

# Postgraduate Guide 2025



Australian  
National  
University

ANU College of Arts  
and Social Sciences

# Your future starts with understanding our world

As social scientists, historians, demographers, linguists, archaeologists, cultural researchers, social policy analysts, curators, artists and musicians, we seek to understand the world around us so that we can solve problems to create a better future.

Australian National University (ANU) students are ambitious, smart and focused. They're here to make a difference.

## Are you ready to take the leap?

Where in the world can humanities, arts and social sciences take you?

Image: ANU student Noorazah Mohd Noor at the ANU Three Minute Thesis competition. Photo by Jane Duong.



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# Arts and social sciences Australia's leader

If you're thinking about postgraduate study in arts, humanities, or social sciences, look no further than the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS)—whether you're specialising after a Bachelor's degree or taking the next step in your career. You'll join a community of world-class researchers, dedicated teachers and inspired students who will support and challenge you to become the best in your field.

# al sciences at ding university



## Global ranking

34<sup>th</sup> in the world\*



## Subject rankings

1<sup>st</sup> in Australia

ANU is ranked #1 in Australia for 8 disciplines across humanities, arts and social sciences.<sup>^</sup>



## Above world standard

World-class research

Ninety-six per cent of broad-field research at ANU is rated above or well above world standard.<sup>+</sup>



## Five-star

Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in Australia for for staff qualifications, and small class sizes\*\*



## 42 per cent

Percentage of ANU students studying a postgraduate degree



## 60+

College teaching staff who are members

of one, or both, of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, and the Academy of the Social Sciences of Australia.

\*QS World University Rankings 2024 · QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023 \*\*Good Universities Guide 2023  
+ Australian Government Excellence in Research for Australian Report 2019



# The Canberra advantage

**From its very inception, Canberra was conceived as a world-class city, with institutions of research, culture, and government at its heart.**

Nestled in the 'bush capital', our 145-hectare campus sits among the stunning natural environment that gives Canberra its unique peaceful character. Yet only steps from our campus you'll find Canberra's cosmopolitan city centre, buzzing with cafes, restaurants and shops. In easy reach are national institutions such as Parliament House and the National Gallery of Australia, as well as unparalleled scholarly resources at the National Library of Australia, National Archives of Australia, and Australian War Memorial.

## One of the world's most liveable cities

Canberra is a city where power, culture, and international affairs converge. A vibrant city of thinkers, changemakers, and innovators. Canberra is not just a place to study, but a destination where you can make your mark.

You'll love the beautiful leafy ANU campus, and our friendly community of students who come from across Australia and over 100 countries around the world. With the 2021 opening of the Kambri cultural precinct, ANU offers an educational, physical, creative and social experience in a village setting, on a campus already renowned for award-winning architecture and tranquil green spaces.

## Global excellence

ANU leads the nation in all of the disciplines listed below, and is ranked in the top 20 in the world\* for:

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Anthropology        | #8  |
| Archaeology         | #8  |
| Philosophy          | #8  |
| Geography           | #9  |
| Politics            | #10 |
| History             | #13 |
| Development studies | #14 |
| Sociology           | #17 |

\* QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023



## A capital experience

The nation's policymakers, lawmakers and influencers make their home in Canberra. Do you want to gain first hand experience in Australia's political system? Engage with diplomats and Canberra's international community? Or how about an internship at the National Museum of Australia? It's all possible at ANU, thanks to our connections with Parliament House and all 12 national cultural institutions via the Australian National Internships Program (ANIP).

## Our talent

ANU boasts leading academic talent, whose contributions not only inform public understanding and debate, they shape it from the forefront. With one of the highest ratios of academic staff to students among Australian universities gaining a five-star rating,\*\* our academics are able to provide individual attention to better guide and inspire you.

## World-class research and teaching

Many of our disciplines rank in the top 30 globally. Anthropology, archaeology, philosophy, geography, politics, history, development studies, and sociology are all in the global top 20.\* Our reputation for excellence is not only demonstrated in our rankings, but in the talent from around Australia and the world who choose to study and teach at ANU.

## Outstanding facilities and resources

Studying at ANU gives you convenient access to the University's extensive resources. Our state-of-the-art music recording studio provides students access to a world-class facility and is co-located in the School of Music with Llewellyn Hall, one of the country's finest concert venues. The ANU School of Art & Design boasts a range of workshops that foster skills from glasswork and pottery to cutting-edge digital and virtual reality techniques. All students have access to our world-class libraries, including the Chifley, Menzies, Hancock and Law libraries, and the ANU Archives.



## Canberra quick facts

### #1 Best city in the world to visit

Numbeo Quality of Life Index 2022

### #1 Most inclusive city in Australia

Study Canberra

### #4 World's most liveable city

OECD, 2023, Numbeo Quality of Life Index

### #30 Best student city in the world

QS Best Student Cities 2024

\*\* The Good Universities Guide 2024



# Excellence in research

**Canberra is a city where power, learning, culture, and international affairs converge: a vibrant city of thinkers, changemakers, and innovators. Canberra is not just a place to study, but a destination where you can make your mark.**

## Research results

Across humanities, arts and social sciences, ANU sets national and international standards in research, education and community engagement. Our national role in Australia is demonstrated by consistent high placement in global rankings and the depth and breadth of our research. ANU achieves outstanding results in the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) outcomes, a comprehensive and rigorous measure of research evaluation lead by the Australian Research Council. In the latest assessment in 2019, the College of Arts and Social Sciences achieved results that were above or well above world standard in subjects ranging from history, philosophy and criminology, to archaeology and anthropology. Ninety-six per cent of the University's research output is ranked well above world standard, demonstrating our legacy of and ongoing commitment to producing outstanding research that matters internationally.

## Early career achievement

Our early career researchers enjoy significant opportunities and success. In recent years the College has enjoyed a significantly higher success rate for Discovery Early Career Researcher Awards (DECRA) than the national average, reflecting our strong talent and supportive environment. From working closely with remote Indigenous communities to strengthen their language and culture, to life-saving explorations in health care communication, our early career researchers are pursuing high quality research that expands Australia's knowledge and capabilities. If you're considering postgraduate study as a stepping stone to a career in research, you will be ideally placed to do so at ANU.

## Researchers with impact

The expertise, dedication and influence of our researchers makes ANU the top choice for postgraduate study in Australia. Our academic staff are recognised internationally for their research and real-world experience. CASS is home to more than 60 academy fellows across the Australian Academy of Humanities and the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia. Over the last decade, we have hosted 87 Australian Research Council (ARC) Fellows, 17 of whom are currently active and engaged in tackling some of Australia's most pressing social challenges. A five star rating\* for teacher student ratio reflects the individualised attention you will enjoy at ANU.

