:** [peta.goldburg@acu.edu.au](mailto:peta.goldburg@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 07 3623 7303

**VIC Unit Coordinator:** Associate Professor Kath Engebretson  
**Room:** 4/52 Main Building St Patrick's Campus  
**Email:** [kath.engebretson@acu.edu.au](mailto:kath.engebretson@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 03 9953 3292

**NSW Unit Lecturer:** Dr Elizabeth Labone  
**Room:**  
**Email:** [elizabeth.labone@acu.edu.au](mailto:elizabeth.labone@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 02 9701 4130

## **EDFD 707: RESEARCH PARADIGMS, METHODOLOGIES AND METHODS**

**QLD Unit Coordinator:** Associate Professor Denis McLaughlin  
**Room:** FC.43 McAuley Campus  
**Email:** [denis.mclaughlin@acu.edu.au](mailto:denis.mclaughlin@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 07 3623 7154

**NSW Unit Lecturers:** Associate Professor Catherine McLoughlin  
**Room:** Signadou Campus  
**Email:** [catherine.mcloughlin@acu.edu.au](mailto:catherine.mcloughlin@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** (02) 6209 1132

**NSW Unit Lecturers:** Dr Kay Carroll  
**Room:** S2.12  
**Email:** [kay.carroll@acu.edu.au](mailto:kay.carroll@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 02 9701 4184

**NSW Unit Lecturers:** Dr Sharyn Jameson  
**Room:** S2.03  
**Email:** [sharyn.jameson@acu.edu.au](mailto:sharyn.jameson@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 02 9701 4164

**VIC Unit Lecturer:** Dr Lyn Carter  
**Room:** 4/54 Main Building St Patrick's Campus  
**Email:** [lyn.carter@acu.edu.au](mailto:lyn.carter@acu.edu.au)  
**Telephone:** 03 9953 3282

## 5. 2009 National Timetable

<b>EDFD705</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>VENUE:</b>
QLD	24 – 25 January 2009	BA.01 (Computer Lab IB.10)
	28 March 2009	BA.01
	16 May 2009	BA.01
NSW	31 Jan – 1 February 2009	C1.01 & C1.05A
	28 March 2009	C1.01 & C1.05A
	23 May 2009	C1.01 & C1.05A
VIC	7-8 February 2009	4.40 & 4.44
	28 March 2009	4.18 & 4.44
	16 May 2009	4.40 & 4.44
<b>EDFD706</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>VENUE:</b>
QLD	11 July 2009	BA.02
	29 August 2009	BA.02
	31 October 2009	BA.02
NSW	4 July 2009	C1.01 & C1.05A
	29 August 2009	C1.01 & C1.05A
	31 October 2009	C1.01 & C1.05A
VIC	25 July 2009	4.40 & 4.44
	29 August 2009	4.40 & 4.44
	31 October 2009	4.40 & 4.44
<b>EDFD707</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>VENUE:</b>
QLD	19 January 2009	EA.04
	21 March 2009	BA.01
	9 May 2009	BA.01
NSW	31 January 2009	C1.10 & C1.06
	21 March 2009	C1.01 & C1.05A
	9 May 2009	C1.01 & C1.05A
VIC	31 January 2009	4.40
	21 March 2009	4.40
	16 May 2009	4.46

## **CHECKLIST FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING CLASSES:**

All sessions commence at **9.00am** and end at **4.00pm**, unless otherwise negotiated.

Coffee/Tea is provided by the university. Lunch can be purchased from outlets nearby the University or brought from home.

Attendance at all sessions is compulsory. Please notify the lecturer in charge in advance, if there are problems.

You are welcome to bring your own laptop to take notes, however it is not compulsory.

## 6. 2009 Information for each unit

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**CANDIDATES NEED TO BE AWARE THAT THESE UNITS ARE NOT DISCRETE. THEY ARE “WORK IN PROGRESS” AND WILL CONTRIBUTE TO A NUMBER OF CHAPTERS OF THE THESIS.**

### EDFD 705

Pre-first meeting activity:

For our first meeting, you need to spend sometime seriously thinking and then writing about what you think in broad terms will be your research problem. You are to write a story in explaining in concrete terms the background leading to some articulation of your research problem. E.g. “My name is .... I teach underachieving boys mathematics...etc. In doing this I found that many boys....” What is **not** wanted is: “My topic is boys’ education.” The story is about 500 words in real, specific, non academic narration. This beginning clarification exercise is important and over the next few weeks you may change your focus in the light of intensive reading. However, you need to start thinking about what research *you think* now might interest you. If you wish to chat about this, give me ring. I very much look forward to meeting you in 2009.

I want you to carefully read the following article before our first meeting: ‘*Scholars before Researchers: On the centrality of the dissertation literature review in research preparation*’.

[http://www.aera.net/uploadedFiles/Publications/Journals/Educational\\_Researcher/3406/Boote.pdf](http://www.aera.net/uploadedFiles/Publications/Journals/Educational_Researcher/3406/Boote.pdf)

### EDFD 706

EDFD 706, *Literature and Theoretical Critique* is a very important unit building on the groundwork begun in semester one. Analysing and synthesizing the appropriate scholarly literature is a key component in completing your doctoral goal. This is the chapter where you acquire and deepen the substantial content knowledge in your research area. A study of the literature might assist you generate the research questions to focus the conduct of future research. You would be wise to consult Australian Digital Dissertations and critique different literature reviews.

