



MONASH University
Arts

Graduate programs in women, gender and sexuality studies

The Centre for Women's Studies
and Gender Research



Looking Back

Moving Forward

www.arts.monash.edu.au/womens-studies

About Monash University

Monash University in Melbourne is one of Australia's premier research universities. It is unique in having multiple campuses and centres both nationally and internationally, including six campuses in Australia, one each in South Africa and Malaysia, as well as Centres in Prato, Italy and downtown Melbourne. As one of Australia's prestigious Group of Eight (Go8) universities, Monash is recognised for its excellence in research, teaching and scholarship. It also ranks as one of the top 50 world universities (Times Higher Education Supplement 2007).



About the centre

The Centre for Women's Studies & Gender Research (CWSGR) at Monash University is an interdisciplinary teaching and research centre. Founded in 1987, it is one of the oldest and largest of its kind in Australia. The CWSGR serves as a base for scholars and students across the University to explore the study of gender relations and their interconnections with a wide range of social phenomena, including ethnicity, race, nation, sexuality, religion, ability, age, and class. The CWSGR fosters innovative teaching and graduate training, and cultivates individual, collaborative and community-based research. Home to a diversity of empirical and theoretical approaches, the CWSGR offers a thriving environment for intellectual exchange through seminars, workshops, and conferences. It is located in the Faculty of Arts' School of Political and Social Inquiry, which also incorporates Anthropology, Behavioural Studies, Criminology, Politics, and Sociology. The CWSGR is situated at the University's main Clayton campus.

Research profile

Monash University is dedicated to the promotion of interdisciplinary gender studies and research-intensive opportunities. This is reflected in the composition of staff in the CWSGR. Currently it is home to three full-time teaching and research staff, as well as three research-only staff. Each of the research-only staff hold prestigious Monash Fellowships, giving the CWSGR the highest concentration of Monash Fellows in the Faculty. It also has around 25 associate staff from across the Faculty of Arts and other Monash Faculties. CWSGR staff are always active in research clusters and collaborations that link our students to staff across the University. Our staff also have productive research and supervisory relationships across the School, which provide graduate students with a wide range of interdisciplinary expertise and guidance. The CWSGR has a lively and diverse cohort of graduate students from Australia and abroad, including students from Malaysia, Nepal, Indonesia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Sweden, Hungary and Iran.

The CWSGR fosters a vigorous research program and provides an important focus for a range of interdisciplinary research interests in gender studies. Centre staff are currently pursuing research projects in the following areas: Gender and Higher Education; The Archives Project: Scholarly Engagements with Personal Papers; Work and Family; Sexuality, Age and Power; Gendering Modernity; Cultural Collaborations; Sex, Health and the Clinic.

For further information on these projects and other research activities, visit: www.arts.monash.edu.au/womens-studies/research/projects/

Postgraduate programs

The CWSGR offers the degrees of Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Arts by research, and Master of Arts by research and coursework. The aim of the graduate program is to provide interdisciplinary research training in Women's and Gender Studies by encouraging a range of links between staff and students not only in a variety of disciplines within the Faculty of Arts, but also with several vocationally oriented and professional courses offered by other faculties. The CWSGR has a very active research culture and organises regular intellectual and professional development seminars for graduate students.

Master of Arts (Research)

The Master of Arts (Research) degree is completed by thesis alone. Candidates are required to complete a research thesis of 30-40,000 words on an approved topic. Entry requirements are a Bachelor of Arts degree with first or second class honours or the equivalent in a relevant discipline. The program is designed for those with a background in feminist theory and gender studies or a cognate field of inquiry. Course duration: 2 years full-time or 4 years part-time.

Master of Arts (Coursework and Research)

The Master of Arts (Coursework and Research) is completed by a combination of 66% thesis and coursework. Candidates are required to complete two semester long coursework units and a research thesis of 20-25,000 words on an approved topic. The program is designed for those who may not have a strong academic background in contemporary feminist theory and gender studies. Entry requirements are a Bachelor of Arts degree with first or second class honours or the equivalent in a relevant discipline. Course duration: 1.5 years full-time or 3 years part-time.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

The degree of Doctor of Philosophy is completed by thesis alone. Candidates are required to complete a research thesis of 60-90,000 words on an approved topic. Entry requirements are a Masters degree, or a Bachelor of Arts degree with first or second class honours or the equivalent in a relevant discipline. Supervision of PhD candidates is undertaken by CWSGR staff and associates from a variety of departments and faculties across the University, enabling students to develop research projects with diverse interdisciplinary perspectives.

Scholarships for postgraduate study

Scholarships are available for candidates commencing Masters by research and PhD study. Scholarships cover both tuition and living stipend. The minimum requirement for scholarship applicants is usually a first class honours degree (or its equivalent). The regular scholarship round closes annually in October. For more information see:

www.mrgs.monash.edu.au/scholarships/

Graduate Experiences

“Doing a Masters by research and coursework was like ‘killing two birds with one stone’. I got acquainted with emerging debates of the discipline and at the same time developed research experience in my area of interest. I have greatly benefited from the regular seminars, group discussions and cohort meetings which are always stimulating with the presence of professors and students with diverse research projects.



