Welcome to Higher Degree Research in the School of Social Sciences at the University of Western Sydney

The School of Social Sciences is committed to excellence in research and research training and it recognises the important role that higher degree candidates play in creating a strong and vibrant research culture. We also understand that undertaking a research degree is an exciting but challenging journey and successful completion is the outcome not only of sustained scholarly activity on the part of the candidate, but of expert and committed supervision and the provision of a high quality intellectual and physical research environment. The School ensures that its higher degree students are provided with the appropriate facilities, support and supervision at all times throughout their candidature.

The School of Social Sciences is comprised of a diverse community of scholars and many members of staff are at the forefront nationally and internationally of their fields, including in community welfare, criminology, human geography, police studies, sociology, social work, tourism and heritage, and urban planning. Many academic staff also have strong links with leading research groups and scholarly networks both within Australia and around the world, which we encourage our higher degree students to be part of.

This guide is intended to introduce future students to higher degree research in the School of Social Sciences. It contains details about staff who are available to supervise higher degree candidates, advice regarding enrolment and other procedures, and important information about a range of relevant University policies. It is, however, only the beginning and you are warmly invited to contact staff in the School for further information or to discuss your research plans.

Thank you for your interest in higher degree research in the School of Social Sciences. I wish you well in your future study and look forward to welcoming you as a research candidate in the School.

Professor Kevin Dunn
Head of School
SCHOOL STAFF AND RESEARCH AREAS

Staff in the School of Social Sciences bring to their teaching and research a stimulating combination of disciplinary and professional expertise that ensures our work engages with, and is informed by, contemporary debates and the latest developments in the field (see the School of Social Sciences website for full details about the School). The research profile of the School reflects its demonstrated achievements in the following fields:

- Tourism and heritage
- Communities and sustainable development
- Cultural policy and planning
- Social and political theory
- Child and family studies
- Art Therapy and Counselling
- Cities and communities
- Criminology and criminal justice
- Race and ethnicity
- Studies in religion
- Urban and cultural geography
- Gender

The School of Social Sciences fosters an environment that supports the research activity of academic staff and higher degree research candidates. It is also proud of its productive and cooperative relationships with University research centres in cognate areas. Staff in the School are members of the following University research centres and groups (by clicking on the name of the centre you will be redirected to their webpage):

- Centre for Citizenship and Public Policy (CCPP)
- Centre for Cultural Research (CCR)
- Centre for the Study of Contemporary Muslim Societies (CSCMS)
- Urban Research Centre (URC)

Details of the School of Social Sciences staff and their research areas are below. This information will assist you in determining prospective supervisors based on their areas of research expertise. By clicking on the staff member’s name you will be redirected to their staff profile with full details of research areas and publications. Contact details for each staff member have also been provided and we encourage you to make contact with prospective supervisors before applying for a research degree at UWS.
PROFESSOR KEVIN DUNN

Kevin Dunn is Head of School and Professor of Geography and Urban Studies. His areas of research expertise include:

- Geographies of racism, anti-racism and transnationalism
- Social and Cultural Geography
- Urban Studies

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PROFESSOR STEPHEN TOMSEN

Stephen Tomsen is Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice and Associate Head of School (Research). His areas of research expertise include:

- Violent crime, hate crime, youth crime
- Masculinities
- Access to justice and legal services
- Social theory and ethnography

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PROFESSOR NATALIE BOLZAN

Natalie Bolzan is Professor of Social Work. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Social inclusion and participation
- Social resilience
- Mental health

Ph.: + 61 2 9772 6531
E: n.bolzan@uws.edu.au

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ROBYN BUSHELL

Robyn Bushell is an Associate Professor of Tourism and Heritage Studies. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Tourism planning
- Community development
- Conservation of cultural and natural heritage

Ph.: + 61 2 4736 0113
E: r.bushell@uws.edu.au
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR MARY HAWKINS

Mary Hawkins is an Associate Professor in Sociology. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Cross-cultural and global studies
- Social Justice and Faith in the Context of Religious and Spiritual Change.
- Kinship, families and gender

Ph.: + 61 2 9772 6352
E: m.hawkins@uws.edu.au

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR MICHAEL DARCY

Michael Darcy is Associate Professor and head of the Geography and Urban Studies group in the School of Social Sciences. His research interests focus on the intersection of urban policy and social justice, in particular

- Housing markets and affordable housing
- Social housing and the lived experience of tenants
- Homelessness

Ph.: + 61 2 9772 6797
E: m.darcy@uws.edu.au

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JANE MEARS

Jane Mears is Associate Professor of Community Welfare. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Ageing
- Community care and the ageing population
- Elder abuse protocols

Ph.: + 61 2 9772 6250
E: j.mears@uws.edu.au

DR DEBBIE HORSFALL

Debbie Horsfall is a Senior Lecturer in Peace and Development Studies. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Disability and social justice issues
- Community development
- Qualitative methodologies

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E: d.horsfall@uws.edu.au
DR MICHAEL KENNEDY

Michael Kennedy is a Senior Lecturer in Policing. His areas of research expertise include:

- Ethics in policing
- Moral panics
- Zero tolerance policing
- Policing education

Ph.: + 61 2 4736 0868  
E: m.kennedy@uws.edu.au

DR EMMA POWER

Emma Power is a Lecturer in Geography and Urban Studies. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Cultural geography
- Everyday practices of sustainability and homemaking
- Human-environment relations
- More-than-human geographies

Ph.: + 61 2 4736 0107  
E: e.power@uws.edu.au

DR CORAZON SINHA

Corazon Sinha is a Senior Lecturer in Tourism and Heritage Studies. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Nature-based and wildlife tourism
- Biodiversity and natural heritage conservation
- Visitor impact and protected area management

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E: c.sinha@uws.edu.au

DR RUSSELL STAIFF

Russell Staiff is a Senior Lecturer in Tourism and Heritage Studies. His areas of research expertise include:

- Museums
- National parks
- Built heritage
- World heritage sites

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E: r.staiff@uws.edu.au
**DR SELDA DAGISTANLI**

Selda Dagistanli is a Lecturer in Criminology. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Ethnocentrism/culture of the criminal justice system
- Moral panics and the courtroom
- Emotions in the criminal justice

Ph.: + 61 2 9772 6221  
E: s.dagistanli@uws.edu.au

**DR FRAN GALE**

Fran Gale is a Lecturer in Social Work. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Citizenship and civic connectedness of marginalised groups
- Social advocacy
- Spirituality and social justice
- Human rights

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E: fw.gale@uws.edu.au

**DR TIM GRIFFIN**

Tim Griffin is a Lecturer in Social Psychology. His areas of research expertise include:

- Disability and aging
- Blended learning and e-learning

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E: t.griffin@uws.edu.au

**DR MICK HOULBROOK**

Mick Houlbrook is a Lecturer in Adult and Community Education. His areas of research expertise include:

- Work-based learning
- Adult education

Ph.: + 61 2 9772 6348  
E: m.houlbrook@uws.edu.au
DR DEBRA KEENAHAN

Debra Keenahan is a Lecturer in Peace and Development Studies. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Dehumanization and moral politics
- Humanitarian and social health work-based projects

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E: d.keenahan@uws.edu.au

DR SHERIDAN LINNELL

Sheridan Linnell is a Lecturer in Art Therapy. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Feminist and postcolonial theory
- Discourse analysis
- Arts-based and writing methodologies

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E: s.linnell@uws.edu.au

DR AWAIS PIRACHA

Awais Piracha is a Lecturer in Geography and Urban Studies. His areas of research expertise include:

- Urban planning
- GIS
- Transport policy

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DR ALPHIA POSSAMAI-INESEDY

Alphia Possamai-Inesedy is a Lecturer in Sociology. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Women's health
- Sociology of reproduction
- Sociology of religion

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DR POLL THEERAPAPPISIT

Poll Theerapappisit is a Lecturer in Tourism and Heritage Studies. His areas of research expertise include:

- Tourism planning and policy
- Cultural heritage

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DR JULIE WEN

Julie Wen is a Lecturer in Tourism and Heritage Studies. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Tourism and tourism development in protected areas
- Spatial distribution of tourism
- Environmental economics and sustainability
- Regional economy, international business and China studies

Ph.: +61 2 4736 0041
E: j.wen@uws.edu.au

DR ERIN KRUGER

Erin Kruger is a Lecturer in Criminology. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Criminal Law
- Corporeality
- Legal theory
- Science/technology

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E: e.kruger@uws.edu.au

DR CRAIG OSMOND

Craig Osmond is a Lecturer in Peace & Development. His areas of research expertise include:

- analytics of government, especially in relation to child protection and juvenile crime;
- queer sexualities;
- culture, space and crime;
- post-structural theory and its lines of flight

Ph.: +61 2 4736 0133
E: c.osmond@uws.edu.au
**DR RAE DUFTY**

Rae Dufty is a Lecturer in Geography and Urban Studies. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Human geography
- Urban and housing studies
- Rural studies

Ph.: + 61 2 4736 0872  
E: r.dufty@uws.edu.au

**DR JANE DURIE**

Jane Durie has the following teaching and research interests:

- culture, difference and relations of power
- whiteness as structure of authority and whiteness as identity
- Indigenous education
- Indigenous/non-Indigenous relations

from Feb 2008 to Feb 2011, I was on secondment from the School of Social Sciences in the Badanami Indigenous Education Centre at UWS

I am currently working on the following papers:

Reading The Secret River (Kate Grenville): Whiteness, location, belonging
Education for Indigenous Australians: Hopes, contingencies, practicalities
Invasion 2007 style: sexual abuse, gender and white protection

Ph.: + 61 2  
E: j.durie@uws.edu.au

**DR NEIL HALL**

Neil Hall is Lecturer and Course Advisor for the Bachelor of Social Work. His areas of research expertise include:

- Young people
- Social inclusion and participation
- Men’s studies
- Sport

Ph.: + 61 2 9772 6591  
E: n.hall@uws.edu.au
DR AMIE MATTHEWS

Amie Matthews is a Lecturer in Sociology and Heritage and Tourism Studies. Her areas of research expertise and interest include:

- Sociology of tourism (including backpacking, youth travel, volunteer and socially responsible tourism and tourism impacts).
- Contemporary rites of passage and rite of passage theory.
- Youth cultures and identities.
- Everyday cosmopolitanism and transnationalism.

