

Australian Indigenous Studies

The University of Melbourne and the Faculty of Arts currently teach a range of subjects across many departments in the field of indigenous studies. The appointment of Professor Marcia Langton to the Chair of Australian Indigenous Studies created the opportunity to bring together this teaching and research into a coordinated interdepartmental program in Australian indigenous studies.

The Australian Indigenous Studies Program

Students may enrol in subjects from the Australian Indigenous Studies Program provided they meet prerequisites, where applicable, or with the written permission of the subject coordinator.

Provided that it does not constitute an over-enrolment, those students who previously completed subjects towards a sequence in Australian Indigenous studies from 2001 or 2002 may either complete the sequence or convert it to a co-major by enrolling in additional subjects to meet the following co-major requirements.

Australian Indigenous studies subjects	Sem.
First year	
121-104 Indigenous Performance and Culture (p.3)	2
166-120 Indigenous People and the State (p.3)	2
Second/third year	
102-005 Exploring Central Australia (p.3)	1 rep 2
106-045 Aboriginal Writing (p.7)	N/A
106-063 Aboriginal Cultural Studies (p.9)	N/A
107-030 Contemporary Aboriginal Art (p.3)	1
121-017 Society and Environments (p.3)	2
121-224 Garma Fieldwork (p.5) (25 points)	2
121-225 Place and Possession (p.5)	2
121-226 Native Title (p.5)	N/A
131-051 Aboriginal & Pacific Islander Histories (p.8)	2
166-038 Indigenous Rights: Land and Heritage (p.6)	1
166-086 Qualitative Research Strategies (p.3)	1
166-230 On Country Learning: Indigenous Studies (p.8)	1
175-018 Language&Society in Aboriginal Australia (p.4)	N/A
476-202 Education 2B Indigenous Aust Studies (p.4)	1
730-394 Indigenous People, History and the Law (p.7)	1
Third/fourth year	
121-458 Australian Quaternary Environments (p.7)	2
175-417 Structure of Aboriginal Languages (p.5)	N/A
191-427 Crime Ethnicity and Race (p.4)	2
472-402 Indigenous Australian Studies (p.6)	N/A
Comparative subjects with Indigenous studies components	
First year	
136-175 The Ecological History of Humankind (p.3)	1
166-111 Inequalities in Australian Society (p.3)	2
Second/third year	
102-003 Australia and America (p.2)	1 rep 2
106-003 Media and Cultural Difference (p.3)	N/A
107-025 Postcolonialism and the Cinema (p.2)	N/A
107-085 Australian Cinema (p.3)	N/A
121-017 Society and Environments (p.3)	2
131-073 Human Rights in Australian History (p.10)	1
131-221 Crime Law & Punishment-Colonial Victoria (p.12)	N/A
136-213 Environmental History of Australia (p.5)	Summer
166-004 Change & Conflict in Australian Society (p.3)	N/A
166-021 International Relations and its Others (p.4)	2
166-081 Quantitative Social Research (p.2)	2
175-020 Language & Culture (p.4)	1
Fourth year/postgraduate	
106-404 Memory and Contemporary Culture (p.11)	2
106-456 Colonial/Postcolonial Visual Cultures (p.15)	N/A
106-459 Postcolonial Writing and Theory (p.15)	1
106-472 Writing Genealogies of Place (p.15)	2
121-503 Research Methods and Design (p.8)	Summer
121-537 Heritage and Cultural Environments (p.8)	2
131-455 Gender and Colonialism: 1788-1945 (p.17)	N/A
131-471 Indigenous Politics and History (p.19)	1

Completing an Australian indigenous studies co-major

The Faculty of Arts offers BA students the opportunity to undertake a co-major in Australian indigenous studies. The co-major must be taken in conjunction with another BA major. The structure of the co-major varies according to the combining major. There are four co-major structures: one for students undertaking a major in anthropology or geography, one for students undertaking a major in history, one for students undertaking a major in political science, and one for students undertaking a major in other areas of study in the humanities. It is not possible to complete an Indigenous studies co-major without also completing a separate major in another area.