***The assistance of your supervisor is pivotal in this unit.***

### EDFD 707

The aim of EDFD 707, *Research Paradigms, Methodologies & Methods* is to provide scaffolding for your research design or methodology chapter. You will need to read extensively in this area. *Reading and Interpreting Research in Education* provides some information that assists you to think about your research. Please scrutinise the list of recommended texts and take some of these out of the library so that you have some basic knowledge before the unit commences. In addition, in first semester of every year there will be workshops on analysing interpretative or qualitative data using computer programs. You will be informed of the dates for these. Those who need assistance with quantitative analysis are to contact me and I will arrange with appropriate Heads of School individual seminars for candidates.

## 7. Readings

You will be well advised to purchase the following books:

Creswell, J. (2008). *Educational research: Planning conducting and evaluating quantitative and qualitative research*. New York: Pearson.

Perrin, R. (2007). *Pocket guide to APA style*. Boston: Houghton.

These books are appropriate for all the EdD units and throughout the data gathering and thesis writing stage.

## 8. Access and Operation of Blackboard

1. To access Blackboard you need to type in the following URL in your Web browser e.g. Internet Explorer: <http://www.acu.edu.au/> this is the ACU home page, then click on the heading “eLearning”, under “Login” select “Blackboard” and the Log In screen appears.
2. However, when using Blackboard for the **first time**, you need to run a check to see if your Web Browser is set up to operate properly with Blackboard.

To do this, click on “Check Browser” located under the Log In box under “Technical Requirements”. There will be a list of “boxes” which should have a tick marked in them, but probably the ones named “Java Check” and “Pop Up Check” may have a cross. To change these, you need to click on the highlighted section of the crossed boxes and follow the instructions which should set up your Browser to then access Blackboard. This process should have disabled pop-up blockers for Blackboard but in some cases you may need to also [\*Disable Pop-up blockers from your own installed Pop-Up software on your hard drive\*](#)

- a. Search your hard drive for any software with “pop-up” in the name. Disable it or set your Blackboard server as an allowed site. Examples of popular pop-up blocking applications include:
  - Pop-Up Stopper
  - Pop-Up Defender
  - Pop-Up Zapper
- b. Pop-up blocking functions are included in some anti-virus, internet security, personal firewall, and browser programs. Disable the relevant setting in the program or set your Blackboard server as an allowed site. Examples of programs that include pop-up blocking functions include the following:

**Note:** Click the links to read configuration information. If there is no link, refer to the Help in the affected program.

- [Norton Internet Security](#)
- [Zone Alarm Pro](#)
- [Google Toolbar](#)

- [Yahoo! Toolbar](#)
  - [MSN Toolbar](#)
  - [AOL 8.0 and later](#)
  - [Safari browser](#)
  - [Microsoft Windows XP, Service Pack 2](#)
  - [ICQ Toolbar](#)
  - Mozilla browser
  - Netscape browser
  - Firefox browser
3. **Parts 1 and 2** only need to be done the very **first time** you are about to use Blackboard. After that, you just access Blackboard using the URL in Item 1 at the top of this document.
  4. You then need to fill in “User name” and Password”, both of which should have come in your papers from the University and then click “OK” (If the information hasn’t arrived, you could use your Student ID number as “User name” and your Date of Birth (eg. 7<sup>th</sup> December 1960 ) as ddmmyyyy 07121960 as a “Password”.
  5. Once the “Course List” screen comes up, click on the unit, eg semester one unit **“RESEARCH PROBLEM EXPLORATION IN CONTEXT - EDFD705”** You can now access the documents on the Blackboard site.

## 9. Campus Locations and Maps

### Brisbane

McAuley at Banyo Campus  
 1100 Nudgee Road  
 Banyo QLD 4014

### New South Wales

Mt St Mary at Strathfield Campus  
 25A Barker Road  
 Strathfield NSW 2135

### Victoria

St Patricks at Fitzroy Campus  
 115 Victoria Parade  
 Fitzroy VIC 3065

All campus maps can be found at [http://my.acu.edu.au/staff/organisation/campus\\_maps/](http://my.acu.edu.au/staff/organisation/campus_maps/)

## 10. Accommodation

For students travelling to attend coursework, the following accommodation is located within close proximity to the University campuses.

### **Sydney**

Comfort Inn & Suites Burwood - 117 Liverpool Road, Burwood NSW 2134

Phone: 02 9744 0521 - Fax: 02 9744 0508

[info@comfortburwood.com.au](mailto:info@comfortburwood.com.au)

### **Brisbane**

Novena Palms Motel – 757 Nudgee Road, Northgate

<http://www.novenapalmsmotel.com.au/>

Comfort Inn & Suites Northgate Airport - 186 Toombul Road, Northgate

<http://www.choicehotels.com.au/hotels/hotel?hotel=AU241&cid=gglocal>

Virginia Palms - 1159 Sandgate Road, Virginia

<http://www.bookpalms.com.au/index.jsp>

### **Melbourne**

Hotel Grand Chancellor - 131 Lonsdale St, Melbourne, VIC 3000, Australia

Phone: 03 9656 4000

<http://www.ghihotels.com/hgc/property.aspx?propertykey=29&citykey=21>