\*The Good Universities Guide 2024.



# Work with the brightest minds in the creative arts, humanities and social sciences at Australia's top university.

What makes us the top university for postgraduate studies? It's the expertise and dedication of our researchers. Eight of our College's disciplines are ranked number one in Australia and in the world's top 20,\* and 96% of our research is ranked above world standard.\*

Our Academic staff are internationally recognised for their research, and 60 are members of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, the Academy of the Social Sciences of Australia, or both. We host 31 Australian Research Council Future Fellows and three ARC Laureates.

With some of the smallest class sizes of any Australian university,\*\* you're guaranteed to have one-on-one time so you get the guidance and support you need to succeed.

## Experts in their field



### Dr Zhengdao Ye

Dr Ye's cultural background is interwoven with her research expertise and interests. She is a leading expert in intercultural communication. Chinese linguistics and semantics are amongst the areas she teaches and specialises in, along with the expression of emotion through language. Dr Ye is a certified translator for the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI). She lectures in linguistics and supervises the work of many postgraduate students.



### Associate Professor Yujie Zhu

When we visit heritage tourist destinations, we're often not aware of the depth of culture and history that lies behind what we're seeing. Associate Professor Zhu's research and teaching sheds light on these cultural and political complexities. His focus is on Chinese cultural heritage, and he has written on phenomena such as 'romantic consumerism', issues of heritage and authenticity, and heritage conservation.



### Dr Liz Allen

Dr Allen is a lecturer with the POLIS: The Centre for Social Policy Research within CASS.

Dr Allen is a highly experienced demographer and frequent contributor to public discussion on topical issues in Australia including fertility, migration, population change, social trends, and population health. She completed a Master of Social Research and subsequently a PhD at ANU while raising a family.

\* QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023

\*\* Good Universities Guide 2023

\* Australian Government Excellence in Research for Australian Report 2019

# Postgraduate coursework

**We offer postgraduate coursework programs in more than 20 disciplines, so you can pursue a passion, advance your career, or even change career direction altogether.**

## Degree types

### Graduate Certificate

A Graduate Certificate is an introductory postgraduate qualification that takes one semester full-time. If you plan to progress to a Master program, you will need a GPA of at least 4.0 to be considered for admission.

### Master

A Master degree enables you to specialise in your chosen field, building on skills developed in your undergraduate study and professional experience. Most Master programs require a cognate background, however, you are eligible to study some Master programs even if you have a non-cognate background.

### Master (Advanced)

Through an Advanced degree, you can explore a subject in-depth and hone your research skills. This involves writing a thesis of 24 units. Available in any subject, an advanced Master degree is an excellent pathway to a PhD.

### The details

Find out more about admission requirements, degree structures and credits:

[cass.anu.edu.au/study/master-degrees](https://cass.anu.edu.au/study/master-degrees)





# Research degrees

There's no limit to your research potential at the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences. Our PhD students are at the forefront of their disciplines, from archaeology to sociology.

Work with world-leading researchers and become part of a global academic community. With a prestigious research degree, you'll be on the path to becoming an independent researcher, professional academic or leader in the workplace.

## Degree types

### Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Full-time PhD students normally spend a minimum of three years at ANU, while part-time students spend up to six years. As a candidate, you usually submit a thesis of 80,000 to 100,000 words.

### Master of Philosophy (MPhil)

MPhil degrees normally take between one and two years full-time to complete, or up to four years part-time. The thesis for an MPhil is typically 60,000 words.

### Areas of research

The ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences is constantly ranked among the best in the world for research in disciplines across the creative arts, humanities and social sciences.

At ANU, you can pursue research in:

- Archaeology
- Anthropology
- Arts (Visual and Design)
- Art History and Curatorial Studies
- Australian Indigenous Studies
- Biographical Research and Writing
- Biological Anthropology
- Classics
- Criminology
- Demography
- Forensic Anthropology
- Gender, Sexuality and Culture
- History
- Human Evolutionary Biology
- Interdisciplinary and Cross-Cultural Studies
- Languages
- Linguistics and Applied Linguistics
- Literary Studies
- Middle East and Central Asian Studies
- Museums, Collections and Heritage
- Music
- Philosophy
- Planetary Futures
- Political Science and International Relations
- Social Research and Methods
- Sociology

## HOW TO APPLY IN THREE STEPS

1

Develop your research proposal: This is the starting point. We use it to assess the quality and originality of your ideas and make sure it fits within our research focus.

2

Find a supervisor: Before you apply, you'll need an ANU supervisor.

3

Formally lodge your online application directly to ANU. Your HDR application will automatically be considered for all available government and university funded scholarships.

### Find out more:

[cass.anu.edu.au/study/higher-degree-research](https://cass.anu.edu.au/study/higher-degree-research)

# Find your focus

At the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences, you'll find coursework programs in over 20 wide-ranging disciplines. Wherever you decide to focus, you'll learn the latest research and methodologies in your chosen field. Your new qualification will prepare you to take the next step in your career, or continue your research journey.



### Anthropology and archaeology

Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures

Master of Archaeological and Evolutionary Science

Graduate Certificate in Cross-Cultural Analysis



### General and applied linguistics

Master of General and Applied Linguistics

Graduate Certificate of General and Applied Linguistics

Diploma of Languages\*



### Australian Indigenous studies

Master or Graduate Certificate of General and Applied Linguistics (focus on Australian Indigenous languages and society)

Master of Museum and Heritage Studies

Master of History (specialise in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history)

Master of Social Research Methods (focus on Indigenous Research and Policy)

Graduate Certificate in the Repatriation of Ancestral Remains and Cultural Objects



### Heritage, history and culture

Master of Art History and Curatorial Studies

Master of History

Master of Museum and Heritage Studies

Master of Heritage Tourism Management

Graduate Certificate of Museum and Heritage Studies

Graduate Certificate in the Repatriation of Ancestral Remains and Cultural Objects

\*Postgraduate students have opportunity to concurrently learn your desired language under the Diploma of Languages program –subject to ANU load policy.