With the approval of the relevant head of department and the Chair of Australian Indigenous Studies, a Bachelor of Arts with a co-major in Australian indigenous studies may lead to honours and ultimately higher degree study with a focus on Australian indigenous studies.

A co-major in Australian indigenous studies requires the completion of nine 12.5-point subjects totalling 112.5 points, which must be taken alongside a major in another area of study. It comprises:

- two first-year subjects (25 points)
- seven second/third-year subjects (87.5 points)

Students enrolled in some BA combined degrees (arts/engineering, arts/geomeng, arts/law, arts/social work, arts/teaching, and arts/medicine) will not be able to complete a co-major in Australian indigenous studies without over-enrolling their arts course, see *Taking extra subjects (over-enrolment)* (p.9). BA combined degree students wishing to complete a co-major in Australian indigenous studies should choose their first-year subjects carefully to ensure that they complete the correct prerequisite subjects for both majors.

The co-major takes several forms depending on the student's other major area of study.

Option 1: A major in anthropology or geography as well as the following:

Australian Indigenous studies subjects	Sem.
First year	
At least one compulsory subject	
166-120 Indigenous People and the State (p.3)	2
or	
121-104 Indigenous Performance and Culture (p.3)	2
or one compulsory subject and one of the following	
136-175 The Ecological History of Humankind (p.3)	1
166-111 Inequalities in Australian Society (p.3)	2
as well as four subjects (50 points) from the list of second/third-year core subjects with the remainder from the list of second/third-year elective subjects.	
Second/third-year core subjects	
102-003 Australia and America (p.2)	1 rep 2
102-005 Exploring Central Australia (p.3)	1 rep 2
107-030 Contemporary Aboriginal Art (p.3)	1
121-017 Society and Environments (p.3)	2
121-224 Garma Fieldwork (p.5) (25 points)	2
121-225 Place and Possession (p.5)	2
121-226 Native Title (p.5)	N/A
121-458 Australian Quaternary Environments (p.7)	2
131-025 Empire, Race and Human Rights: 1800-2000 (p.6)	N/A
131-051 Aboriginal & Pacific Islander Histories (p.8)	2
166-038 Indigenous Rights: Land and Heritage (p.6)	1
166-086 Qualitative Research Strategies (p.3)	1
166-230 On Country Learning: Indigenous Studies (p.8)	1
175-018 Language&Society in Aboriginal Australia (p.4)	N/A
730-394 Indigenous People, History and the Law (p.7)	1
Second/third-year elective subjects	
106-003 Media and Cultural Difference (p.3)	N/A
106-045 Aboriginal Writing (p.7)	N/A
107-025 Postcolonialism and the Cinema (p.2)	N/A
107-085 Australian Cinema (p.3)	N/A
131-073 Human Rights in Australian History (p.10)	1
131-221 Crime Law & Punishment-Colonial Victoria (p.12)	N/A
166-004 Change & Conflict in Australian Society (p.3)	N/A
166-021 International Relations and its Others (p.4)	2
166-081 Quantitative Social Research (p.2)	2
175-020 Language & Culture (p.4)	1
476-202 Education 2B Indigenous Aust Studies (p.4)	1

Option 2: A major in history as well as the following:**Australian Indigenous studies subjects** Sem.**First year**

At least one compulsory subject

166-120 Indigenous People and the State (*p.3*) 2

or

166-120 Indigenous People and the State (*p.3*) 2

or one compulsory subject and one of the following

136-175 The Ecological History of Humankind (*p.3*) 1166-111 Inequalities in Australian Society (*p.3*) 2

as well as four subjects (50 points) from the list of second/third-year core subjects with the remainder from the list of second/third-year elective subjects.

