



Australian
National
University

2026 Postgraduate Guide

ANU College of Arts
and Social Sciences

Your future starts with understanding our world

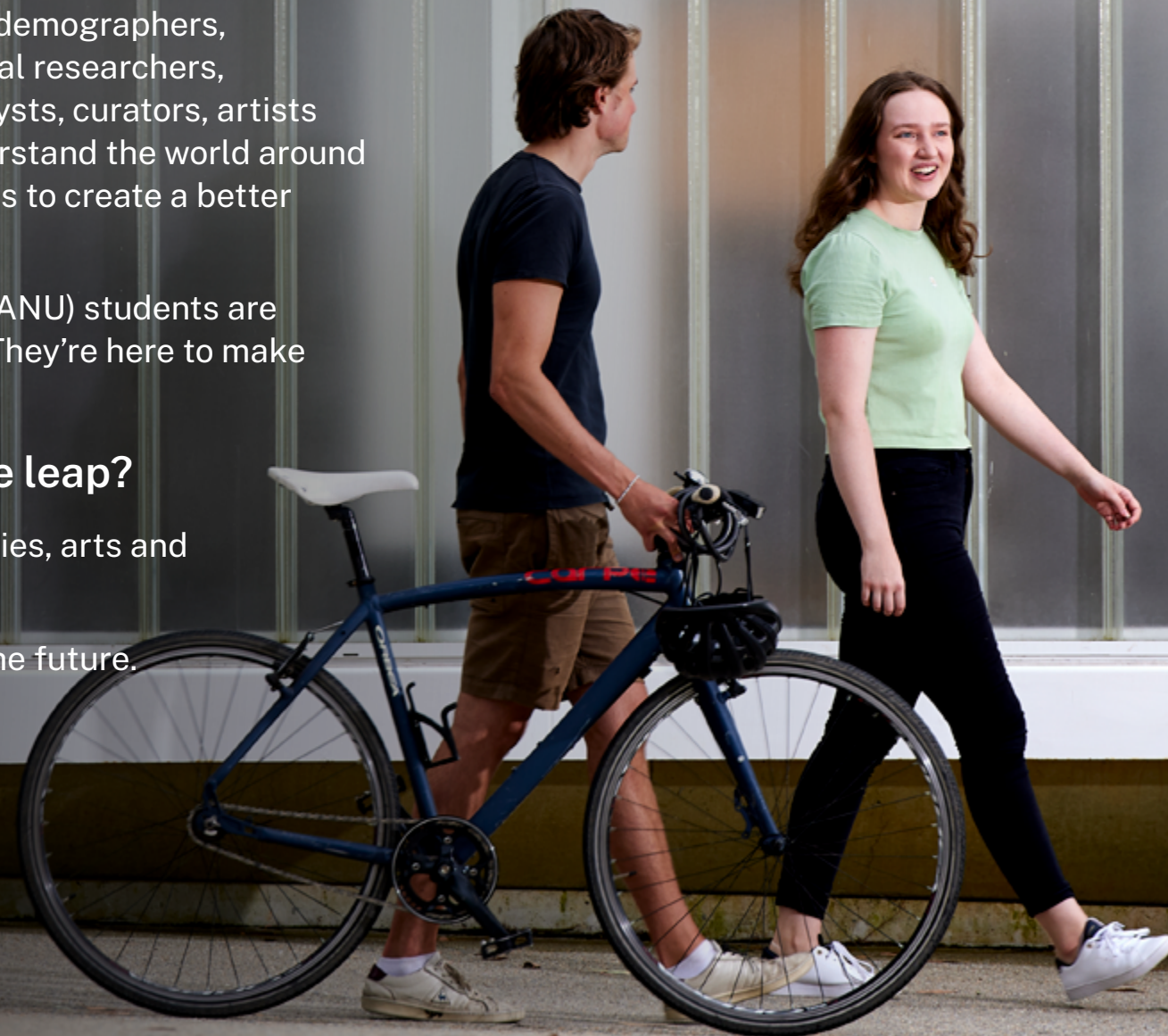
As social scientists, historians, demographers, linguists, archaeologists, cultural researchers, philosophers, social policy analysts, curators, artists and musicians, we seek to understand the world around us so that we can solve problems to create a better future.