## Human society

Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures

Master of Archaeological and Evolutionary Science

Master of Social Research Methods

Graduate Certificate of Cross-Cultural Analysis

Graduate Certificate of Social Research



## Social research and demography

Master of Social Research Methods (focus on demographic analysis or analysing crime and justice)

Graduate Certificate of Social Research

Graduate Certificate of Demography



## Political science and public policy

Master of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies

Master of Political Science

Master of Social Research Methods (focus on policy analysis or politics and society)

Master of Public Policy (specialise in population change, indigenous policy, social research methods)

Graduate Certificate of Social Research

Graduate Certificate of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies



## Visual arts and design

Master of Contemporary Art Practices

Master of Art History and Curatorial Studies

## For interdisciplinary explorers

Some of our planet's biggest challenges — including climate change, refugees, health and human rights — can't be confined to a single academic discipline. You need multiple perspectives.

### CHOOSE YOUR DEGREE

- Graduate Certificate of Studies
- Interdisciplinary and Cross-Cultural Research (ICCR) program



Visit [cass.anu.edu.au/study/postgraduate](https://cass.anu.edu.au/study/postgraduate) for more details.

# Anthropology & archaeology

The clues to humanity are everywhere. Embedded within our culture, buried within the earth, and even in our DNA. The study of what it means to be human can be fully achieved only by exploring both the past and present of humanity, where aspects of our biology, evolution, culture, society, and individual behaviour converge.

### Understand what makes us human

**Anthropology** is the study of cultural differences and similarities in a globalised world. As a field of study, anthropology is uniquely placed to interpret the widest range of contemporary social phenomena and many changing forms of social relationships. You can focus your study on a range of specialisations including ethnography and research methods; development; food and sustainability; gender, embodiment and technology; and empire, migration and travel.

As an **archaeological and evolutionary science** student, you'll go beyond theory, and take your learning to the field and the lab. Available specialisations include bioarchaeology and forensic anthropology; environmental archaeology and climate change; human evolution; and primate and human behaviour. You'll benefit from our strong industry partnerships, professional internship program, hands-on master classes with visiting fellows, local and international field schools, and our world-class laboratory facilities.

### Choose your degree

You can study anthropology and archaeology with these degrees:

- Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures
- Master of Archaeological and Evolutionary Science
- Graduate Certificate of Cross-Cultural Analysis

### Your future career

Our postgraduate degrees in anthropology, archaeology, and evolutionary science will assist you in advancing your career in government, the development sector, non-government and international organisations, cultural institutions, academia and research, or consulting.

Anthropology offers important insights into key global challenges of our time, such as identity politics, climate change, and technology and its social use.

### Professional outcomes

In addition to a deep understanding of the field, these Masters programs equip you with extensive research skills. Based on its ethnographic approach (participant observation and long-term fieldwork) anthropology examines similarities and differences across political, economic and socio-cultural domains. In studying archaeological and evolutionary science, you'll learn to apply scientific research and analysis techniques in the lab and the field. You'll also learn to think critically about your research and findings, and present them in an accurate and persuasive way.



**Glenn van der Kolk,**  
**Master of Archaeological Science**

After nearly 30 years in the Australian Defence Force, Glenn van der Kolk decided he was ready for a career change.

He had traveled the world during his military career and been interested in the local population everywhere he went.

He was interested in their culture and how they came to “be in place”.

“I was drawn to archaeology because I saw it as a way for me to investigate those interests more formally and more deeply,” Glenn said.

“Archaeology involves the investigation and analysis of





Image credit: 'Wrestling with Ethnography' by PhD candidate Paul Hayes, School of Archeology and Anthropology



Anthropology

**#1**

in Australia

#8 globally

Archaeology

**#1**

in Australia

#8 globally

QS World University  
Rankings by Subject 2023

human cultural material and I enjoy the aspect of finding that material and drawing conclusions from the subsequent research and analysis. I also love working outside.”

During his Masters degree, Glenn has conducted detailed analysis of human and faunal remains, ceramics, and the chemical composition of

stone artefacts, and has prepared samples for radiocarbon dating and isotopic analysis.

He has been part of field schools, and helped excavate sites such as the World War One trenches in the Jerrabomberra Wetlands near Canberra.

“But the most interesting thing I’ve done is participate as a research assistant for two field seasons in the Torres Strait with Senior Lecturer Dr Duncan Wright.

The artefact collections from these activities, and the subsequent analysis, forms the basis for my thesis.”

# Australian Indigenous Studies

Make meaningful and informed decisions in Indigenous policy by gaining a deep understanding of Australian languages, culture, history and society.

### Inclusive policymaking for Indigenous communities

Australian Indigenous policy presents unique challenges that demand a specialist skillset to achieve effective solutions. Through your postgraduate study at ANU, you'll learn instrumental insights into Indigenous and community perspectives. Studying Indigenous languages, linguistics and history provides another viewpoint to deeply understand the speakers, their societies, cultures and knowledge systems.

Through your studies, you will acquire the ability to undertake social assessments and integrate participatory practices into policymaking processes. You will gain an understanding of the principal ways in which critical social inquiry and methods on Indigenous issues can be applied to contemporary policy and practice.

ANU is home to some of the country's foremost experts in Indigenous languages, culture, policy and history. Study with researchers from the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australia's leading social science research body focusing on Indigenous economic and social policy from a national perspective.

### Choose your degree

You can study Australian Indigenous studies in the following degrees:

- Indigenous policy in Master of Social Research Methods
- Australian Indigenous languages, in a Master or Graduate Certificate of General and Applied Linguistics
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, in a Master of History
- Master of Museum and Heritage Studies
- Graduate Certificate in the Repatriation of Ancestral Remains and Cultural Objects

### Your future career

In studying Indigenous language, culture, policy and history, you can seek employment in government, Indigenous organisations, non-government organisations, companies working in Indigenous areas, or as an independent consultant. You will learn the skills you need to take on a leadership role in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policy for government and non-government agencies, community organisations and businesses that engage with Indigenous people.



Anthropology

**#1**

in Australia

#8 globally

Development  
studies

**#1**

in Australia

#14 globally

QS World University  
Rankings by  
Subject 2023

Image: CASS PhD candidate Nardi Simpson speaking on behalf of students at the 2021 CASS Awards night.



# General & Applied Linguistics

In our multilingual, international age, communication makes the world go around. Language allows us to articulate ideas and viewpoints, and so much more. It's a window into the cultural foundations of a society, a reflection of its history, values and aspirations.



## More languages, more researchers

It's no surprise that ANU is internationally renowned for **linguistics** and **languages**, as it hosts the largest concentration of linguists in the southern hemisphere. We're ranked 51st in the world for our linguistics teaching and research, and third in Australia for modern languages. We offer more languages than any other Australian university, with nearly 30 to choose from. As a student here, you'll work in our world-class language laboratories. ANU linguists are engaged in cutting-edge fieldwork and research.

