“Gender studies changed my perspective and my future direction. Whether as a major, or to complement other subjects, Gender Studies, and the fantastic academic staff, will enrich your life in ways you never thought possible.”

NICKI ROGERS
3RD YEAR
BACHELOR OF ARTS
(Psychology and Gender Studies)
The Department of Gender and Cultural Studies is an interdisciplinary department offering in-depth study in gender and cultural studies.

Increasingly our understanding of the social, political and cultural issues informing our place within contemporary society is best approached through the critical interdisciplinary tools and methods developed in gender and feminist studies and in cultural studies. We offer engaging first year introductory units that can lead to a major in either gender studies or cultural studies, or a double major in both gender and cultural studies. We also offer an Honours program in either Gender Studies or Cultural Studies that specialises in training students in research methods and writing and other research skills to assist in the development of the Honours thesis.

The department has some of the leading researchers in the fields of cultural studies and gender studies nationally and internationally, with expertise in sexuality studies, theories of embodiment, popular culture, youth studies, genre, television and film studies, new media, comparative race studies, everyday life studies, Asia-Pacific popular culture, consumer and environmental cultures and postcolonial theory. These areas of expertise inform all aspects of our teaching and the delivery of units of study that address important social and cultural issues.

I am extremely proud to be Chair of a department with such a strong and exciting research culture and a dedicated and innovative teaching team. We offer the largest gender studies and cultural studies undergraduate program in Australia and our student testimonials highlight the department’s commitment to offering cutting-edge, quality learning experiences for all students. The department’s commitment to social inclusion and diversity informs both our research culture as well as our approach to teaching and learning.

I hope that you will find many opportunities across the department’s rich offerings to extend your knowledge and curiosity about the world through the fascinating lens of gender studies and cultural studies.

Associate Professor Kane Race
Chair, Department of Gender and Cultural Studies
WHY STUDY GENDER AND CULTURAL STUDIES?

GENDER AND CULTURAL STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

The Department of Gender and Cultural Studies at the University of Sydney is the leading centre for research into culture and gender in Australia. Renowned internationally for interdisciplinary research and teaching in Gender and Cultural Studies, the department has some of Australia’s foremost academics and theorists in Gender and Cultural Studies on staff, drawing on a wide range of humanities and social science disciplines for their research and teaching.

GENDER STUDIES

Gender Studies allows students to explore how sex and gender are understood and lived in their own and other cultures, providing students with the tools to analyse a wide range of issues. The department is committed to equipping students with research and writing skills that will assist in opening up a range of career prospects. The study of gender also profoundly enriches studies in the humanities and social sciences and provides an important complement to degrees specialising in law or legal studies, the sciences, the arts, government and policy-making, and international relations.

About the Gender Studies Major

A major in Gender Studies offers you a unique interdisciplinary perspective on how gender shapes both formal knowledge and everyday experience. Since Simone de Beauvoir first announced, ‘One is not born a woman, one becomes one’, the study of gender has emerged as one of the most important areas of enquiry in the Humanities and Social Sciences. A major in Gender Studies enriches our knowledge of the practices, performances and representations that inform our understanding of masculinity, femininity, sexuality and identity and provides an important framework for considering social issues, ranging from debates about marriage equality and new forms of intimacy to gendered forms of labour, violence and representational practices. A major in Gender Studies will equip you with interdisciplinary research and writing skills that provide an important complement to degrees in Arts and Social Sciences, Law, Psychology, Nursing and Medicine and will assist in enhancing career prospects in these disciplines and fields.

Pathway through the major

A major in Gender Studies requires 36 senior credit points, including at least 12 credit points from core units of study at 2000 level and at least 6 credit points of core units of study at 3000 level.

The units of study for the major can be found in the Table A unit of study table (in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Handbook) for Gender Studies. The table shows units of study on offer in the current handbook year. You may find information regarding a full list of units of study available to the major on the departmental website.
Junior units of study (1000 level)
In first year you will complete GSCT1602 Introduction to Gender Studies and GCST1601 Introduction to Cultural Studies. You may replace one or both of these units with any junior units from Anthropology or Sociology or PHIL1011 Reality, Ethics and Beauty, PHIL1013 Society, Knowledge and Self, ENGL1008 Australian Texts: International Contexts or ENGL1026 Constructing the Fictive Self.