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?

Let this guide me your map to the future.



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Why ANU is for you

- 1 We're Australia's most international university
- 2 Flexible, internationally recognised degrees
- 3 Early offer with automatic scholarship consideration
- 4 Supportive community to help you settle and thrive
- 5 Small, interactive classes taught by world-leading academics

Arts and social sciences at Australia's leading university

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 degree or taking the next step in your postgraduate 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.

Top 30

global ranking in the world¹

Number 1

in Australia and among the top 30 globally in 7 disciplines²

Number 1

for most employable graduates in Australia³

Global excellence

ANU leads the nation and is ranked in the top 30 in the world² for the seven disciplines listed here:

Philosophy

#8

Anthropology

#9

Archaeology

#10

Development Studies

#10

Politics

#11

Sociology

#23

History

#26

1. QS World University Rankings 2025

2. QS World University Rankings by Subject 2025

3. THE Global Employability University Rankings 2025

CANBERRA LIFE

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

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. Our academics are able to provide individual attention to better guide and inspire you: ANU is ranked 1st for student-to-staff ratio among Australia's prestigious Group of Eight universities.

World-class research and teaching

Many of our disciplines feature highly in global rankings. Philosophy, anthropology, archaeology, development studies, politics, sociology, and history are all ranked #1 in Australia and in the top 30 in the world*. 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 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 Highest average income and lowest unemployment in Australia

Why Study in Canberra 2025

#1 Most inclusive city in Australia

Study Canberra

#4 World's most liveable city

OECD, 2023, Numbeo Quality of Life Index by City

#29 Best student city in the world

QS Best Student Cities 2025

* THE World University Rankings 2025 **QS World University Rankings by Subject 2025

Postgraduate coursework



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 most subjects, an advanced Master degree is an excellent pathway to a PhD.

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.



Xinyuan

Master of Digital Humanities & Public Culture (Master of Digital Humanities)

"I am ambitious. I believe digital humanities will equip me with the skills, experiences, and knowledge to be an academic pioneer, and to rise above the rest."

Xinyuan has picked up many diverse skills, from learning methodologies such as Linked Data, RStudio, and many more. The research from her Masters has been published by leading conferences in web science.

The details



Find out more about admission requirements, degree structures and credits:
cass.anu.edu.au/study/pg



With a postgraduate qualification in arts, humanities and social sciences from ANU, you can expand your career, build industry connections and have the flexibility to study in a way that works for you.

What our students say!



Jade
Master of Middle
Eastern and Central
Asian Studies



Studying in Canberra means being at the heart of the nation's politics. It allowed me to choose courses most relevant to my interests and apply real-world insights to my degree.



Kristian
Master of Social
Research Methods



ANU has equipped us with the necessary tools to achieve our dreams; it is our duty to use these tools to make our dreams into reality!



Xingweiai
Master of Art History
and Curatorial
Studies



If you are eager to challenge yourself and become a mature person who wants to get outstanding insights of this vastly-changing world, ANU is your first choice, it is the place that I cherish.



Aman
Master of
Archaeological and
Evolutionary Science



The ANU is one of the few places in Australia that does groundbreaking research in archaeology, but also has time for their students.

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 CASS, 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
- Digital Humanities
- Forensic Anthropology
- Gender, Sexuality and Culture
- History
- Human Evolutionary Biology
- Interdisciplinary and Cross-Cultural Studies

How to apply

- 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.

- 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
- Public Culture
- Social Research and Methods
- Sociology

Find out more:

cass.anu.edu.au/study/higher-degree-research

OUR DISCIPLINES 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 methodologies and theoretical frameworks in your chosen field. Your new qualification will prepare you to take the next step in your career, or to continue your research journey.



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.

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



Australian Indigenous Studies

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

- 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 of the Repatriation of Ancestral Remains and Cultural Objects

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.

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



Heritage, history and 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.