My research project on motherhood experiences of women involved in armed conflict in Nepal has greatly benefited by supportive supervisors, who are familiar with international students’ issues. I highly recommend it to any international students who are looking for a great academic experience.”

—Neeti Aryal Khanal

Master of Arts (Coursework and Research) Candidate
Recipient of Australian Leadership Awards Scholarship(2008)

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“Undertaking undergraduate and postgraduate studies in the CWSGR opened me up to new and fresh ways of thinking about the world we live in. I was immediately hooked. One of the best aspects of this course was its interdisciplinary nature, which introduced me to critical theory, cultural studies and visual culture frameworks to approach gender issues. The staff provided a supportive learning environment to explore questions of gender difference and equipped me with the relevant knowledges, requisite skills and personal confidence to apply feminist theories to current day concerns and issues. During my PhD I was encouraged to pursue my own research interests in the visual representation of gender, technology and posthuman bodies—research which has now been published as a book.”



—Kim Toffoletti, PhD
Lecturer in Gender Studies
Deakin University

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“My story so far with Women’s Studies at the CWSGR has been about OPTIONS. Options to travel for fieldwork, conferences and summer schools; to research creatively; to access guidance; to schedule my project; and to take ownership of my PhD work. I’ve felt a sense of freedom and growth, and have had control over my research in ways that would not have been possible without such options. The sense of being in a programme where your case is closely managed is also comforting. The PhD can feel like a juggling act, with many things to keep up in the air at the same time, but the CWSGR anticipates and breaks these demands down into manageable and doable tasks. The mentoring and supervision is attentive and, best of all, intuitive. I have benefited from a rigorous research culture that is kept in place by a diverse student body and a caring and supportive staff.”



—Roshani Shermal Wijewardene
PhD Candidate
Recipient of Endeavour International
Postgraduate Research Scholarship
(2007)

CWSGR staff

Teaching and research staff

Janemaree Maher is Director of the CWSGR. She has worked at the Centre for Women's Studies since 2000. JaneMaree's research interests are focused on work/family balance, women's mothering and employment, and pregnancy and birth. In particular, JaneMaree is interested in understanding how people allocate time for care and time for work. Her recent publications on work, family and time have appeared in *Time & Society*, *Social Policy Review* and the *Journal of Sociology*. She has recently been appointed to the Advertising Standards Board of Australia; the Board makes decisions about community complaints about advertisements.



Maryanne Dever is Associate Professor of Women's Studies and is currently President of the Australian Women's and Gender Studies Association (AWGSA). Maryanne holds degrees from the University of Queensland (BA Hons) and the University of Sydney (MA Hons, PhD). Her research interests encompass feminist literary and cultural studies and applied social research. In the area of literary studies, she focuses on Australian literature, scholarly editing, literary modernism and critical engagements with literary archives. Her latest co-authored book is *The Intimate Archive*. In the area of Applied social Research she focuses on gender equity in Higher education. Before joining the CWSGR in 1996, Maryanne held appointments at the University of Sydney and the University of Hong Kong, and she has held fellowships and visiting posts at the National Library of Australia, the University of Ottawa and McGill University.



Suzanne Fraser is senior lecturer in the CWSGR. Her research program focuses on the body, health and technology, with a special emphasis on concepts of addiction and compulsion. Her work is grounded in empirical studies into health issues such as injecting drug use, hepatitis C, obesity and gambling, and aims to contribute to debates in health service delivery and policy as well as in scholarly areas of methodology and theory.



Suzanne welcomes the opportunity to supervise postgraduate students in health-related areas. Recent publications include a new book entitled *Substance and Substitution: Methadone Subjects in Liberal Societies*, with Kylie Valentine, (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008), and *Cosmetic Surgery, Gender and Culture* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2003).

CWSGR staff

Research staff only

Steven Angelides is a Monash Fellow in the CWSGR and Sociology. The author of *A History of Bisexuality* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2001), he has a PhD in History and Gender Studies from the University of Melbourne. Steven's research focuses on queer studies and the history and theory of genders and sexualities, with a current focus on child and adolescent sexualities. For his recent research on child sexuality published in *GLQ* he was awarded the 2004 American Modern Language Association (MLA) Crompton Noll Award. His current projects include a study of teacher-pupil sex crime and a monograph on moral panics over child sexuality. Before joining the CWSGR Steven held research positions at the Australian National University, the University of Adelaide, and the University of Melbourne.