GCST1602 Introduction to Gender Studies familiarises students with foundational concepts in the study of gender, including how gender organises our lives, bodies, sexualities and desires.

Senior units of study (2000 and 3000 level)
You can choose from a range of senior intermediate (2000 level) units of study that are designed to broaden your knowledge of issues related to the study of gender, including sexuality and identity, sexuality and violence, theories of intimacy and friendship and masculinity. You complete a minimum of 12 credit points at 2000 level from core units of study.

Progression is achieved through both breadth and depth, allowing you to explore the diversity of approaches to the study of gender, sexuality and identity.

Senior-advanced (3000 level) units of study extend the research and learning experience for students. These options build on junior and senior-intermediate areas of study, including sexuality, queer theory, the body and ideas of intimacy, community and belonging but allow for a greater depth of focus either through the use of sophisticated theoretical tools or research methods, or both. For a major in Gender Studies you complete a minimum of 6 credit points of core units at 3000 level.

Honours in Gender Studies
To proceed to fourth year honours in Gender Studies, you will need to complete at least 48 senior credit points from the Gender Studies unit of study table with a credit average.

It is also possible to do joint honours in Gender and Cultural Studies. Prospective students for this joint program should see the Departmental website or handbook.
CULTURAL STUDIES

Cultural Studies is an interdisciplinary field concerned with how we understand ourselves, others and our place in the world. Students learn about the forms and meanings of everyday life, focusing on questions of identity, meaning, representation and power. For Cultural Studies, culture is something we all do every day, and students will be better equipped for many careers as well as for their own lives by learning to analyse how cultural practices and meanings are produced, circulated and changed.

Cultural Studies allows students to explore their own and other cultures, providing them with the tools to analyse a wide range of issues. The department is committed to equipping students with research and writing skills that will assist in opening up a range of career prospects. The study of contemporary culture also complements all forms of study in the humanities and social sciences as well as law and legal studies, the sciences, the arts, government, economics, commerce and education.

About the Cultural Studies major

A major in Cultural Studies introduces you to critical approaches used in the study of a wide variety of cultural forms and practices. Because of its interdisciplinarity, Cultural Studies will provide you with a range of tools to analyse how cultural practices and meanings are produced, circulated and exchanged. Cultural Studies will equip you to become informed and engaged critical thinkers in relation to important contemporary cultural issues and everyday experiences.

Pathway through the major

A major in Cultural Studies requires 36 senior credit points, including at least 12 credit points from core units of study at 2000 level and at least 6 credit points of core units at 3000 level.

The units of study for the major can be found in the Table A unit of study table (in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Handbook) for Cultural Studies. The table shows units of study on offer in the current handbook year. You may find information regarding a full list of units of study available to the major on the departmental website.

Junior units of study (1000 level)

In the first year of a Cultural Studies major you will complete GCST1601 Introduction to Cultural Studies and GCST1602 Introduction to Gender Studies. You may replace one or both of these units with any junior units from Anthropology or Sociology or PHIL1011 Reality, Ethics and Beauty, PHIL1013 Society, Knowledge and Self, ENGL1008 Australian Texts: International Contexts or ENGL1026 Constructing the Fictive Self.
GCST1601 Introduction to Cultural Studies demonstrates how media representations and cultural practices convey meanings that inform our everyday social and cultural world. While drawing upon students’ existing cultural literacies and providing contextual information about Cultural Studies approaches, it provides students with concepts and techniques of analysis that enable them to debate critical issues through the interpretation of cultural texts.

**Senior units of study (2000 and 3000 level)**

You can choose from a range of options at the senior-intermediate (2000) level that are designed to broaden your knowledge of Cultural Studies and its objects of study. You complete at least 12 credit points from core units of study and up to 18 credit points from elective units of study at 2000 level. Progression is achieved through breadth and depth, allowing you to draw upon your existing cultural literacies and providing contextual information about Cultural Studies approaches. Senior-intermediate units will provide you with concepts and techniques of analysis that enable you to debate critical issues through the interpretation of cultural texts. You must complete 12 credit points at 2000 level before enrolling in 3000 level units of study.