- Master of Art History and Curatorial Studies
- Master of Digital Humanities
- Master of History
- Master of Museum and Heritage Studies
- Master of Heritage Tourism Management
- Graduate Certificate of Museum and Heritage Studies
- Graduate Certificate of 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

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.

- 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

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.

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



Political science and 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.

- 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



Social research and demography

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

- Master of Applied Criminology
- Master of Social Research Methods (focus on demographic analysis or analysing crime and justice)
- Graduate Certificate of Social Research
- Graduate Certificate of Demography

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.





ANU offers a unique experience to students. Thinking about studying humanities, arts and social sciences? Step this way for detailed information about what and how you can study with us.

Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



This program offers a unique social science perspective on interconnected global challenges affecting society, ecology, politics, economics, and health. It offers Australia's only combined biological and cultural approach to grasp these planetary-scale problems, foregrounding anthropology's unique ethnographic method to provide grounded, people-focused insights.

Students gain skills, theories, and tools for social engagement to understand planetary crises, their cultural histories, and paths to resolution. The program employs critical social thought and research methods to analyse crisis-thinking.

Graduates will be equipped to explain how planetary emergencies arise from human social engineering and dominant cultures, while recognising people's creative responses to rapid changes, enabling a comprehensive understanding of global issues and possible solutions.

Careers

- Consultancy
- Foreign affairs
- Intelligence
- International affairs
- International development
- Media
- NGO sector
- Policy making

CRICOS code: 114811F

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1 year FT

Prerequisites: Yes



Master of Applied Criminology

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



This program is an advanced qualification for those working in, or planning to enter, criminal justice related professions that seek to mitigate and prevent crime and illegal activity across Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand, the Asia-Pacific, or internationally.

The program's expert teaching staff are active researchers who can draw upon their wealth of local and international experience as well as their connections with government and industry.

Graduates will employ established and emerging conceptual and theoretical frameworks, empirical evidence, and applied skills to engage with critical and systematic analyses.

The program prepares graduates for professional pathways across criminal justice, including, but not limited to; policing, corrections, legal roles, policy-making, and research.

Careers

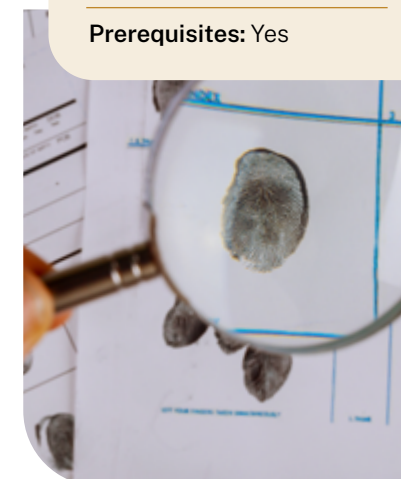
- Criminal justice
- Government
- National and international law firms
- NGO sector
- Policing and crime prevention
- Policy making
- Social work

CRICOS code: 117471H

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1 year FT

Prerequisites: Yes



Master of Archaeological and Evolutionary Science

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



This program-unique in Australia-equips you with the theory and skills required to undertake a scientific study of the past and present of humanity using archaeology and/or biological anthropology perspectives. It can be tailored to your own training objectives, through hands-on experience with a variety of world-leading supervising specialists, materials, and world-class fieldwork and laboratory resources.

The Archaeological Science stream offers professionally-oriented training and the opportunity to focus on tailored independent research projects, while Biological Anthropology courses study humans and non-human primates as varied and dynamically-changing biological organisms. You will explore ecology, behaviour and conservation; human evolution and behaviour; palaeopathology, bioarchaeology, and forensic archaeology/anthropology.

Careers

- Academia
- Consultancy
- Cultural sector
- NGO sector
- Policy making
- Research

CRICOS code: 096399M

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 2 years FT

Prerequisites: No



Master of Art History and Curatorial Studies

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



This program combines art history and curatorship with immersive experiences at the School of Art and Design, close to Australia’s national cultural and collecting institutions.

It offers courses in Australian and Asian art; 19th–20th century Australian and European art and design; modernism and postmodernism; and curatorial practice, all taught by our specialist art historians.

