



Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures



CRICOS code: 114811F

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1.5 years FT

Prerequisites: none



Anthropology

#1

in Australia

#8 globally

*QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023

Anthropology for a Future Planet

This program provides a humanities and social science lens to understand overlapping threats to social, ecological, political, economic, and health systems. It offers 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.

Anthropology equips students with skills, case studies, theories, and tools for social engagement to grasp our planetary crises, understand their cultural histories, and fight for a better future. The Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures engages critical social thought and research methods to steps back from crisis-thinking to consider the political and social work that

these threats justify and enable, and provides evidence bases for advocacy and public debate. The degree equips students to describe and theorise how planetary emergencies came about precisely due to human social engineering and the dominance of particular sets of cultural values, while also recognising that they are shaped by the creative responses of people responding to rapid transformations on their own terms.

Why study Anthropology at the ANU?

The Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures emphasises rigour in research methodologies to develop key analytical skills for systems thinking alongside cutting edge qualitative, fieldwork-based, and applied skills that provide solid empirical and critical foundations for future research careers. Training in methods from biological anthropology is combined with cultural anthropology's ethnographic



exploration of human diversity. Together, these researched frameworks and applied anthropology provide unexpected and badly needed alternatives.

Employment Opportunities

Anthropology is the study of contemporary human cultural lives. In a globalised world, cross-cultural literacy and analysis have never been more important. The Master in Anthropology and Planetary Futures is a highly sought-after program that places very strong emphasis on anthropological theory and methods with the intention of equipping graduates with the skills for work in applied research contexts in the public and corporate sectors.

A Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures will advance your career working in cultural institutions, the public service, non-government organisations, academia, or any professional area requiring an understanding of cross-cultural analysis.

Learning Outcomes

1. analyse and engage the cutting edge of anthropological theories and ethnographic methods, and apply them to key global challenges and events;
2. design and execute engaged and ethical anthropological research;
3. understand the social basis and effects of planetary crises, as well as how our particular thinking and responses to crises emerges; and
4. translate anthropological insights into social justice activism to address urgent social and planetary problems.

Admission requirements

Applicants must present one of the following:

- A cognate Bachelor degree or international equivalent with a minimum GPA of 5/7
- A Bachelor degree or international equivalent AND a Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma in a cognate discipline with a minimum GPA of 4/7

Further information

To transfer to the VAPF-Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures (Advanced) program, students must achieve a Distinction grade in Foundations for eSocial Research—at least 6 units and have confirmed appropriate supervision through an Expression of Interest (EOI) proposal to the anthropology faculty.

For general information, please contact:

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