“The PhB program has given me the chance to work closely with a range of ANU’s world-class scholars, and to pursue my particular intellectual interests in unparalleled depth. How else would I be able to spend four months researching transnational migration, or diaspora, or the influence of indigenous knowledge on government policy, guided by experts in the field?”

Elizabeth Comrie-Thomson (PhB student)
The Bachelor of Philosophy

The Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) is an elite research-focused degree designed for intellectually ambitious and highly motivated students who aspire to study at the highest level and at Australia's leading university* - The Australian National University.

The Bachelor of Philosophy (PhB) degree concentrates on developing each student's capacity to undertake creative and independent research in an area(s) of their choice. Consequently, the PhB program is extremely flexible, allowing students to customise their program in collaboration with their one-on-one academic mentor for the duration of their degree.

PhB degree students will have access to the full research resources of the ANU's Institute of Advanced Studies, the seven Colleges and numerous Research Centres.

Students of the PhB degree will join an elite group of current PhB students and recent graduates each sharing the rich opportunities and outcomes of this unique degree.

* 2008 The Times Higher Education Ranking Tables

Program Structure

One quarter of your studies in the first three years of the program will consist of individually tailored advanced studies courses specifically designed to provide you with a strong base in research.

In the fourth year, students will undertake an Honours year centred on one arts & social sciences discipline. Through the PhB, it is possible to specialise in areas as diverse as:

- American Studies
- Ancient Greek
- Ancient History
- Anthropology
- Applied Linguistics
- Archaeology
- Art History
- Australian Studies
- Biological Anthropology
- Classics
- Contemporary Europe
- Development Studies
- Drama
- English
- Film Studies
- French
- Gender, Sexuality and Culture
- Geography
- German
- History
- Human Ecology
- International Relations
- Italian
- Latin
- Linguistics
- Musicology
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Population Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish

Entry to the Bachelor of Philosophy Degree

Entry into the PhB is highly competitive. The minimum requirement for admission to the PhB degree is an ATAR (formerly UAI/ENTER) or equivalent of 99.05. Students in the first year of an existing Australian undergraduate degree will need a High Distinction average for consideration.

In addition to your UAC application, you are required to complete the "Additional Application for Bachelor of Philosophy (PhB)" form and submit two referee reports. The form is available at: www.anu.edu.au/sas/forms/Additional_PhB_application.pdf

Completed applications must arrive at the following address by 30 November:

Deputy Manager
Student Office
ANU College of Arts & Social Sciences
Haydon-Allen Bldg 22, ANU
Acton Canberra ACT 0200

Bachelor of Philosophy students are automatically considered for a wide range of scholarships.