You will learn to differentiate and critique at an advanced level the historical, social, cultural and political contexts of diverse periods, styles, and methods; closely analyse individual works of art; interpret and communicate ideas to different audiences; engage with curating practice; and undertake independent research.

Careers

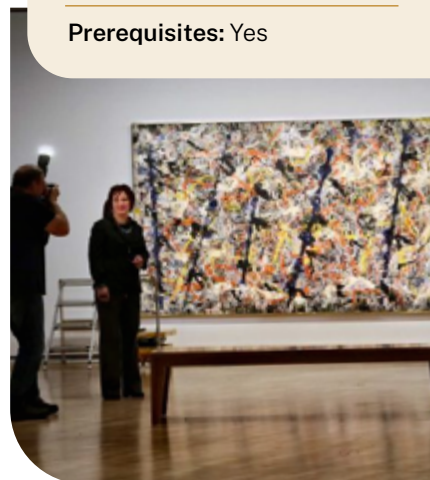
- Academia
- Art conservation
- Artist
- Communications
- Cultural sector
- Curatorship
- Entrepreneurship

CRICOS code: 108306G

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1 year FT

Prerequisites: Yes



Master of Contemporary Art Practices

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



Contemporary artists respond to the challenges and questions that arise in an increasingly global and technologically-advanced world. Their diverse approaches combine novel materials, methods and subjects, increasingly collaborating and working outside of traditional boundaries.

This program is a practice-focused, cross-disciplinary degree for artists who want to develop a more ambitious, independent practice, extending a student’s practical, theoretical and conceptual knowledge.

The program is built around hands-on learning development in workshop and studio environments. Students gain a specialist knowledge of materials and skills, testing new methodologies and/or solving problems through cross-disciplinary or hybrid experiences.

Careers

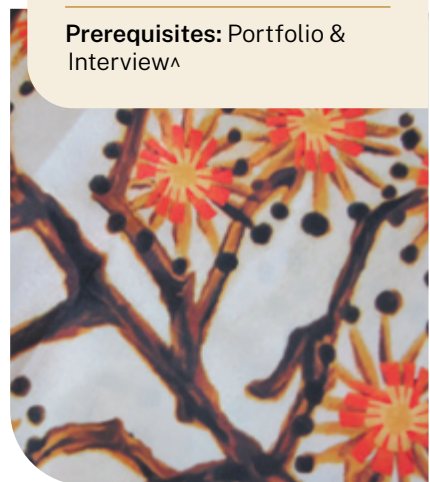
- Academia
- Artist
- Communications
- Entrepreneurship
- Media
- Visual communication

CRICOS code: 108308E

Intakes: S1

Duration: 1 year FT

Prerequisites: Portfolio & Interview^



Master of Digital Humanities

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



This program explores research approaches and methods at the intersection of humanities disciplines and digital technologies, addressing critical, ethical and methodological questions relating to topics including algorithmic agency; augmented and virtual realities, data ontologies; digital archives; and online cultural collections and communities. It provides students with grounding in critical frameworks, and in digital methods and approaches, while offering flexible topic choices.

The program will interest both those with a humanities background who wish to learn more about emerging digital methods and systems; and those with a computing background who wish to learn more about how to apply their skills to core creative and cultural questions.

Careers

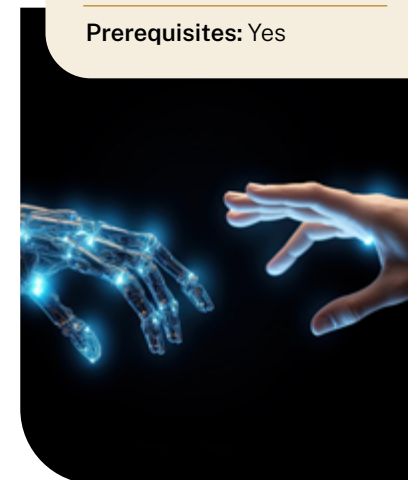
- Academia
- Business
- Consultancy
- Cultural sector
- Data visualisation
- Entrepreneurship
- NGO sector
- Policy making

CRICOS code: 117466E

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1 year FT

Prerequisites: Yes



Master of General and Applied Linguistics

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



As language assumes ever-greater importance in an interconnected, multilingual world, the study of linguistics and applied linguistics is relevant to a growing number of careers. In this program you will have the opportunity to explore diverse topics including structural linguistics, sociolinguistics, language acquisition, language contact, language teaching, language and culture, social interaction, forensic linguistics and language documentation.

