We're here.

To get you there.
Executive Dean’s welcome

Welcome to the Faculty of Education and Arts at ACU. Our faculty has a diverse community of learners committed to making a positive difference in the world.

We offer postgraduate degrees by coursework in education and postgraduate degrees by research across a range of areas in education and arts. Taught by active researchers and experienced practitioners, our programs will deepen your professional knowledge and understanding in both a reflective and practical way.

Our faculty hosts two national schools, the School of Education and the School of Arts, both with strong reputations: the former in teacher education and educational leadership and the latter in history, political science, and sociology. Our students also benefit from our close alignment to ACU’s research institutes – the Institute for Learning Sciences and Teacher Education (ILSTE) and the Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences (IHSS).

Our courses are designed to meet the contemporary needs of professionals in Australia and overseas.

Our strong industry links mean all our teacher education programs are developed and accredited in collaboration with industry experts – including representatives from Catholic education, government, international partners, and independent schools. We also offer specialised programs that accredit teachers for Catholic schools, careers education, inclusive education and Catholic leadership.

Our arts higher degree research students benefit from the supervision and guidance of world-class researchers in history, political science and sociology.

Our aim is to provide high-quality degrees for our students. We also work with partners to create programs that support strategic initiatives and articulate into tailored award programs. Our programs offer opportunities for students to undertake study at our Rome Campus and other international destinations.

With our strong focus on social justice, community engagement, and lifelong learning, graduates from the Faculty of Education and Arts complete their studies with more than just a degree. We foster an environment which appreciates diversity, critical thinking, and supports you in your own professional growth and development.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Faculty of Education and Arts.

Professor Elizabeth Labone
Executive Dean, Faculty of Education and Arts
Think you know ACU?

You’re just getting started. It’s education, but not as you know it.
Meaningful education, not mass production

We’re a university committed to standing up for people in need and causes that matter. If you’ve got the desire to make an impact, we’ll give you the skills to change the world. And if you want to start making an impact now – you can. Research within our faculties and institutes tackles enduring and pressing issues in society, in Australia, and around the world.

Flexible study

Study needs to be flexible. We get that life changes fast, and you need to find the right balance of family, work and study. Many of our courses offer part-time options, as well as online learning, travel opportunities, intensive units, and flexible start dates.

We care about you

Everyone is welcome at ACU. We’re inclusive and supportive of everyone, every day, and our students feel it – giving us five stars for full-time employment, learner engagement and skills development*. Your wellbeing is our focus. So we have a huge range of support services to help you thrive while on campus.

Scholarships

We know that balancing the cost of living and study can be tricky. So we offer nearly 400 scholarship opportunities which recognise academic achievement, community participation, and help out students from a range of backgrounds.

The world is your campus

We’re young, but we are making our mark. We’re ranked in the top 40 of Generation Y universities worldwide* and in the top 10 Catholic universities** – alongside Georgetown University and Boston College in the US. We’ve got more than 200 partners on six continents, community engagement opportunities around the globe, and a campus in Rome, Italy.

*Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2019  
**Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2020, IFCU members

We’ve got your back

Whether it’s figuring out how to enrol or finding the best coffee on campus, we’ll help you out in person, online, by phone, or even SMS. And if you need support with your studies, or counselling services, we’ve got that covered too.

acu.edu.au/askacu

Connections that count

Our partnerships around Australia and overseas provide rich learning experiences for our students. These relationships enhance student learning and provide opportunities for practical work experience and collaborative research.

*Good Universities Guide 2020
Our campuses

We’ve got eight campuses around Australia, and a campus in Rome, Italy. Each one is unique, but they’re all dynamic, inviting and great places to learn.

Head to acu.edu.au/tour to take a tour of your campus.

**BALLARAT**
Our Ballarat Campus is located in the centre of Ballarat. Situated amid historical gardens, beautiful old buildings, and a block from Lake Wendouree, it has a lot to offer. Explore the grounds, enjoy a home-cooked meal at the canteen, and soak up the community vibe.

- Central location
- Free parking
- Situated amid historical gardens and beautiful old buildings

**BLACKTOWN**
We’ve partnered with Blacktown City Council to open a new ACU campus in Blacktown, Western Sydney.

- Student information centre opening 2020
- Range of courses on offer from 2021
- Excellent transport links close by

**BRISBANE**
Whether you want to get involved in campus life, create a professional network or just find a quiet place to study — our Brisbane Campus has you covered. Set on 40 hectares of parklands, the campus has ample parking, state-of-the-art learning facilities, and places to hang out like cafes and a swimming pool.