The Institute for Communication in Healthcare is an international hub which undertakes interdisciplinary research in healthcare communication to achieve the goal of safe and compassionate healthcare.

### Study a language at ANU:

|                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Ancient Greek    | Persian                   |
| Arabic           | Portuguese                |
| Burmese          | Russian                   |
| Chinese          | Sanskrit                  |
| French           | Spanish                   |
| Gamilaraay       | Tetum                     |
| German           | Thai                      |
| Hindi            | Tibetan                   |
| Indonesian       | Tok Pisin                 |
| Italian          | Turkish                   |
| Japanese         | Vietnamese                |
| Korean           | Advanced English Language |
| Latin            |                           |
| Literary Chinese |                           |
| Mongolian        |                           |

## Choose your degree

You can study linguistics and/or applied linguistics with these degrees:

- Master of General and Applied Linguistics
- Graduate Certificate of General and Applied Linguistics
- Diploma of Languages\*

## Your future career

Your Masters degree can lead to a PhD, literary and technical translation or assist your career in education, translation and interpreting, language teaching, speech pathology, audiology, editing, language policy, cross-cultural communication or language documentation.

## Professional outcomes

Fluency in another language and knowledge of how language works opens doors across the business, public and non-profit sectors. Even if you don't pursue work in translating and interpreting, you'll develop skills for an increasingly international workforce. The ability to understand and empathise with other perspectives is highly valued across professions. Combined with the excellent research, analysis and writing skills, you'll advance right into your new career.

\* Postgraduate students have the opportunity to concurrently learn your desired language under the Diploma of Languages program — subject to ANU load policy.



Linguistics

#4

in Australia

#51 globally

QS World University Rankings  
by Subject 2023



**Rachel**

### **Graduate Certificate of General & Applied Linguistics**

I chose to study the Graduate Certificate of General & Applied Linguistics because ANU is a world-class university, and I've always been fascinated by language. I'm curious about the way we acquire and use language in different contexts and for a variety of purposes, from work to study to just making a joke.

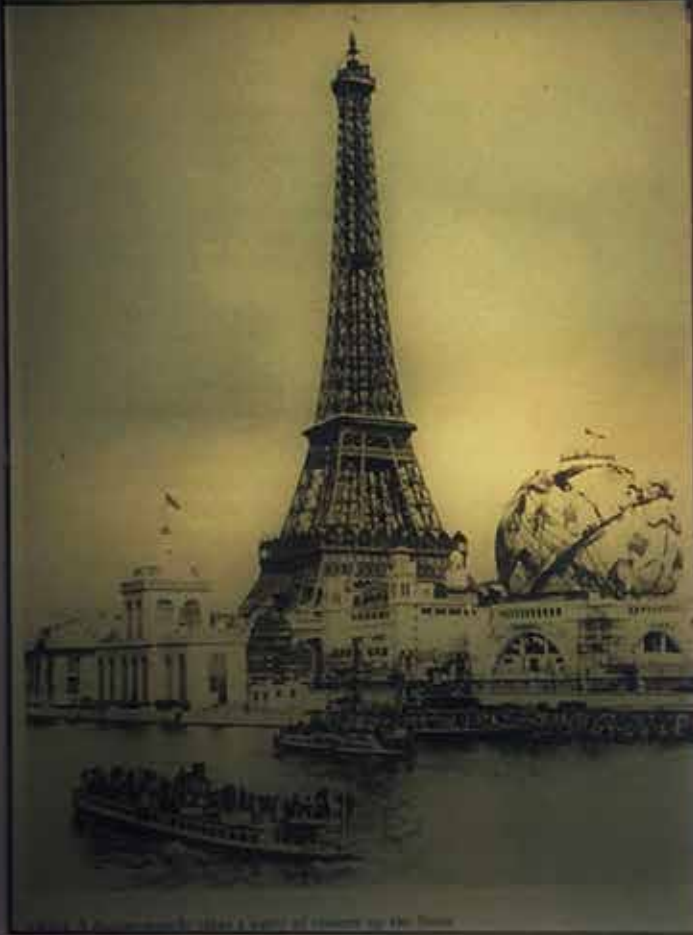
I'd always wanted to study linguistics subjects in my undergraduate degree but didn't have enough electives. The Graduate Certificate was a chance for me to explore this area, without committing to a whole Master degree.

# History, heritage & culture

Discoveries of the present are built upon and shaped by the findings and lessons of our past. Our guides through history are art, politics, culture and more. Understanding, interpreting and sharing these stories will lead us to a better future.

PARIS

From the Seine,



Paris Exhibition in  
bateau-mouche in  
the afternoon



**“ANU made me feel happy, at peace, and I enjoyed every day of my life there. Without ANU, I would not have been able to find such a good job.”**

Jiani Li, Master of Museum and Heritage Studies

Many people pursue further study driven by passion. Master of Museum and Heritage Studies alumna Jiani Li was motivated by, of all things, boredom.

She had majored in archaeology at her hometown university in China, but found her undergraduate museum courses to be as boring as her provincial museum.



## Diversity across disciplines

Our scholars of art history and curation, museum and heritage studies and history include experts whose outlook is international and research world-renowned.

The School of History has three centres — Biography, Environmental History, and Indigenous History — are active and globally recognised research hubs.

Explore intersections with memory studies and public history, as well as anthropology, archaeology and tourism through the Centre for Heritage and Museum Studies.

Focus on a wide range of visual and material culture with an emphasis on cross cultural and interdisciplinary approaches and object-based analysis in the Centre for Art History and Art Theory.

So where better to study heritage, history and culture than with some of Australia's leading academics in these fields? At ANU, you're perfectly placed to take advantage of our connections to the National Gallery of Australia, the National Museum of Australia and the National Library of Australia.



History

#1

in Australia

#13 globally

QS World University Rankings  
by Subject 2023

## Choose your degree

You can study history, art history and heritage with these degrees:

- Master of Art History and Curatorial Studies
- Master of Heritage Tourism Management
- Master of History
- Master of Museum and Heritage Studies
- Graduate Certificate of Museum and Heritage Studies
- Graduate Certificate in the Repatriation of Ancestral Remains and Cultural Objects

## Your future career

Our postgraduate coursework programs will assist you in advancing your career in art galleries, museums and other cultural institutions; the arts, heritage and collections sectors; the commercial world of culture and art; teaching and education; the editorial and publishing worlds; the public history sector; film, radio, television and multimedia; the library and archives sector; or in specialist environmental and heritage advisory services.