Janine Burke is a Monash Fellow in CWSGR and the School of English, Communications and Performance Studies. She is the award-winning author of sixteen books of art history, biography and fiction. She has also curated exhibitions of historical and contemporary art for state and regional galleries. Between 1977-1982, she was lecturer in art history at the Victorian College of the Arts. She has written groundbreaking feminist studies including *Australian Women Artists: 1840-1940* (1980) and *Field of Vision: A Decade of Change, Women's Art in the Seventies* (1990). She was a founding member of the Victorian Women's Art Movement and the feminist visual arts journal *LIP*. In 1987, she won the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for her novel, *Second Sight*. Her next novel, *Company of Images*, was short-listed for the Miles Franklin Award and *The Age Book of the Year Award*.

A special area of research for Janine has been Melbourne's Heide circle and she has documented its patrons, artists and writers in *The Heart Garden: Sunday Reed and Heide* and *Australian Gothic: A Life of Albert Tucker*. She also edited *Dear Sun: The Letters of Joy Hester and Sunday Reed*. Her most recent book, *The Gods of Freud: Sigmund Freud's Art Collection*, was shortlisted for the 2007 NSW Premier's Literary Award. With the Freud Museum London, Janine curated an exhibition of Freud's collection for Monash University Museum of Art (2007) and University of Sydney (2008). Her new book, *Source: Artists, Writers and Place*, will be published in 2009.



Jane Carey is a Monash Fellow in the CWSGR and the Centre for Australian Indigenous Studies. She is working on a project entitled Promoting Whiteness: Race Science and the Making of the Middle-Class Woman in Australia, 1890-1940. It explores the significance of understandings of whiteness in Australian history, particularly relating to the women's movement and elite white women's identity. Her earlier PhD research examined Australian women and science. With Patricia Grimshaw she has published several articles on early Australian women historians, such as Margaret Kiddle and Kathleen Fitzpatrick. While the majority of her work has been in Australian history, she also has an interest in aspects of US history, such as the history of eugenics, and has been researching a history of white women at American World's Fairs from 1876-1940. This work focuses on constructions of race and gender in a transnational context. Her broader research interests include colonialism and postcolonial theory, history of science, constructions of race and gender, exhibition history and transnational histories.



For more information on CWSGR staff and contact details:
www.arts.monash.edu.au/womens-studies/staff/

CWSGR associate staff at Monash

- Barbara Caine**, History
- Mirna Cicione**, Italian
- Gloria Davies**, Asian Languages & Studies
- Rachel Fensham**, Drama & Theatre
- Karen Green**, Philosophy
- Rose Lucas**, English
- Anne Marsh**, Theory of Art & Design
- Bronwyn Naylor**, Law
- Pauline Nestor**, English
- Mark Peel**, History
- Nina Puren**, English
- Priya Rangan**, Geography
- Liz Reed**, Centre for Australian Indigenous Studies
- Kate Rigby**, German/Comparative Literature
- Alison Ross**, Comparative Literature
- Terri Seddon**, Education
- Annette Van Den Bosch**, Monash Asia Institute
- Jo Lindsay**, Sociology
- Kirsten McLean**, Sociology
- Sharon Pickering**, Criminology
- Dean Wilson**, Criminology
- Jude McCulloch**, Criminology
- Susan Blackburn**, Politics
- Penny Graham**, Anthropology
- Andrew Singleton**, Sociology

Conferences, symposia, seminars

Selected recent events

December 11, 2008: 'Biological Citizenship: New Spaces of Hope and Fear'. Speakers: Catherine Waldby, Helen Keane, and Kane Race.

September 17, 2008: 'New configurations: Nurses and Builders Managing Work and Care'. Speakers: JaneMaree Maher, Jo Lindsay and Anne Bardoel.

July 17, 2008: 'Public Images: Role Playing and Female Consciousness in 1960s British Culture'. Speakers Patricia Juliana Smith, Steven Angelides, Sharon Bickle, and Janine Burke.

July 15, 2008: 'Sociability, Sexuality, Self: Relationality and Individualization', Sasha Roseneil.

February 4-6, 2008: 'CWSSR 21st Anniversary Colloquium'. Speakers: Robyn Wiegman, Elizabeth Wilson, Annamarie Jagose.

December 13-14, 2007: 'Manifesting Literary Feminisms: Drafts, Grafts, Nexus, and Faultlines'. Keynote Speakers: Rachel Blau DuPlessis and Susan Sheridan.

February 1, 2007: 'Sex, Gender, and Generations'. Keynote Speaker: Shelley Budgeon.

How can I learn more about the CWSSR programs and staff?

Please visit the following website:

www.arts.monash.edu.au/womens-studies/

Who can I contact for more information?

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About Melbourne



The city of Melbourne is in the southern mainland state of Victoria. With a population of almost 4 million it is Australia's second largest city. In recent years it has three times shared top honours as the world's most liveable city, rated by *The Economist's survey of the World's Most Liveable Cities* on the basis of its cultural characteristics and indicators such as climate, standard of living, crime rate, and health care. Melbourne is known as the country's artistic, cultural, culinary and sporting capital. Known for its innovation and design and its vibrant multicultural and cosmopolitan culture, Melbourne is one of the country's leading destinations for tourists and international students.