As a critical engagement with the past, history sharpens judgements, expands perspectives and feeds curiosity. History finds connections in experience across time and place; it also confronts us with the need to understand the unfamiliar. Most of all, history is concerned with the skills of inquiry and argument and assists us to shape and present a view of the world. History takes in all aspects of human experience. History courses offered in the School of History explore that experience, and encourage you to ask questions which lead to an understanding of past and present societies.

The Master of History provides the theoretical grounding and practical skills you need for the advanced study of history, plus the opportunity to tailor a program according to your interests. If you are a secondary school teacher, you can focus on areas in the national curriculum for history.

Career opportunities

History graduates work in diverse contexts, including journalism, heritage, and the public service—whether at cultural institutions, such as the National Museum of Australia, or within government agencies, including the National Archives. The Master of History allows educators, particularly secondary school teachers, additional training in the discipline and to enhance their careers. The Advanced program also prepares those wanting to progress to a PhD in History.

Professional outcomes

Along with advanced technical skills, after studying history or 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.
The Master of History equips students with skills in research, critical analysis, and communication. Graduates will be able to identify and evaluate diverse sources of information; reach a historically contextualised assessment of these sources; articulate that assessment in written and oral forms.

History at ANU

The ANU is ranked first in Australia and 12th in the world for history. Areas of interest include Australia, the Pacific, the United States, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. Courses in the School of History also cover empire, terrorism, revolution, war, gender, race, technology, politics, culture and the environment.

With internationally renowned teaching staff, and surrounded by national cultural institutions, ANU is a historian's dream. Studying history at ANU you can draw upon our prize-winning teaching and research in Australian, North American, ancient, early modern and modern European, and British history, and the expertise of our leading centres for Indigenous history, environmental history, and biography. The resources of the National Library of Australia, the National Archives of Australia, the National Museum of Australia, and the National Gallery of Australia are all at your fingertips.

Admission requirements

> A Bachelor degree or international equivalent with a minimum GPA of 5/7 for the Master of History
> A Bachelor degree or international equivalent with a minimum GPA of 6/7 and the approval of an identified supervisor for the Master of History (Advanced)
> All applicants must meet the University’s English Language Admission Requirements for Students
> Applicants with a Bachelor Degree or Graduate Certificate in a cognate discipline may be eligible for 24 units (one semester) of credit
> Applicants with a Graduate Diploma or Honours in a cognate discipline may be eligible for 48 units (one year) of credit.

Further information

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ANNA ANNIE KWAI

SOLOMON ISLANDERS IN WORLD WAR II
AN INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVE

Annie

Master of History

When I was offered an Australian Development Scholarship, I put some effort into browsing university websites with two things in mind: which institution in Australia ranked the highest overall, and whether their Masters in History program had a research component. This led me to the Master of History program in the College of Arts and Social Sciences at ANU. I could not be more thankful, as the program was tailored to equip students like me with necessary skills in research and writing that are essential to any career path. The support and professionalism of my supervisor and lecturers were exceptional. I have since worked in various private sector institutions at home in Solomon Islands. I also continue to engage in community development through a charitable trust I assisted in developing prior to and during the course of my studies at ANU. My first book, based on my MA thesis, was recently published by ANU Press.

1QS World Rankings by Subject 2019