Second/third-year core subjects102-003 Australia and America (*p.2*) 1 rep 2102-005 Exploring Central Australia (*p.3*) 1 rep 2106-045 Aboriginal Writing (*p.7*) N/A106-063 Aboriginal Cultural Studies (*p.9*) N/A107-030 Contemporary Aboriginal Art (*p.3*) 1121-224 Garma Fieldwork (*p.5*) (25 points) 2121-225 Place and Possession (*p.5*) 2121-226 Native Title (*p.5*) N/A121-458 Australian Quaternary Environments (*p.7*) 2131-025 Empire, Race and Human Rights: 1800-2000 (*p.6*) N/A131-051 Aboriginal & Pacific Islander Histories (*p.8*) 2166-038 Indigenous Rights: Land and Heritage (*p.6*) 1166-086 Qualitative Research Strategies (*p.3*) 1166-230 On Country Learning: Indigenous Studies (*p.8*) 1175-417 Structure of Aboriginal Languages (*p.5*) N/A191-427 Crime Ethnicity and Race (*p.4*) 2730-394 Indigenous People, History and the Law (*p.7*) 1**Second/third-year elective subjects**106-003 Media and Cultural Difference (*p.3*) N/A107-025 Postcolonialism and the Cinema (*p.2*) N/A107-085 Australian Cinema (*p.3*) N/A121-017 Society and Environments (*p.3*) 2131-073 Human Rights in Australian History (*p.10*) 1131-221 Crime Law & Punishment-Colonial Victoria (*p.12*) N/A166-004 Change & Conflict in Australian Society (*p.3*) N/A166-021 International Relations and its Others (*p.4*) 2166-081 Quantitative Social Research (*p.2*) 2175-018 Language&Society in Aboriginal Australia (*p.4*) N/A175-020 Language & Culture (*p.4*) 1476-202 Education 2B Indigenous Aust Studies (*p.4*) 1**Option 3: A major in political science as well as the following:****Australian Indigenous studies subjects** Sem.**First year**

at least one compulsory subject

166-120 Indigenous People and the State (*p.3*) 2

or

121-104 Indigenous Performance and Culture (*p.3*) 2

or one compulsory subject and one of the following

136-175 The Ecological History of Humankind (*p.3*) 1166-111 Inequalities in Australian Society (*p.3*) 2

as well as four subjects (50 points) from the list of second/third-year core subjects with the remainder from the list of second/third-year elective subjects.

Second/third-year core subjects102-003 Australia and America (*p.2*) 1 rep 2106-003 Media and Cultural Difference (*p.3*) N/A121-225 Place and Possession (*p.5*) 2121-226 Native Title (*p.5*) N/A121-458 Australian Quaternary Environments (*p.7*) 2131-025 Empire, Race and Human Rights: 1800-2000 (*p.6*) N/A131-051 Aboriginal & Pacific Islander Histories (*p.8*) 2131-221 Crime Law & Punishment-Colonial Victoria (*p.12*) N/A166-004 Change & Conflict in Australian Society (*p.3*) N/A166-021 International Relations and its Others (*p.4*) 2166-038 Indigenous Rights: Land and Heritage (*p.6*) 1166-086 Qualitative Research Strategies (*p.3*) 1166-230 On Country Learning: Indigenous Studies (*p.8*) 1191-427 Crime Ethnicity and Race (*p.4*) 2**Australian Indigenous studies subjects** Sem.730-394 Indigenous People, History and the Law (*p.7*) 1**Second/third-year elective subjects**102-005 Exploring Central Australia (*p.3*) 1 rep 2106-045 Aboriginal Writing (*p.7*) N/A106-063 Aboriginal Cultural Studies (*p.9*) N/A107-025 Postcolonialism and the Cinema (*p.2*) N/A107-030 Contemporary Aboriginal Art (*p.3*) 1107-085 Australian Cinema (*p.3*) N/A121-017 Society and Environments (*p.3*) 2121-224 Garma Fieldwork (*p.5*) (25 points) 2131-073 Human Rights in Australian History (*p.10*) 1166-004 Change & Conflict in Australian Society (*p.3*) N/A166-081 Quantitative Social Research (*p.2*) 2175-018 Language&Society in Aboriginal Australia (*p.4*) N/A175-020 Language & Culture (*p.4*) 1476-202 Education 2B Indigenous Aust Studies (*p.4*) 1**Option 4: A major in an area of the humanities other than anthropology, geography, history or political science as well as the following:****Australian Indigenous studies subjects** Sem.**First year**