- Ample free parking and shuttle bus
- Newly renovated library
- Modern learning facilities
CANBERRA
Just five kilometres from the city centre, our Canberra Campus has plenty to offer. With a campus lounge, swimming pool and beautiful landscaped gardens, you’ll have a lot to keep you busy between classes.
• Free parking and accessible by light rail and bus
• Beautiful landscaped gardens
• Modern library and 300-seat lecture theatre

MELBOURNE
Our Melbourne Campus is right next to the cafes, art galleries and live music venues of Brunswick Street. Kick back with a coffee on our rooftop garden or hang out with friends in one of our cafes.
• Close to six tram routes, bus routes and Parliament Railway Station
• Award-winning library
• Art gallery and media production studios

NORTH SYDNEY
Just across the Harbour Bridge from the city centre, our North Sydney Campus is a great place to study and relax.
• Close to North Sydney train station and many bus connections
• Modern learning facilities
• Cafes and dining options close to campus

STRATHFIELD
Our Strathfield Campus is set amid beautiful landscaped grounds and historical buildings, with excellent transport links. Whether you want to have a friendly match on our rugby and soccer ovals or take in a show at our art gallery, there’s always something going on.
• Onsite, undercover parking
• Shuttle bus from Strathfield train station
• Art gallery and media production studios

ROME, ITALY
Our Rome Campus is located on Janiculum Hill, a site that has a rich history dating back to the 3rd century. It sits on a sprawling property that boasts extensive gardens and terraces to enjoy beautiful views of the city.
• Close to the Vatican and popular tourist sites
• Modern, onsite residential accommodation
• Community engagement opportunities

ADELAIDE
Located in the up-and-coming area of Thebarton, our Adelaide Campus primarily offers postgraduate courses in theology.
IN AUSTRALIA

5 stars
FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT, LEARNER ENGAGEMENT AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
Good Universities Guide 2020

5 stars
FOR EMPLOYABILITY, INTERNATIONALISATION AND FACILITIES
QS Stars 2019

Top 3
GRADUATE EMPLOYER SATISFACTION
Postgraduate cohort, Employer Satisfaction Survey 2019

97%
OF OUR POSTGRADUATE TEACHING AND EDUCATION STUDENTS ARE EMPLOYED WITHIN FOUR MONTHS OF GRADUATING
2019 QILT Graduate Outcomes Survey, domestic postgraduate, overall employed four months after graduating

IN THE WORLD

Top 2%
UNIVERSITIES
Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2020*

Top 40
GENERATION Y UNIVERSITIES
Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2019

Top 75
EDUCATION
#63 ARWU 2019

Top 10
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES
Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2020, ranked IFCU members

RESEARCH

Well above world standard
SPECIALIST STUDIES IN EDUCATION
Four-digit FoRs, Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2018

*Percentage calculated as ACU’s world rank as a proportion of the total number of universities in the world. International Handbook of Universities 2019, Palgrave MacMillan.
Postgraduate study pathways

In general, postgraduate study falls into two main categories: coursework and research.

**COURSEWORK**
- Programs are generally six months to two years full-time (or equivalent part-time).
- You can expect classes (including online classes), units, and set assessments, similar to an undergraduate degree.
- To apply you usually need to have completed an undergraduate degree first. However, professional experience can also be taken into account.
- The graduate certificate, graduate diploma and master’s degree are connected and can build on each other.
- If you’re considering a master’s degree but don’t initially qualify, you may be accepted into the graduate certificate or diploma in the same area of study.
- If you choose to study a master’s degree but your circumstances change, you may be able to exit the degree early with the relevant graduate certificate or graduate diploma.
- Coursework programs are ideal for gaining new skills and getting ahead in your career.

**RESEARCH**
- Programs are generally two to four years full-time (or equivalent part-time).
- You can expect independent research and exploration of original ideas under the guidance of a supervision team.
- To apply you usually need to have completed an undergraduate degree with honours or a master’s.
- ACU offers supervised research at either master’s or doctoral level.
- Research programs are ideal for making a new contribution to an academic field. They can be a pathway to research or an academic career, or help you get ahead at work.

Honours degrees are also available. They are a one-year degree for high-achieving students who have already completed a bachelor degree, and allow you to build upon your knowledge, develop research skills, and work closely with an academic expert. The main focus of the degree is to produce a research thesis under supervision from experienced academic staff.