You will engage deeply with current research, explore both established and more recent research methods, and carry out guided research activities. The program is well-suited to those wishing to expand their knowledge about language for professional purposes or are considering further research.

Careers

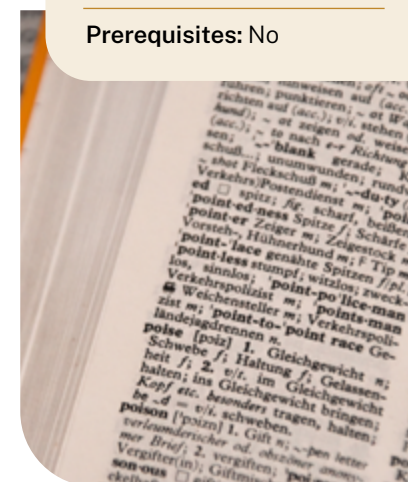
- Communications
- Education
- Language teaching
- Translation

CRICOS code: 108329M

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1.5 years FT

Prerequisites: No



^ Find more information about programs with compulsory additional selection criteria at study.anu.edu.au/apply/anu-programs-additional-selection-criteria.

Master of Heritage Tourism Management

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



This program offers students a systematic understanding of the nature of tourism within the context of heritage and management. In connection with our global network of cultural institutions, it will give students unique opportunities to develop both theoretical and practical skills in critical thinking and analysing global issues within the heritage tourism context. The program is designed to prepare students for governmental and business sectors of heritage development and tourism management.

Students can gain expert knowledge in knowledge and skills in management specialisation areas chosen from: Business Information Systems, Digital Transformation, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, International Business, Leadership, Marketing, and Project Management.

Careers

- Academia
- Business
- Cultural sector
- Entrepreneurship
- Journalism
- Tourism

CRICOS code: 114601E

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1.5 years FT

Prerequisites: No



Master of History

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



As a critical engagement with the past, history sharpens judgements, expands perspectives and feeds curiosity, finding connections across time and place; it fosters the skills of inquiry and argument that can shape and present a compelling world-view.

This program provides the theoretical grounding and practical skills you need for the advanced study of history, with the opportunity to tailor topics according to your interests.

Students will draw upon prize-winning teaching and research in Australian, North American, ancient, early modern and modern European, and British history, and the expertise of leading centres for Indigenous history, environmental history, and biography.

Careers

- Academia
- Consultancy
- Cultural sector
- Education
- International affairs
- NGO sector
- Publishing
- And many other fields

CRICOS code: 108325D

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1 year FT

Prerequisites: Yes



Master of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



If you're fascinated by the Middle East and Central Asia, transform your passion into a specialised qualification at Australia's premier institute for international studies. You'll 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. The program includes options for busy professionals, with remote online options alongside traditional face-to-face seminars.

The Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies is Australia's premier institute for studies of this region, with leading global experts, international standing, and strong links with counterparts in the Arab and Muslim world, North America, and Europe.

Careers

- Academia
- Consultancy
- Defence
- Diplomacy
- International affairs
- Language teaching
- Policy making
- Trade
- Translation

CRICOS code: 108330G

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1.5 years FT

Prerequisites: No



Master of Museum and Heritage Studies

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



This program prepares you for an innovative career in this field. You'll regularly interact with both internationally-recognised academics and senior institutional staff from Canberra's leading cultural and collecting institutions.

Students can undertake a range of specialisations in either museum or heritage studies. Within the museum specialisation you'll study traditional curatorship and collections management as well as social inclusion, community engagement, social activism, Indigenous curation, and innovative visitor studies. The cultural heritage management specialisation includes analysis of national and international policy and practices, exploring the political and social phenomenon and impacts of heritage and its management and conservation.