## Professional outcomes

Along with advanced technical skills, after studying history and culture at ANU, you'll gain a sound ability to review, analyse, and synthesise historical and cultural materials, which can be applied across varied fields. You'll also develop critical thinking and communication skills, particularly in explaining complex ideas to a non-specialist audience.

Image: UK Frederick, 2018

And so, Jiani explains, “When I was thinking about my graduate study, I chose museum and heritage studies — because I really want to know how I can create interesting exhibitions.”

This desire led Jiani to ANU. She was attracted to the national university by its top Australian ranking in anthropology, and because she felt

that Canberra was a peaceful place to study.

After returning to China, Jiani landed a job with the cultural heritage research team in the Chinese Academy of Cultural Heritage (CACH). She undertook research as part of the archaeological heritage interpretation, conservation and exhibition program, and helped

colleagues working on multimedia interpretations.

Then, she was ‘loaned out’ to the National Cultural Heritage Administration (NCHA), which CACH sits under. She currently works there as a Foreign Affairs Officer by day, and continues her research in her off-hours.

# Human society

What motivates people to behave the way they do? Social norms cover the way we interact with one another at all levels. Whether you look at this from the perspective of an anthropologist, criminologist, or other social scientist, you will gain unique insights that will help you shape society in the future.

### Understand the dynamics of human behaviour and social practice

There are a multitude of ways to view human society, and you can study most of those perspectives at ANU. With our programs, you will develop highly specialised expertise that you'll be ready to apply in the workplace.

You can pursue studies in criminology with the Master of Social Research Methods. Or employ a humanities and social science lens to understand overlapping threats to social, ecological, political, economic, and health systems. The Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures, offers specialist streams in ethnography and research methods; inequality and development; health, food, and sustainability; gender, embodiment, and technology; empire, colony, and Indigeneity; migration and conflict; human/other-than-human relations, and the opportunity to attend field schools in Australia and overseas.

POLIS: The Centre for Social Policy Research. The Centre has a long record of social policy research and policy and social impact. The Centre has established reputation as a leader in the field. There is a growing need for more credible evidence-based public policy.

### Choose your degree

You can study human society with these degrees:

- Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures
- Master of Archaeological and Evolutionary Science
- Master of Social Research Methods: focus on demographic analysis or analysing crime and justice
- Graduate Certificate of Cross-Cultural Analysis
- Graduate Certificate of Social Research

### Your future career

Your new social research and field research skills will assist you in advancing your career. There is a growing demand for expertise in social research methods in government, foreign affairs, international government and statistical agencies, education, journalism, consultancies, banks, local and international aid agencies, multilateral organisations, and international business.



**Stephen**  
**Graduate Certificate of**  
**Social Research**

Data is essential to good decision making. Knowing how people behave, what they think, and what they desire is the vital basis for making decisions that can best address their needs in a changing society.

Understanding how to use this data and turn it into solutions that resonate is at the heart of the Graduate Certificate of Social Research.

“If you’re at all interested in people then you need social research skills, whether it be to examine the impact of social media on people’s lives, to examine how people think, through



## Professional outcomes

In the anthropology-focused degrees, you'll develop important research skills such as ethnographic research, (which involves participant-observation), interviewing, and fieldwork). In studying criminology, you will learn skills such as data analytics, and advance your specialised knowledge in criminal behaviour, from cybersecurity and cybercrime to the social and cultural dimensions of crime, justice and regulation.



Anthropology

**#1**

in Australia

#8 globally

Sociology

**#1**

in Australia

#17 globally

QS World University Rankings  
by Subject 2023

to evaluating policies & programs meant to improve people's lives."

Stephen has qualifications in psychology and sociology, and has worked as a psychologist, education manager, and senior policy officer, across the tertiary, community, and public sectors. He wants to expand his existing skills and gain new ones.

"I want to gain social research skills

in both qualitative and quantitative methods & expand upon existing skills at the postgraduate level."

Social research touches on decision making at every level of government, and across a myriad of issues that affect us every day.

Stephen recognises many pressing issues in Australia today rely on better understanding to find a

solution, including moving to fossil fuel free sustainable communities and confronting the effects of climate change, developing a First Nations treaty and voice in all levels of government, and working on improving health & education generally, but specifically in health and science literacy.



# Political science & public policy

Gain a new perspective on power dynamics and contemporary political affairs on a domestic and international level. Whether international diplomacy or public social policy, it is government decisions that play a critical role in shaping our world.

## Study at the epicentre of Australian government

ANU is Australia's leading institution for theoretical and empirical research in social sciences, with an international reputation for exceptional teaching. As a postgraduate student, you'll have access to some of the foremost experts in the field, our extensive libraries and research resources, national institutions and international organisations.

Study political science to learn the analytical tools that you need to answer critical questions about contemporary political affairs, ranging from election forecasting to ethnic conflict. Or draw upon the expertise in the Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies to specialise in the Middle East and Central Asian region.

## Choose your degree

You can study political science or public policy with these degrees:

- Master of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies
- Master of Political Science (offered jointly with the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific)
- Master of Social Research Methods: focus on policy analysis or politics and society
- Graduate Certificate of Social Research
- Graduate Certificate of Middle Eastern & Central Asian Studies

## Your future career

A political science or geographic area studies qualification will assist you in advancing your career in government, foreign affairs, international government and statistical agencies, education, journalism, consulting companies, banks, local and international aid agencies, multilateral organisations, and international business.

## Professional outcomes

Through your studies in political science and public policy, you'll learn how to get to the heart of any problem. Your research and analysis skills will set you in good stead to provide evidence-based solutions in any future job, whether in the private, public or non-profit sectors.

Graduates of the Middle Eastern & Central Asian Studies degree will acquire a range of skills and knowledge including cultural and regional expertise, diplomacy and communication, research and analytics, language and linguistics and problem solving.



**Dr Anas Iqtait,**  
**Middle Eastern and Central**  
**Asian Studies**

"From an academic perspective, there's always something going on. The number of guests we have at ANU, and the topics they cover, are wide and intriguing."

Originally from Palestine, Anas already had a successful international career, having worked for Oxfam, the United Nations and in international consulting firms.

A fascination with international development and the political economy of Palestine led him to pursue further research at ANU into foreign aid, rentier state theory



Politics

**#1**

in Australia

#10 globally

Social policy  
and  
administration

**#2**

in Australia

#28 globally

QS World University  
Rankings by  
Subject 2023

and the political economy of the Palestinian Authority.

