ABOUT INDONESIAN STUDIES

Monash University has been teaching Indonesian for over half a century and we are constantly exploring new and innovative approaches to engage students with Australia’s nearest neighbour.

Through the use of online materials, one of Australia’s biggest Indonesian library collections, and links to music, translation, film, and international studies, students are offered a broad range of opportunities to develop an understanding of Indonesia and the wider world of Southeast Asia.

Why choose Indonesian Studies?

Indonesia is one of the world’s largest and most diverse nations. With over 240 million people and more than seventeen thousand islands, it is of great cultural, political and economic interest to the countries of the Asia Pacific region. In particular, countries such as Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, and Australia have a rich and complex relationship with Indonesia.

The program focuses on competence in intercultural communication, and the interaction of culture and language with reference to history, performing arts, journalism, literature and translation. The knowledge and skills acquired in the study of Indonesian are therefore applicable to a broad range of interests in encountering and communicating with cultures other than your own.

What are some topics Indonesian studies explores?

During your first year you will be introduced to the Indonesian language and culture through units such as:

» Indonesian Introductory 1
» Indonesian Introductory 2

In your second and third year of study (or if you have prior experience and knowledge) there is a wider choice of units to choose from that reflect your interest. Here are a few examples:

» Nationalism and revolution in Southeast Asia
» Managing intercultural communication
» Gongs, punks and shadow plays
» Religion as culture in the Malay world
» The island world of Southeast Asia

Career prospects

Australia and Indonesia’s other surrounding neighbours have a range of diplomatic and commercial agreements that call for cooperation in fields as diverse as trade, education, agriculture, science, defence, and the arts.

On the diplomatic front Australia has one of its largest overseas missions based in Jakarta, and its international aid for the region requires a range of professionals in both countries to manage, deliver, and evaluate the programs.

In the private sector, there are a considerable number of joint ventures in areas such as mining, commerce, environmental management, and tourism.

Overseas opportunities

During your studies at Monash, there will be a number of opportunities to study language and culture in Indonesia. Programs are available for a single semester or as a full year dependent on the design of your major and degree. Monash is a member of the Australian Consortium for ‘In-country’ Indonesian Study (ACICIS) which has specialist in-country programs in language, journalism, development studies and education.

We have an exchange program with the University of Indonesia and a long standing relationship with Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta where many of our students have joined mainstream classes in the area of their choice.

Language entry levels

» Introductory
» Intermediate
» Proficient

To ascertain which level would be best for you, there are online language placement tests: monash.edu/arts/language-entry-level/

Keep in mind that even if you have no language experience at all, you can still enrol to learn a language. You would enter at the introductory level.

Complementary areas of study

» International Studies
» Human Geography
» Journalism
» Linguistics
» Education
» Music
» History and Politics
» Asian Studies

For more information:
future.arts.monash.edu/ug-indonesian-studies

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