Careers

- Communications
- Consultancy
- Cultural sector
- Curatorship
- Entrepreneurship
- NGO sector
- Policy making
- And many other fields

CRICOS code: 117468C

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1 year FT

Prerequisites: Yes



Master of Political Science

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



This program provides students with the analytical tools they need to answer a range of critical questions-What motivates voters to support populist candidates? How can election outcomes be more accurately forecast? What is the source of ethnic conflicts and how can it be best understood? It provides training in political science research methods and equips students with in-depth knowledge on contemporary political affairs. Students can choose from a wide selection of topics covering terrorism and counter-terrorism, human rights, interest group advocacy, or Islam and democracy.

Careers

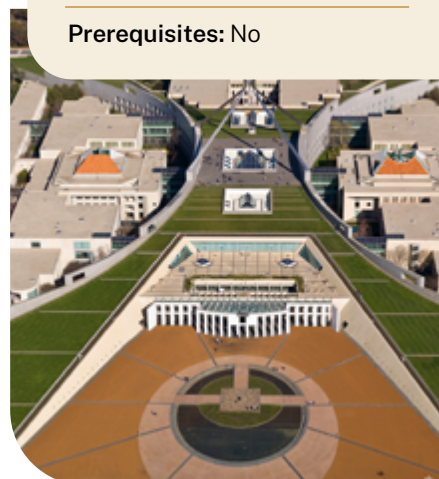
- Communications
- Consultancy
- Diplomacy
- Government
- Intelligence
- International affairs
- Media
- NGO sector
- Policy making
- Politics
- Research

CRICOS code: 102925F

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1.5 years FT

Prerequisites: No



Master of Social Research Methods

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



In a world increasingly reliant on data (big and small), this program will give you the skills and experience to understand a changing Australian and global society, as well as the political, demographic and economic forces that shape and drive these changes. It will equip you with the practical skills to conduct, commission and evaluate research in the social sciences, and give you the opportunity to extend your skills in advanced research methods, and/or apply your skills to real-world policy and societal issues.

The program's expert teaching staff draw upon their wealth of local and international experience and connections with government and industry.

Careers

- Business
- Consultancy
- Cultural sector
- Government
- NGO sector
- Policing and crime prevention
- Policy making
- Research
- Social work

CRICOS code: 108327B

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 1 year FT

Prerequisites: Yes



Flexible Double Masters

Scan or click the QR code for more program information



The Flexible Double Masters degree gives students the ability to create a powerful two-year program of study through the combination of two ANU masters degrees. Students choose from an exciting selection of programs covering a wide range of subject areas including history, anthropology, contemporary art, social research, science communication, Pacific development, management, accounting, and public policy. The incredible adaptability of the Flexible Double Masters allows students to tailor their studies to their particular interests, expertise and ambitions.

Students are required to complete the requirements of two programs from the following list:

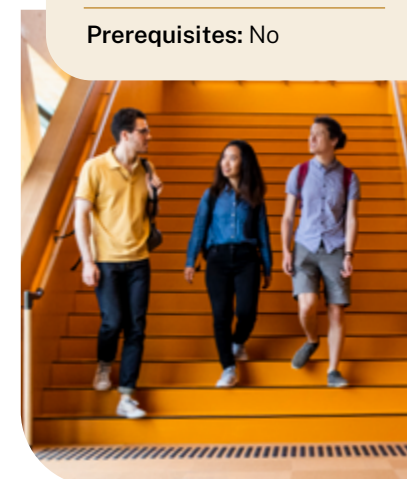
- Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures
- Master of Applied Criminology
- Master of Art History and Curatorial Studies
- Master of Contemporary Art Practices
- Master of Digital Humanities
- Master of Diplomacy
- Master of History
- Master of Management
- Master of Museum and Heritage Studies
- Master of Pacific Development
- Master of Social Research Methods

CRICOS code: 112694M

Intakes: S1 and S2

Duration: 2 years FT

Prerequisites: No



Find your degree

Discover GPA benchmarks, prerequisites, and admission criteria for ANU coursework and research programs. For more details, visit programsandcourses.anu.edu.au.