You complete a minimum of six credit points at senior-advanced 3000 level units of study. You choose from a small number of units designed to intensify your study of critical cultural theory and Cultural Studies research methods. You will be introduced to research and learning experiences through units that provide competency in a range of research methods, fieldwork and cultural theory. You may choose to focus on research methods or cultural theory or do both.

**Honours in Cultural Studies**

To proceed to an honours year in Cultural Studies, students must have a credit average or above in 48 senior credit points taken from the Cultural Studies unit of study table including completion of the requirements for a major.

It is also possible to do joint honours in Gender and Cultural Studies. Prospective students for this joint program should see the departmental website.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMESTER 1</th>
<th>SEMESTER 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GCST1601 Introduction to Cultural Studies</td>
<td>GCST1602 Introduction to Gender Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCST2604 Sex, Violence and Transgression</td>
<td>GCST2609 Maculintiy, Mateship and Men's Lives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCST2605 Race and Representation</td>
<td>GCST2610 Intimacy, Love and Friendship</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCST2607 Bodies, Sexualities, Identities</td>
<td>GCST2630 Consumer Cultures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCST2612 Youth Cultures</td>
<td>GCST3604 Cultural Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCST3631 Gender, Communities and Belonging</td>
<td>GCST3630 Everyday Life: Theories and Practices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
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<th>WINTER SCHOOL</th>
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<tr>
<td>GCST2604 Sex, Violence and Transgression</td>
<td>GCST1601 Introduction to Cultural Studies</td>
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<td>GCST2630 Consumer Cultures</td>
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<td>GCST2612 Youth Cultures</td>
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<th>Honours</th>
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JUNIOR UNITS OF STUDY

GCST1601 Introduction to Cultural Studies
Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Guy Redden Sessions: Semester 1, Winter Main Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Assessment: 1x online reflective learning journal equivalent to 2000 words (40%), 1x group presentation (10%), 1x2000wd essay (40%) and tutorial participation (10%)

Cultural studies explores everyday life, media and popular culture. It shows us how we can make sense of contemporary culture as producers, consumers, readers and viewers, in relation to our identities and communities. How do various cultural texts and practices convey different kinds of meaning and value? Drawing upon key approaches in the field, students will learn how to analyse cultural forms such as advertising, television, film and popular music.

GCST1602 Introduction to Gender Studies
Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Jennifer Germon, Dr Anthea Taylor Session: Semester 2 Classes: 2x1-hr lecture, 1x1-hr tutorial Assessment: Tutorial participation (10%), 1x1300wd tutorial presentation task (15%), 1x1200wd short essay (35%), 1x1500wd long essay (40%)

How does gender organise lives, bodies, sexualities and desires? How does gender relate to sex and sexuality? Are there really only two genders? How and why is gender such an integral part of how we identify ourselves and others? This unit introduces students to foundational concepts in the study of gender and critically engages with questions of identity, sexuality, family, the body, cultural practices and gender norms in light of contemporary gender theories.
SENIOR UNITS OF STUDY

GCST2604 Sex, Violence and Transgression
Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Jennifer Germon Sessions: Semester 1, Summer Early Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points from GCST, SCLG, ANTH, ENGL1008, ENGL1026, PHIL1011 or PHIL1013 Prohibitions: WMST2004 Assessment: 1x2000wd case study (40%), 1x2000wd take-home exam (40%), online participation (20%)

Violence is one of the most prevalent themes in popular culture and public discourse today. It shapes our lives in all sorts of ways, both real and imagined. Incorporating concepts and theoretical tools from gender and cultural studies, this unit will examine the construction and representation of violence in relation to sexuality, transgression, difference and power.