If you’re studying at another university and would like to switch to ACU, or you have relevant knowledge and skills acquired in the workplace, you may be able to get credit towards your degree. [acu.edu.au/priorlearning](http://acu.edu.au/priorlearning)
There are many options to help you manage the cost of study. Tuition fees depend on the course you enrol in, and there are two placement offer types: fee-paying place, and Commonwealth supported place (CSP).

**FEE-PAYING PLACE**
A fee-paying place is not subsidised by the government, so you pay the full cost of the course. As a domestic fee-paying student, you may be eligible to defer payment of your fees through the FEE-HELP government loan scheme. Repayment of the loan occurs through the tax system once your income exceeds the minimum threshold. Your employer may also consider assisting with the cost of study if the course is related to your current position.
studyassist.gov.au

**COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACE (CSP)**
A small number of postgraduate courses at ACU offer CSPs, where the government pays a proportion of tuition costs. The remainder of the fees are paid by the student, but eligible students can defer their payment through the HECS-HELP government loan scheme. Repayment of the loan occurs through the tax system once your income exceeds the minimum threshold.
studyassist.gov.au

**RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM FEES OFFSET SCHOLARSHIPS**
If you are enrolling in a master’s by research or doctorate program at ACU, you may be exempt from paying tuition fees. Our Research Training Program Fees Offset Scholarships are for high-achieving domestic students whose research proposal aligns with our priority areas.
acu.edu.au/research-scholarships

**FACULTY ALUMNI REBATE**
If you’re an ACU graduate, you may be eligible for a 10 per cent rebate on postgraduate fees.
acu.edu.au/alumni-rebate

**POSTGRADUATE COURSEWORK SCHOLARSHIPS**
We offer scholarships to help support you financially during your studies. Use our online scholarships portal to find the ones that are right for you.
acu.edu.au/scholarships

**RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM STIPEND SCHOLARSHIPS**
We offer competitive scholarships with a stipend to help support you financially during your research, and to reward outstanding academic achievement. For international students, this includes a tuition fee waiver and an Overseas Health Care Policy.
acu.edu.au/research-scholarships

Got questions? We’re waiting with the answers.
acu.edu.au/askacu
Applying to ACU

Postgraduate coursework degrees

1. Choose the course you would like to study by browsing this guide and visiting acu.edu.au/courses for more details.

2. Check important dates and application requirements carefully – some courses also require supporting documentation.

3. Check out the postgraduate scholarships available at acu.edu.au/scholarships.

4. Apply online direct to ACU at acu.edu.au/courses.

5. Accept your offer and enrol.

For more information on how to apply for postgraduate coursework degrees, visit acu.edu.au/apply.

If you still have questions or need help with your application, visit acu.edu.au/askacu.

Postgraduate research degrees

Application to ACU higher degrees by research, including the Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy, is by direct application to Candidature Services at ACU.

1. Choose your course at acu.edu.au/research/apply.

2. Check entry requirements and your eligibility.

3. Find and contact a potential research supervisor at rexr.acu.edu.au.

4. Check application closing dates.

5. Complete your application.


7. Submit your completed application.

For more information and to apply for postgraduate research degrees, visit acu.edu.au/research/become-a-research-candidate.

If you still have questions or need help with your postgraduate research application, contact res.cand@acu.edu.au.
The National School of Education offers a diverse range of education courses that equip you to maximise your impact as an educator. Whether you’re at the beginning of your teaching journey, or sharing your wealth of experience, you will inspire and mentor our leaders of the future. Our programs span across the early years of teaching through to secondary and professional development. All programs are designed and accredited in collaboration with industry experts, including representatives from Catholic education, the government sector, independent schools and international partners. Our academics, led by Professor Shukri Sanber, are active researchers making significant contributions to practice and outcomes across a range of learners and contexts. Our specialist studies in education research are ranked well above world standard.* Our major research strengths are mathematics education, teacher education, early years education, literacy, educational leadership and inclusion.

We have strong partnerships with schools and industry, and work with them to deliver contextually responsive research-based programs. Our strong research culture is also evident with an impressive higher degree research (HDR) cohort of well over 100 students, as well as success in securing Australian Research Council (ARC) grants. Our HDR programs enable students to draw on a broad range of expertise in the field and engage with authentic research problems that inform practice.

