Indigenous Cultures and Histories

ABOUT INDIGENOUS CULTURES AND HISTORIES

Indigenous Cultures and Histories, offered by the Monash Indigenous Centre (MIC), covers a wide range of disciplines relating to Indigenous peoples, their culture, history and experiences. You will have the opportunity to explore Indigenous history through units which combine anthropology, archaeology, history and heritage studies.

Why study Indigenous Cultures and Histories

This program explores the origins and transformation of Australia’s 600 Indigenous groups that date back 50,000 years. Upon completion you will be able to critically examine constructions of Indigeneity and discourses of ‘Aboriginalism’ using sound theoretical concepts and be able to recognise traditions in Indigenous studies in national and international contexts and apply these traditions to real-world problems.

Complementary areas of study

Studying Indigenous Cultures and Histories provides you with transferable skills you will be able to apply to other study areas. Our units are particularly useful with the following:

» Australia in the world
» Anthropology
» Geography
» Environmental science
» History
» Politics
» Linguistics
» Law

You then have the option to continue with the following units:

» Social justice and Indigenous Australians
» Encountering cultures: Introduction to anthropology

In second and third year there are an extensive range of units to choose from. These include:

» Interrogating racism: Indigenous Australians and the state
» Perspectives on Indigenous art: Production, meaning and symbolism
» On a dig: Practical archaeology in the field and lab

How Indigenous Cultures and Histories fits into your Arts degree

You can study Indigenous Cultures and Histories as a major, minor or as elective units towards your degree.

Career prospects

As a graduate of Indigenous culture you can look forward to many exciting career opportunities, some of our graduates have gone onto work in fields such as:

» The not-for-profit sector
» Policy e.g. public service and government agencies
» Aboriginal-controlled organisations in health, child welfare and environmental/heritage/ecology fields
» Land councils and native title organisations
» Teaching, research and academia (with additional qualifications)
» Consultancy, with development and heritage companies

From our students

“My time at Monash Indigenous Centre helped me gain an acceptable level of cultural safety and sensitivity enabling me to work at the peak organisation for Aboriginal health in Victoria, successfully liaising between governments and community. The subjects provide great insight into historical, cultural and current issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.”

Dana Pyne
Bachelor of Arts (Honours Candidate)

For more information: futurearts.monash.edu/ug-indigenous-cultures-histories