“When I first started my research, I realised that we still need to better understand the effects of foreign sources of income on political entities and the way they govern,” said Anas. “I’ve always been intrigued by the impact of international aid

on the Palestinian people and in Palestinian governments.”

For his research, Anas spent five months as a research fellow at Birzeit University. Here, he was able to conduct interviews with Palestinian officials, people from international organisations, civil society and business, and these formed the basis of his thesis.

As for his plans once he finishes his studies?

“My ideal position after I finish my PhD is to lecture at a university, and at the same time work on policy, whether it’s with international organisations or with governments in the developing world, including the Palestinian government.”

# Social research & demography

How will growing and shifting populations shape our world? What motivates and drives social behaviour? New methods of data collection, research and analysis are essential so we can make informed decisions in a rapidly changing environment.

### Specialised research hubs

At POLIS: The Centre for Social Policy Research and the School of Demography, you'll find some of the foremost researchers in their respective fields. Each school is led by top researchers with cross-disciplinary backgrounds, from economics and econometrics to social policy and statistics.

Study **demography** to analyse population issues with a focus on applying learning to real-world scenarios. Acquire cutting-edge skills in demographic techniques, research and writing.

Engage with **social research** to equip you with the practical skills to conduct, commission and evaluate research in the social sciences, and extend your skills in advanced research methods, applying your skills to real-world policy and societal issues. Learn how to conduct robust social research studies using quantitative and qualitative research methodologies, and how to interpret and present results.

### Choose your degree

You can study demography and social research with these degrees:

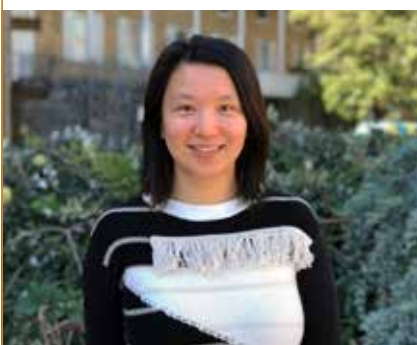
- Master of Social Research Methods
- Graduate Certificate of Social Research
- Graduate Certificate of Demography

### Your future career

Your new social research skills will assist you in advancing your career. There is a growing demand for expertise in social research methods in government, foreign affairs, international government and statistical agencies, education, journalism, consultancies, banks, local and international aid agencies, multilateral organisations, and international business.

### Professional outcomes

Advanced research skills will see you excel in any quantitative or qualitative research collection and analysis. As business and government looks to make more data-driven decisions, these skills will be in high demand. With these sophisticated research and analysis skills, you will be prepared to provide evidence-based advice across the private, public and non-profit sectors.



**Dr Qing Guan,**  
**School of Demography**

"I was drawn to ANU by its reputation and rankings in the global education market, and the unique qualifications in social research it offers."

Qing Guan came to Australia from China seven years ago, drawn by the stellar global reputation and leading rankings of ANU.

Originally studying a Master of Social Research, she found electives in demographic theory and technique sparked an interest in a new direction, a direction she has





Social Policy and  
Administration

**#2**

in Australia

#28 globally

QS World University Rankings by  
Subject 2023

followed to this day, completing her Master of Demography and moving onto pursue a PhD.

It was not only the theory and techniques of demography that drew her to the field, but also her own background. Migrating from China, her research work focuses on understanding how migrants come to Australia, how they live here, and

why they stay. An interest born of her own background, she now uses it to inform her path as a researcher, and to address the real world issues of our growing multicultural society.

Completing her final Master's thesis, Qing found that the intense research on a single question inspired her to pursue it further. She explored a topic close to her heart in her PhD: the

demographics and experiences of Chinese migration to Australia.

Supervising Qing's PhD was Professor James Raymer, whose own research and techniques guided her journey as a researcher, helping her to uncover new insights.



## Our disciplines

# Visual arts & design

Whether digital or physical, beautiful or practical, art is a reflection of our time. Design goes further than the art and craft of making, and shapes our fast-moving world. It's about applied creativity, engagement and collaboration.

### Expand your practice

Dedicate yourself to honing your skills as an artist at ANU. At the School of Art & Design you'll have access to our world-class teachers and cutting-edge workshop facilities encouraging specialisation and hybrid practice across the disciplines of ceramics, design, glass, painting, photography and media arts, printmedia and drawing, sculpture and spatial practice and textiles.

Plus, the nation's premier cultural institutions and thriving local art scene are on your doorstep.

You'll also benefit from our artist-in-residence program which brings some of the world's most experienced artists to work within the School, and our international exchange network which could take you to some of the most prestigious art institutions in the world. ANU also boasts The Makerspace, where you can create and connect with other students across the university.

Visual Arts is about practice-led research to advance your conceptual thinking through studio practice. It's about deepening, broadening but also specialising and refining your skills through feedback, testing, and development to discover what drives you as an artist.

### Choose your degree

You can study art and design with these degrees:

- Master of Art History and Curatorial Studies
- Master of Contemporary Art Practices

### Your future career

A postgraduate coursework degree in visual arts or design will assist you in advancing your career as a practicing artist, designer, teacher or professional in the arts and design industries. It will also create opportunities for employment in museums, galleries, the public sector and private enterprise.

### Professional outcomes

Studying Masters level visual arts or design will build skills that you'll use in your practice every day. As well as advancing technical skills in your craft, you'll hone your ability to effectively link research, theory and practice — skills you can use when applying for grants, approaching galleries, and beyond the arts sector. Build your professional network at the centre of Canberra's arts community, and work with the dozens of international visiting artists we host each year.



**Shanti Shea An**  
Master of Art History and  
Curatorial Studies

"I really liked how at first we were immersed in studio practice and there was this tradition of materials I found really interesting as well.

Then when I did art theory courses we were introduced to other

disciplines, but it was always through the language of art.

Doing theory and history alongside practice enriched my love of the medium and allowed me to see it within the context of a broader framework and within society and history as a whole."



**1st**  
in Australia

ANU is ranked #1 in Australia  
(and in the top-20 in the world) for  
8 disciplines across humanities,  
arts and social sciences.