GCST2605 Race and Representation
Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Jane Park Session: Semester 1 Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points from GCST, SCLG, ANTH, ENGL1008, ENGL1026, PHIL1011 or PHIL1013 Assessment: tutorial participation (10%), 1x500wd group presentation (15%), 1x400wd journal (15%), 1x1000wd midterm essay (25%), 1x2200wd final research essay (35%)

This unit introduces students to cultural theories about race and ethnicity and uses these theories to examine representations of racial minorities across a range of media such as film, literature and performance within multiple national contexts. By interrogating the relationship between these representations and those of other identity categories including gender, sexuality and class, it provides a complex understanding of how ‘race’ as an institutional force and lived experience helps shape perceptions of ourselves and others.

GCST2607 Bodies, Sexualities, Identities
Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Kane Race Sessions: Semester 1, Summer Main Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points from GCST, SCLG, ANTH, ENGL1008, ENGL1026, PHIL1011 or PHIL1013 Prohibitions: WMST2007 Assessment: tutorial participation and exercises (10%), 1x1500wd essay (40%), 1x2500wd essay (50%)

In this unit of study we will examine the ways in which feminist and other cultural theories have used bodies and sexualities in order to theorise difference and identity. The body and sexuality have been shown to be a major site for the operation of power in our society. We will look at how bodies and sexualities have given rise to critical understandings of identity. The unit of study will be devoted to working through some of the major theories of sexuality and embodiment, and the analysis of cultural practices.
GCST2609 Masculinity, Mateship and Men’s Lives

Credit points: 6
Session: Semester 2
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points from GCST, SCLG, ANTH, ENGL1008, ENGL1026, PHIL1011 or PHIL1013
Prohibitions: WMST2009
Assessment: tutorial participation (10%), tutorial presentation (10%), 1x1500wd write-up of presentation (30%) and 1x2000wd essay/take-home exam (50%)

What do men want? From a traditional focus on femininity in gender studies, it is increasingly clear that masculinity has undergone tremendous changes in the last several decades. From a perspective of gender and cultural studies, this unit examines the economic, social and cultural contexts in which masculinity is lived. We will consider different case studies focused on the changing representation of men in contemporary culture. These will include aspects of style and consumption, roles within workplaces, and in domestic practices.

GCST2610 Intimacy, Love and Friendship

Credit points: 6
Session: Semester 2
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points from GCST, SCLG, ANTH, ENGL1008, ENGL1026, PHIL1011 or PHIL1013
Prohibitions: WMST2010
Assessment: tutorial participation (10%), 1x tutorial presentation (10%), 1x1500wd write-up of presentation (30%) and 1x2000wd essay/take-home exam (50%)

This unit examines the representation and practices of intimate relations focusing especially on the intersection between intimacy and constructions of gender. Divided into three sections, the unit will examine theories of love and friendship, contemporary cultural representations of love, desire and friendship, and the ethics and politics of erotics. This unit will also examine new technologies of intimacy, and discuss their implications for gender and sexuality.

GCST2612 Youth Cultures

Credit points: 6
Sessions: Semester 1, Summer
Main Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week
Prerequisites: (12 Junior credit points from GCST, SCLG, ANTH, ENGL1008, ENGL1026, PHIL1011 or PHIL1013) or (12 senior credit points of Digital Cultures)
Prohibitions: WMST2012
Assessment: tutorial participation (10%), 1x tutorial presentation (10%), 1x1500wd write-up of presentation (30%), 1x2000wd essay/take-home exam (50%)

This unit examines academic and popular cultural ideas about youth and practices of youth culture. It will introduce students to some of the current parameters for studying youth cultural forms, practices and theories by drawing on research with young people. Points of focus will include discussion of youth, youth subcultures, filmic depictions of youth cultures, youth arts and critical perspectives on schooling. These seemingly diverse narratives and sites are brought together by the fact that they all play roles in shaping the lived experience of contemporary youth culture.
GCST2630 Consumer Cultures
Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Prof Elspeth Probyn  
Sessions: Semester 2, Winter Main  
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  
Prerequisites: 12 Junior credit points from GCST, SCLG, ANTH, ENGL1008, ENGL1026, PHIL1011 or PHIL1013  
Assessment: tutorial participation (10%), 1x1000wd In-class exam (25%), 1x1000wd critical analysis of media (25%), 1x2000wd case study (40%)

This unit will introduce students to the dominant theories concerning practices of consumption and production, as well as different cultures and contexts of consumption. The unit will consider, for instance, how practices produce different identities, and how they can serve to stratify us socially. We will analyse the role of media, including advertising and marketing, as an essential element in reproducing cultures of consumption. Throughout the unit, case studies will demonstrate different methods for studying practices of consumption and production.