*Four-digit FoRs, Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2018
PROFESSOR BRUCE BURNETT
Professor Bruce Burnett is based at our Brisbane Campus. He is an educational sociologist who lectures in research methodologies/methods and has a particular interest in critical social justice issues within teacher education and the high poverty schooling sector. Professor Burnett has worked across the primary and secondary school sectors and has over 25 years’ experience within Australian universities.
He is a founder of the National Exceptional Teaching for Disadvantaged Schools (NETDS) Program and directs a large percentage of his research and teaching towards making a tangible impact in this space. His research experience includes lead roles on Australian Research Council industry Linkage grants and European Commission Horizon 2020 grants that target equity and access within low socio-economic school settings.
In addition, he has led the Australian Council of Deans of Education/More Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Teachers Initiative research project and is regularly invited to collaborate nationally and internationally on research associated with teacher education within high poverty contexts. Examples of Professor Burnett’s recent work include a Springer publication Teacher Education for High Poverty Schools and a National Exceptional Teachers for Disadvantaged Schools Special Issue of the Australian Journal of Teacher Education. Professor Burnett is currently Senior Editor for the Oxford Research Encyclopaedia of Education Complement: Encyclopaedia of Global Perspectives on Teacher Education.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ROBYN BENTLEY-WILLIAMS
Associate Professor Robyn Bentley-Williams is based at our Strathfield Campus and has expertise in diversity and inclusive education. She has published many academic articles and scholarly papers in Australian and international journals, and her specialised research interests include scholarship of teaching and learning, reflexive practice and lived experiences. Associate Professor Bentley-Williams’ teaching philosophy is based on a belief that education opens opportunities for all members of society to contribute and lead productive, empowered lives. She advocates that high-quality teaching is a foundation of a socially responsible, just society, and it benefits all nations to have well-educated citizens.
Associate Professor Robyn Bentley-Williams completed her PhD at the University of Sydney on Exploring biographies: The educational journey towards becoming inclusive educators and remains passionate about scholarship in understanding teaching, life-long learning and ways to improve people’s lives through education. She joined ACU in 2009 and she has made a significant contribution to the pursuit of excellence in inclusive teaching and learning, developing new curriculum offerings, collaborating in discipline scholarship and sharing expertise from Creswick Fellowship experiences at United States and Canadian universities.
National School of Arts

Led by Professor Michael Ondaatje, staff in the National School of Arts actively research and teach across a wide variety of disciplines including: creative arts, global studies and international development, humanities and social sciences, and youth work and community development.

Our academics engage in high-quality research that has local, national and international impact and make significant contributions to public debate in Australia and overseas.

In the National School of Arts, we are renowned for our research in the disciplines of history, political science and sociology. Our academics are leaders in the field of Australian history and are at the forefront of international scholarship on democracy, populism, citizenship, identity and globalisation. The school’s research leaders provide outstanding supervision to higher degree research (HDR) candidates, who are an integral part of the school’s rigorous and vibrant research environment. ACU humanities and social sciences researchers are also regular commentators on issues of politics and society in the media.

We offer inter-disciplinary research opportunities for HDR candidates and we run yearly programs such as conferences, research seminars and workshops to engage industry partners, leaders and students to develop their intellectual talents. A number of our HDR candidates are undertaking their research supported by Australian Postgraduate Awards and other prestigious scholarships.
DR BENJAMIN MOUNTFORD

Dr Benjamin Mountford is a senior lecturer in the School of Arts and based at our Melbourne Campus. Before coming to ACU in July 2018, Dr Mountford worked in research and teaching roles at Corpus Christi College, Oxford; La Trobe University; and Federation University Australia. Dr Mountford has also been the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships including a Prue Torney Fellows’ Prize, an Allan Martin Award, a Huntington Library Mayers Fellowship and a Menzies Australia Institute Bicentennial Fellowship. His research focuses on global history, British and British imperial history, as well as Australian history. Dr Mountford has also published many academic papers and is the author of Britain, China, and Colonial Australia (2016). He is also the co-editor of Fighting Words: Fifteen Books That Shaped the Postcolonial World (2017) and A Global History of Gold Rushes (2018).

DR RACHEL BUSBRIDGE

Dr Rachel Busbridge is a sociology lecturer based at our Melbourne Campus. Since receiving her PhD in 2010, Dr Busbridge has taught sociology and politics at institutions across Australia and overseas, including the Free University of Berlin, al-Quds University (Palestine) and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Her areas of research expertise include urban conflict, nationalism and national identity, and multiculturalism and settler colonialism in the contexts of Australia and Israel-Palestine. Dr Busbridge has published numerous articles in international journals like Political Studies and Theory, Culture and Society, as well as two books, Multicultural Politics of Recognition and Postcolonial Citizenship: Rethinking the Nation (2018, Routledge) and How Local Governments Govern Culture Wars (forthcoming 2020, Cambridge University Press, co-authored with Mark Chou). She is currently engaged in a research project exploring how the Australia Day/Invasion Day controversy is playing out at the local level.
ACU has prioritised research intensification. The work within our faculties and institutes tackles enduring and pressing issues in society, in Australia, and around the world. The following institutes are linked to the Faculty of Education and Arts, and provide opportunities for research collaboration.

### Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences

**Director: Professor Joy Damousi FASSA, FAHA**

The Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences examines the centrality of the humanities and social sciences in contemporary life.

Based in Melbourne and North Sydney, we produce excellent and high-impact interdisciplinary scholarship that contributes to contemporary scholarly debate and creates new agendas. We aim to inform decision-making and policymaking in wider society through research, as well as professional and media engagement with governments, not-for-profits, and the private sector.

The three central themes of the institute currently are: refugees, modern slavery and migration; gender issues and women’s history; and the dynamics of social and political change in Australia and internationally.


Professor Joy Damousi FASSA, FAHA is also President, Australian Academy of the Humanities; President, Australian Historical Association; Director, Institute of the Humanities and Social Sciences, ACU; and Professor of History, University of Melbourne.
Institute for Learning Sciences and Teacher Education

Director: Professor Claire Wyatt-Smith
The Institute for Learning Sciences and Teacher Education (ILSTE) hosts a large team of internationally recognised scholars. We work in partnership with key industry and policy personnel at state and national levels, and through international networks of researchers and leaders in peak education bodies. Our research is rigorous, socially relevant and ethically committed. It addresses the common goal of removing barriers to achievement and supporting learning engagement and wellbeing. Our research generates new knowledge about learning and communication in rapidly changing contexts, systems and practices.

Connections in our research across disciplines, and with policy and practice, offer significant opportunities for postdoctoral candidates, early career researchers and higher degree research students in a range of areas, including:

• data analytics and methodological innovation in analysing the use of data and performance measures in education and teacher education
• digital technology and how it is changing learning and communication practices
• teacher education, teachers’ work in all phases of education and curriculum areas, and student learning
• educational assessment, program evaluation and student learning
• learning, learner diversity and overcoming educational disadvantage
• STEM in education including learning in the disciplines
• educational semiotics in English and literacy pedagogy
• early childhood futures and the cognitive foundations of early educational skills
• reading and writing research.

[Link to Institute website]

Research success

Education and arts research at ACU is seeing results. In the latest Excellence for Research in Australia (ERA) initiative, we ranked highly in a number of disciplines across education, the humanities, and social sciences.

In education – specialist studies in education was rated well above world standard, curriculum and pedagogy was rated above world standard, and education systems was rated at world standard.

In humanities and social sciences – historical studies, political science and sociology all received at world standard rankings, while philosophy received above world standard.

Several of our academics have recently been awarded ARC Grants by the Australian Research Council. These grants recognise the outstanding quality of their research, and the contribution our academics are making to the development of new knowledge. In 2019, the recipients of these competitive grants were:

ARC Discovery Grant
• Professor Bryan Turner for a project entitled Far right in Australia: Intellectuals, masculinity and citizenship.

ARC Discovery Linkage
• Professor Susan Edwards for Young children in digital society: an online tool for service provision.
Just as tomorrow’s challenges will bear little resemblance to those of today, great leaders will look nothing like the models we’ve become familiar with.

That’s because the environment is one of constant unknowns, rather than familiar patterns. Innovative future leaders will thrive in uncertainty, succeed in business, and excel in life.

ACU Executive Education is about developing innovative leaders who are eager to redefine business, move forward effectively and are ready to make a real difference to their organisations and the world.

We do this through a range of exceptional masterclasses, short courses and executive postgraduate qualifications uniquely created for today’s busy professionals.

Alternatively, we can create leadership programs that are designed specifically for your organisational needs.

We believe standing still is not an option. We want to encourage you to be curious as you pursue your journey of personal growth, and pave your own way through the complexity to make a difference.
Got a question or feeling social?

AskACU: acu.edu.au/askacu

We’re here to help
If you’re got a question, our AskACU team has you covered. You can search FAQs, text us, email, live chat, call – whatever works for you.

facebook.com/Australian.Catholic.University
@acuimages auscatholicuni
@ACUmedia ACUsocial

Send us your details and we will keep you in the loop about courses, events, information sessions and more.
yourfuture.acu.edu.au

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