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023



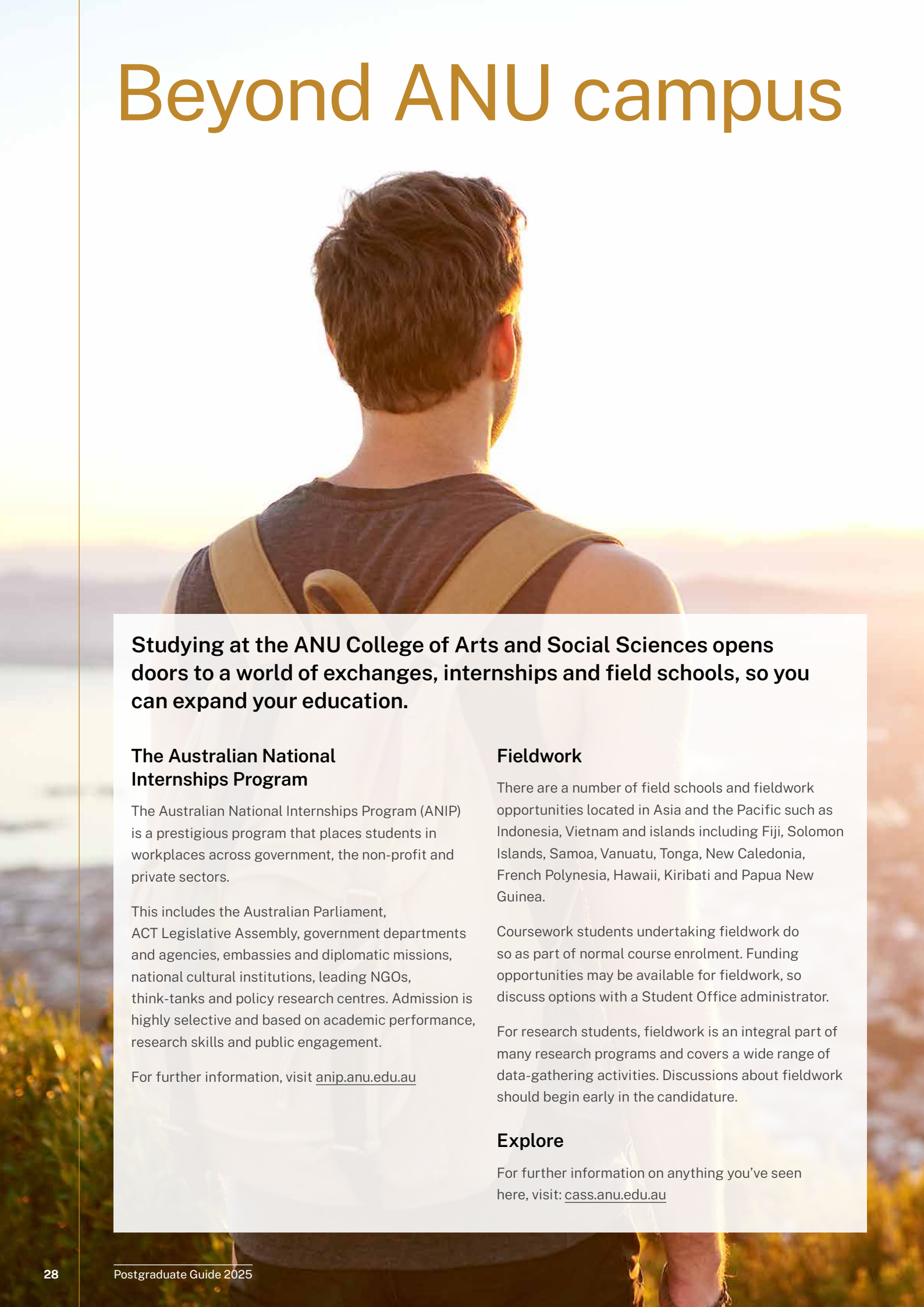
**Beata Tworek**  
**Master of Contemporary Practices**  
**in Art and Design (Master of**  
**Contemporary Art Practices)**

"I'm at the postgraduate level, so obviously it involves a lot of in-depth research at a higher level of theory and practice and ability to think creatively than what is required at

the undergraduate level. I'm actually partially retired now, which allows me to enjoy my degree."



# Beyond ANU campus

A person with dark, wavy hair, seen from the back, wearing a dark t-shirt and a backpack. They are looking out over a vast, hazy landscape under a warm, golden sunset sky. The person's head is slightly tilted, and their arms are at their sides. The backpack has a light-colored strap visible over the shoulder.

**Studying at the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences opens doors to a world of exchanges, internships and field schools, so you can expand your education.**

## **The Australian National Internships Program**

The Australian National Internships Program (ANIP) is a prestigious program that places students in workplaces across government, the non-profit and private sectors.

This includes the Australian Parliament, ACT Legislative Assembly, government departments and agencies, embassies and diplomatic missions, national cultural institutions, leading NGOs, think-tanks and policy research centres. Admission is highly selective and based on academic performance, research skills and public engagement.

For further information, visit [anip.anu.edu.au](https://anip.anu.edu.au)

## **Fieldwork**

There are a number of field schools and fieldwork opportunities located in Asia and the Pacific such as Indonesia, Vietnam and islands including Fiji, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Vanuatu, Tonga, New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Hawaii, Kiribati and Papua New Guinea.

Coursework students undertaking fieldwork do so as part of normal course enrolment. Funding opportunities may be available for fieldwork, so discuss options with a Student Office administrator.

For research students, fieldwork is an integral part of many research programs and covers a wide range of data-gathering activities. Discussions about fieldwork should begin early in the candidature.

## **Explore**

For further information on anything you've seen here, visit: [cass.anu.edu.au](https://cass.anu.edu.au)

# Apply today

## Postgraduate coursework

You can apply to start most postgraduate qualifications in either semester one or semester two.

Check [programsandcourses.anu.edu.au](https://programsandcourses.anu.edu.au) for requirements and application dates.

## Domestic students

All domestic students can apply for postgraduate coursework programs through the Universities Admission Centre (UAC): [uac.edu.au/postgraduate](https://uac.edu.au/postgraduate)

Note: Approval of an identified supervisor for the research project/thesis is also required for admission into any Masters (Advanced) degree or PhD.

## International students

International applicants can check the latest information for dates and programs on the application webpage at [anu.edu.au/study/apply/international-applications-undergraduate-and-postgraduate](https://anu.edu.au/study/apply/international-applications-undergraduate-and-postgraduate)

## PhD and MPhil

Along with your research proposal and the name of your supervisor, you will need academic transcripts, your CV, details of at least two nominated referees. Applications can be submitted online at any time during the year.

For a detailed guide to the application process: [cass.anu.edu.au/study/higher-degree-research](https://cass.anu.edu.au/study/higher-degree-research)

## Join the ANU alumni network

When you graduate from ANU, you become a lifelong member of our alumni community and part of a diverse group of individuals across the globe. Whether your interests are in future study, building a career, travel or reconnecting with fellow alumni, the ANU Alumni Program offers you plenty of benefits.