Scan to learn more program and course information

Beyond ANU campus

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

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.

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.

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

Explore



For further information on anything you've seen here, visit: cass.anu.edu.au

Apply today

Domestic students

You are a domestic applicant if you:

- are an Australian or New Zealand citizen
- hold an Australian Permanent Residency Visa
- hold an Australian Humanitarian Visa.

You can list up to three degrees on your application. Make sure you do this in order of preference as we only send offers for the highest eligible program. ANU takes approximately 4–6 weeks to assess applications –and then releases offers on a rolling basis.

International students

You can apply to ANU at any time of the year. You can nominate three degree preferences in your application, which increases your chances of getting an offer. We consider most applications submitted by the 15th day of the month for an offer on the first business day of the following month.

How to apply

Apply directly to ANU

You can apply directly to the University by creating an account in the ANU application portal. Upload your details and follow the prompts to navigate your way through each step. You can log out and go back to your application at any time before you submit it.



Go to the ANU application portal

Apply through an agent

An education agent can support you throughout the application process and answer your questions about ANU. They can also upload your supporting documentation and submit your application on your behalf.



Find an agent

Application Dates

Domestic Students 2025/2026

Applications for Semester 2, 2025
closes 11th July 2025

Applications for Semester 1, 2026
closes 13th February 2026

Applications for Semester 2, 2026
June 2025–May 2026

International Students 2025/2026

Applications for Semester 2, 2025
June 2024–May 2025

Applications for Semester 1, 2026
March–December 2025

Applications for Semester 2, 2026
June 2025–May 2026

Our degrees

Graduate certificates

A Graduate Certificate or Diploma can help you explore your areas of interest, further your career, and act 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 program-specific academic entry requirements including English language requirements.

Learn more at cass.anu.edu.au/study/graduate-certificates-diplomas

Degree	Description
Graduate Certificate of Cross-Cultural Analysis	Designed for students wishing to understand people in specific contexts, this program equips you with skills to analyse human lives cross-culturally. It emphasises ethnography in anthropological research, exploring interdisciplinary applications, and includes Indigenous knowledges, gender analysis, and 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 Professional Archaeology	This program is designed to provide a pathway for students into professional archaeology and heritage management and/or further postgraduate study. It combines fieldwork methodologies, report writing and cultural heritage assessment with first-hand learning in First Nations engagement and collaboration, and the significant role that indigenous communities play in archaeology.
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.
Graduate Certificate of the Repatriation of Ancestral Remains and Cultural Objects	As repatriation accelerates, this unique program meets the need for advanced knowledge in Indigenous ancestral remains and cultural materials repatriation. It can be a key qualification if you work in museum, government or Indigenous organisations.

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. All applicants must meet program-specific academic entry requirements (if applicable) including English language requirements.

Most of the Master programs below also have an advanced option, which you may transfer to after completing 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

Degree	Duration	Description	Prerequisite Subjects
Master of Anthropology and Planetary Futures	1	Offering Australia's only combined biological and cultural approach to engaging with these planetary scale problems while foregrounding anthropology's unique ethnographic method, which centres grounded and people-focused perspectives and values.	Yes
Master of Applied Criminology	1	Prepares individuals for global criminal justice careers, focusing on crime prevention and mitigation. Academic experts guide students in applying theoretical frameworks and research skills across various justice sectors.	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 internationally-recognised 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 incorporate research methodologies.	Yes
Master of Digital Humanities	1	Develop expertise in digital humanities or public humanities and culture while obtaining cutting-edge skills in digital technologies and research.	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 with a topic 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 the expertise of our international partner institutions.	No
Master of Museum and Heritage Studies	1	Drawing on our strong connections with Canberra's leading cultural and collecting institutions, this program offers students offers students a systematic understanding of the nature of heritage-based tourism and provides the opportunity to undertake a field internship.	Yes
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 experience, this program gives you the practical skills to conduct, commission and evaluate research in the social sciences.	Yes

* If you have a cognate degree, you may be able to fast-track your Master's degree by 6 or 12 months.



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