At least one compulsory subject

166-120 Indigenous People and the State (*p.3*) 2

or

121-104 Indigenous Performance and Culture (*p.3*) 2

or one compulsory subject and one of the following

136-175 The Ecological History of Humankind (*p.3*) 1166-111 Inequalities in Australian Society (*p.3*) 2

as well as four subjects (50 points) from the list of second/third-year core subjects with the remainder from the list of second/third-year elective subjects.

Second/third-year core subjects102-003 Australia and America (*p.2*) 1 rep 2102-005 Exploring Central Australia (*p.3*) 1 rep 2106-003 Media and Cultural Difference (*p.3*) N/A106-045 Aboriginal Writing (*p.7*) N/A106-063 Aboriginal Cultural Studies (*p.9*) N/A107-025 Postcolonialism and the Cinema (*p.2*) N/A107-030 Contemporary Aboriginal Art (*p.3*) 1107-085 Australian Cinema (*p.3*) N/A121-458 Australian Quaternary Environments (*p.7*) 2131-025 Empire, Race and Human Rights: 1800-2000 (*p.6*) N/A131-051 Aboriginal & Pacific Islander Histories (*p.8*) 2166-038 Indigenous Rights: Land and Heritage (*p.6*) 1166-086 Qualitative Research Strategies (*p.3*) 1166-230 On Country Learning: Indigenous Studies (*p.8*) 1175-018 Language&Society in Aboriginal Australia (*p.4*) N/A191-427 Crime Ethnicity and Race (*p.4*) 2730-394 Indigenous People, History and the Law (*p.7*) 1**Second/third-year elective subjects**121-017 Society and Environments (*p.3*) 2121-224 Garma Fieldwork (*p.5*) (25 points) 2121-225 Place and Possession (*p.5*) 2121-226 Native Title (*p.5*) N/A131-073 Human Rights in Australian History (*p.10*) 1131-221 Crime Law & Punishment-Colonial Victoria (*p.12*) N/A166-021 International Relations and its Others (*p.4*) 2166-086 Qualitative Research Strategies (*p.3*) 1175-020 Language & Culture (*p.4*) 1476-202 Education 2B Indigenous Aust Studies (*p.4*) 1**For more information**

Prospective students are advised to consult with the Australian Indigenous Studies Program Office, housed in the School of Anthropology, Geography and Environmental Studies (SAGES):

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207 Bourverie Street
The University of Melbourne
Victoria 3010

Tel: +61 3 8344 3936/8239

Fax: +61 3 8344 3835

Email: indigenus-studies@unimelb.edu.au

Web: <http://www.indigenous-studies.unimelb.edu.au>

First year subject

121-104 Indigenous Performance and Culture

Note: With the approval of the Anthropology undergraduate coordinator this subject may be included in a major in Anthropology.

Availability: 1st year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: To be advised

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject will introduce aspects of cultural expression among Indigenous peoples in Australia across a range of contemporary contexts with emphasis on conceptualisations of identity, place, community and ownership. Students who complete this subject will have a sound knowledge of these concepts and the ability to pursue a major in Australian Indigenous Studies. Contemporary practices in music, dance and theatre among Indigenous Australians will be a primary focus, and comparative international case studies will also be discussed. This subject will explore issues of cultural representation, authenticity, appropriation, syncretism, mediation and cultural activism through its examination of the projection of identity, place, community, and ownership through performative media. Texts and other materials by scholars and leading practitioners in the fields of music, dance, theatre, anthropology, cultural geography and cultural studies will be made available in a student manual and listed in a bibliography. Guest lecturers from these fields will be invited to deliver case-study presentations.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words.

Prescribed texts: A subject reader will be available