GCST3604 Cultural Theory
Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Assoc Prof Catherine Driscoll  
Session: Semester 2  
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  
Prerequisites: (12 senior credit points from Gender and Cultural Studies) or (12 senior credit points of Digital Cultures)  
Assessment: 3x500wd responses to readings (45%), choice of 1x2500wd take-home exam or 1x2500wd research essay (35%), and participation in class and online (20%)

Cultural Studies was widely discussed as one of the “New Humanities” in the 1990s, but a long history of debates about and theories of culture precede the discipline, and the processes of deciding what are the key texts and concepts of Cultural Studies is ongoing. This unit overviews core and the most frequently referenced critical and theoretical texts from the Cultural Studies “canon”. Students will also undertake reading and analysis exercises designed to help them come to grips with using “theory” in their own work.

GCST3630 Everyday Life: Theories and Practices
Credit points: 6 Teacher/Coordinator: Dr Natalya Lusty  
Session: Semester 2  
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  
Prerequisites: 12 senior credit points of Cultural Studies  
Prohibitions: GCST2613  
Assessment: 1x1000wd close reading assessment (20%), 1x2000wd group presentation (40%), 1x2000wd essay (40%)

While our knowledge of everyday life is often taken for granted, considered ordinary or banal, the field of everyday life studies has provided important tools for critically understanding everyday spaces and cultural practices. This advanced unit combines theoretical analysis of key thinkers in the field - Henri Lefebvre, Michel de Certeau, Raymond Williams and Meaghan Morris - with attention to everyday practices and the research methods used to investigate them.

GCST3631 Gender, Communities and Belonging  
Credit points: 6 Session: Semester 1  
Classes: 1x2-hr lecture/week, 1x1-hr tutorial/week  
Prerequisites: 12 senior credit points of GCST  
Prohibitions: GCST2613  
Assessment: 1x1000wd critical close reading task (20%), 1x2000wd research project (40%), 1x1000wd take-home exercise (30%) and tutorial participation (10%)

In this unit students will apply advanced methods from gender and cultural studies to examine experiences of belonging and formations of community. Students will analyse how power produces and regulates communities, identities and belonging. They will question the assumption that community is based on the unity and similarity of citizens and their location in specific cultures and places, and critically examine alternatives such as difference, diaspora, and other forms of sociality. Students will evaluate different theories of community in local, national and international contexts, and in relation to feminism, democracy, cosmopolitanism and hospitality.
ACADEMIC STAFF
Dr Fiona Allon · 9351 6815 · fiona.allon@sydney.edu.au · ARC Future Fellow · Cultures of ‘home’ and everyday life; space, place and identity; suburban and urban cultures; popular culture; mobility, travel and the cultural dimensions of globalisation.

Dr Ruth Barcan · 9036 6013 · ruth.barcan@sydney.edu.au · Nudity and nudism; feminist cultural studies approaches to the body; alternative therapies and New Age practices; and pedagogy.

Dr Prudence Black · 9351 6778 · prudence.black@sydney.edu.au · ARC DECRA Fellow · Fashion design history and theory; broadcaster on contemporary design matters.

Assoc Prof Catherine Driscoll · 9036 9503 · catherine.driscoll@sydney.edu.au · Modernism, cultural theory, philosophy, fan cultures, youth studies, girl culture and rural studies.

Dr Jennifer Germon · 9351 3774 · jennifer.germon@sydney.edu.au · gender, social justice, embodiment, medical ethics, violence, transgression, sexuality studies (including sexology).

Dr Jodi Frawley · 9036 6335 · jodi.frawley@sydney.edu.au · ARC DECRA Fellow · Botanical transfers associated with botanic gardens, and the bio-cultural ramifications of invasive species.