## Scholarships

The University and CASS offer a range of scholarships to postgraduate coursework and research students. Most of our scholarships are funded by donors and benefactors, external organisations and the Australian Government. ANU celebrates and supports the diversity of our student cohort and offers scholarship opportunities for both domestic and international students.

The Academic Excellence Masters Scholarship is available for international students who have applied for admission to a Master or Master Advanced Degree offered by the College.

The Indigenous Australian Graduate Coursework Scholarship is available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students undertaking full-time or part-time study in any graduate coursework program offered by CASS. Funding for this award has been provided by CASS and offered to Australian Indigenous graduate coursework students in the spirit of the College's ongoing commitment to practical reconciliation.

PhD & MPhil applicants will automatically be considered for government funded (AGRTP — Australian Government Research Training Program Stipend Scholarship) and ANU funded scholarships (URS — University Research Scholarships).

For more information and to check your eligibility, visit: [anu.edu.au/students/scholarships-fees](https://anu.edu.au/students/scholarships-fees)

# Our degrees

## Graduate certificates

A graduate certificate or diploma can help you explore your areas of interest and further your career, and as a pathway to a Master degree.

The minimum academic requirement is a Bachelor degree or international equivalent with a minimum GPA of 4/7 and all applicants must meet program-specific academic entry requirements including English language requirements.

Learn more at [cass.anu.edu.au/study/short-courses](https://cass.anu.edu.au/study/short-courses)

| Degree   | Description   |
|--|---|
| Graduate Certificate in the Repatriation of Ancestral Remains and Cultural Objects | As repatriation accelerates, this unique Graduate Certificate meets the need for advanced knowledge in Indigenous ancestral remains and cultural materials repatriation. Essential amid rising interest, it's core for museums, governments, and Indigenous organisations.  |
| Graduate Certificate of Cross-Cultural Analysis                                    | Designed for those understanding people in specific contexts, this program equips students with critical thinking to analyse human lives cross-culturally. It emphasizes ethnography in anthropological research, exploring interdisciplinary applications. Includes Indigenous knowledges, gender analysis, global multicultural contexts. |
| Graduate Certificate of Demography   | This program provides students with an opportunity to study population issues in a research-led environment, with a focus on applying learning to real-world scenarios.   |
| Graduate Certificate of General and Applied Linguistics                            | This program will introduce you to linguistic theory, analysis, and associated methodologies, and offer the opportunity to study language as a cognitive, social, and historical process.   |
| Graduate Certificate of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies                   | Study in small groups with country experts and gain a deep regional grounding from multiple interdisciplinary perspectives, including contemporary politics, international relations, modern history, political economy, development studies, sociology, and religious and cultural studies.  |
| Graduate Certificate of Museum and Heritage Studies                                | Drawing on our strong connections with Canberra's leading cultural and collecting institutions, this program prepares you for a career in museum and heritage studies.  |
| Graduate Certificate of Social Research  | This program will provide you with an introduction to the skills required to understand a changing Australian and global society, as well as the political, demographic and economic forces that shape and drive these changes.   |
| Graduate Certificate of Studies  | A flexible option for postgraduate studies at ANU for students whose needs are not met by following a program of study in a single academic discipline.   |





## Master programs

Admission to our Master degrees is on a competitive basis and meeting all admission requirements does not automatically guarantee entry. The minimum academic requirement is a Bachelor degree or international equivalent with a minimum GPA of 5/7 and all applicants must meet program-specific academic entry requirements (if applicable) including English language requirements. If you are looking to study the Master of General and Applied Linguistics, Master of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies, Master of Museum and Heritage Studies, Master of Heritage Tourism Management, Master of Political Science and Master of Archaeological and Evolutionary Science, and if you do have a cognate degree, you may be able to fast-track your Master degree by 6 or 12 months.

Most of the Master programs below also have an advanced option, which you may transfer to after at least 24 units with GPA 6/7 and the written agreement of an academic staff member to supervise your thesis.

Learn more at [cass.anu.edu.au/study/master-degrees](https://cass.anu.edu.au/study/master-degrees)

| Degree   | Duration | Description   | Prerequisite Subjects |
|--|----------|---|-----------------------|
| Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures       | 1        | Offering Australia's only combined biological and cultural approach to grasp these planetary scale problems while foregrounding anthropology's unique ethnographic method, which centres grounded and people-focused perspectives and values.                         | Yes                   |
| Master of Archaeological and Evolutionary Science  | 2        | Giving you access to world-class laboratory facilities to enhance your practical, analytical, and interpretive skills in the world of archaeology and evolutionary science.   | No                    |
| Master of Art History and Curatorial Studies       | 1        | Offering the opportunity to study Australian, Asian and Western art across a wide-range of periods with our award-winning specialist art historians.  | Yes                   |
| Master of Contemporary Art Practices               | 1        | A practice-focused, cross-disciplinary degree aimed at artists who want to develop independent creative practice which incorporates research methodologies.   | Yes                   |
| Master of General and Applied Linguistics          | 1.5      | Focused on the nature, use and structure of language, this program allows you to choose courses to explore your special areas of interest, possibly including a language.   | No                    |
| Master of Heritage Tourism Management              | 1.5      | Offering a systematic understanding of tourism within heritage management. With our global cultural network, the program provides unique opportunities for students to develop both theoretical and practical skills in critical analysis of global heritage tourism. | No                    |
| Master of History                                  | 1        | Study alongside internationally renowned historians with the resources of Canberra's national institutions at your fingertips in an area tailored specifically for you.   | Yes                   |
| Master of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies | 1.5      | Explore the politics, international relations, modern history, languages and political economy of the Middle East and Central Asia while drawing on our international partners.   | No                    |
| Master of Museum and Heritage Studies              | 1.5      | Drawing on our strong connections with Canberra's leading cultural and collecting institutions, this program allows students to undertake internships in the field.   | No                    |
| Master of Political Science                        | 1.5      | Providing you with the analytical tools needed to answer critical questions about contemporary political affairs ranging from election forecasting to ethnic conflict.  | No                    |
| Master of Social Research Methods                  | 1        | Taught by active practitioners with a wealth of experiences, this program gives you the practical skills to conduct, commission and evaluate research in the social sciences.   | Yes                   |

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# Notes

[illegible]





Australian  
National  
University

## Contact us

ANU College of Arts & Social Sciences

W [cass.anu.edu.au](http://cass.anu.edu.au)



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