Assoc Prof Tess Lea · 9351 6777 · tess.lea@sydney.edu.au · ARC QEII Fellow · Housing and environmental health reform; the anthropology of audit and policy; development theory and the will to improve; the tactics of post-colonial power and settler liberal governance; institutional ethnography; neo-liberal governance; urban research; Indigenous school-based education reform; development theory; the co-dependencies between Indigenous and non-Indigenous worlds; class, race and place.

Assoc Prof Natalya Lusty · 9036 8550 · natalya.lusty@sydney.edu.au · Modernism and Modernity, theories and representations of violence, everyday life studies, fashion culture and cultural studies.
Prof Meaghan Morris • 9351 2473 • meaghan.morris@sydney.edu.au • Cinema studies; popular culture and social memory; popular historiography; international cultural studies; globalisation and “national” questions in cultural studies.

Dr Jane Park • 9351 7509 • jane.park@sydney.edu.au • Cultural studies, film and media studies, Asian and Asian-American studies, postcolonial theory, and comparative race studies.

Prof Elspeth Probyn • 9351 7389 • elspeth.probyn@sydney.edu.au • Questions of identity, sexuality and bodies; what people think and do with their bodies – from eating, sex, to emotions and writing.

Dr Fiona Probyn-Rapsey • 9036 5342 • fiona.probyn-rapsey@sydney.edu.au • Multidisciplinary approaches to postcolonial feminism, transnationalism, whiteness studies, Animal/human cultures, Australian studies.

Assoc Prof Kane Race • 9351 3662 • kane.race@sydney.edu.au • Gender and sexuality, consumer culture, HIV/AIDS, sociology of health and biomedicine, biopolitics, citizenship, and queer studies.

Dr Guy Redden • 9351 8495 • guy.redden@sydney.edu.au • Consumer culture, alternative cultures (including online), religion, lifestyle television, cross-cultural encounters, cultural theory.

Dr Anthea Taylor • 9351 3657 • anthea.taylor@sydney.edu.au • Gender and popular culture, celebrity, popular feminism, postfeminism, reality television, new media, fandom, feminist literary and cultural theory, popular fiction, literary reception, and cultural policy.

Assoc Prof Lee Wallace • 9036 9497 • lee.wallace@sydney.edu.au • ARC Future Fellow • Sexuality, cinematic and cultural space, modern sexual narratives, colonial discourse.

ACADEMIC COORDINATORS

Chair of Department - Assoc Prof Kane Race
Enquiries relating to Undergraduate study, Honours or Postgraduate study should be directed to the appropriate Academic Coordinator. For further information please visit: sydney.edu.au/arts/gender_cultural_studies

Find us on Facebook
STUDENT ENQUIRIES
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Lobby H, Level 3, Quadrangle A14
(next to MacLaurin Hall stairwell)
T +61 2 9351 2862
F +61 2 9351 3918
W sydney.edu.au/arts/sophi

KEY DATES 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Info day</td>
<td>3 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lectures begin</td>
<td>3 Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census date</td>
<td>31 Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester break</td>
<td>18-25 Apr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day of lectures</td>
<td>6 Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuvac</td>
<td>9-13 Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam period</td>
<td>16-28 Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester ends</td>
<td>28 Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lectures begin</td>
<td>28 Jul</td>
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<tr>
<td>Census date</td>
<td>31 Aug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester break</td>
<td>29 Sep-3 Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day of lectures</td>
<td>31 Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuvac</td>
<td>3-7 Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam period</td>
<td>10-22 Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester ends</td>
<td>22 Nov</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PRIZES, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Information on Departmental prizes and scholarships can be found on the Department’s website.

Other scholarships and financial assistance available through the University can be found at:
- sydney.edu.au/arts/future_students/scholarships.shtml
- sydney.edu.au/scholarships

POLICIES

For information on policies that apply to current students, please visit:
- sydney.edu.au/arts/current_students/policies.shtml

SUMMER AND WINTER SCHOOLS

Through Summer And Winter School programs, students can accelerate their degree, catch up a failed subject, balance their timetable or study subjects outside their current program. Recent high school graduates can enrol in first year subjects.
- sydney.edu.au/summer