Ph.: + 61 2 9772 6224
E: a.matthews@uws.edu.au

DR EMMA WATERTON

Emma Waterton is a Lecturer in Tourism and Heritage Studies. Her areas of research expertise include:

- Critical heritage studies
- Dark tourism or ‘thanotourism’
- Critical discourse analysis
- Cultural policy and tourism

Ph: +612 4736 0056
E: e.waterton@uws.edu.au

ADVICE FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Once you have familiarised yourself with the staff profiles and areas of research expertise within the School we encourage you to make contact with relevant staff. We advise that you prepare some information to present to staff members when contacting them about your proposed research. Documentation you should consider preparing would include:

- A brief research proposal outlining the area of research you are interested in pursuing, some preliminary research questions, the importance of this research and the proposed methodology.
- A Curriculum Vitae (CV) with a clear statement of your academic qualifications and previous study, research/work experience, academic or professional referees, and any research output (publications).
Once you have these documents together, you should also consider applying for available scholarships and funding opportunities (see the UWS Research Scholarships webpage for full details on available scholarships for research candidates).

RESOURCES FOR RESEARCH CANDIDATES
The School of Social Sciences offers Higher Degree Research (HDR) candidates generous resourcing for the duration of their candidature to support research and research-related activities. The School currently provides HDR Candidates with the following:

- $3,000 per annum (f-t equivalent) via the Candidature Project Fund (CPF) allowance to assist with expenses arising from fieldwork and research analysis, or specialist equipment and training, or for conference attendance.
- Supervisory panel support (see staff profiles).
- Office space and equipment (computer, desk, telephone, fax, photocopying, storage space, stationary, postal service, email address, etc.).

Research Candidates are strongly encouraged to disseminate their research beyond the immediate reporting requirements of the candidature, and domestic and overseas conference attendance is strongly advised and financially supported through the available Candidature Project Funds. In addition, the School of Social Sciences has a lively research culture and organises a monthly research seminar series, as well as regular events for HDR Candidates (see the School Events page for more details). Such events include research workshops with guest speakers, two-day research retreats, and other informal gatherings. The School of Social Sciences currently supports over 40 higher degree research candidates (see the current Research Students page for more details).

HDR Candidates are granted full access to Library Services consisting of:

- Access to core library holdings and electronic access to support research
- Training for specialist research packages, see: Library Workshops
- Document delivery
- Differential loan period and subsidised direct borrowing access from one other Australian academic library

For more information on resource allocations for HDR Candidates see: Candidate Support and Resources.
GENERAL CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

Within the School of Social Sciences there is a number of staff available to advise you on your enrolment application, resourcing and support for research candidates, and provide further information on School staff and research activities. These contacts within the School are listed below. Again, you are also welcome to contact any of the staff within the School with which you share research interests and would like to discuss the prospect of undertaking further research.

**Professor Stephen Tomsen**  
Associate Head of School (Research)  
School of Social Sciences  
E: s.tomsen@uws.edu.au

**Kerry Wyburd**  
School Administrative Officer (Research/HDR Liaison)  
School of Social Sciences  
E: soss-research@uws.edu.au

Beyond the School of Social Sciences there are staff within the UWS Office of Research Services who can advise on formal enrolment procedures and offer further information on enrolment requirements, deadlines, paperwork and research scholarships. Your first point of contact in this regard should be the following staff:

**Sandra Lawrence**  
Postgraduate Studies Project Officer  
Office of Research Services  
E: s.lawrence@uws.edu.au

**Tracy Mills**  
Research Scholarships Development Officer  
Office of Research Services  
E: t.mills@uws.edu.au

In addition to making contact with UWS staff, there are a number of resources available on the UWS website to provide detailed information on research candidatures. Below we have centralised links to some of this important information. By clicking on the titles below you will be redirected to these resources.

**Future Research Students**

These web pages offer all the necessary information for prospective research students. Here you will find information on the types of research degrees offered at UWS, details of the application process, and research scholarships.

**2011 Research Candidate Handbook**

The Handbook offers comprehensive information on research degrees at UWS, from your initial enrolment stages, general administration and governance of your candidature, your responsibilities, and available resources.
Research Higher Degree Examination Booklet
The examination booklet is a useful guide to the examinations process for research degrees at UWS. It also provides information on the presentation of research theses.

Research Resources
There are a number of resources available to UWS researchers through the Library website. This website offers information on the research courses and services available to you at UWS.

Candidate Support and Resources
These web pages offer information on the University-wide resources available to research candidates at UWS, such as workshops and statistical support.
RECENT GRADUATES FROM THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
To provide you with a sense of career prospects and fields of employment following a research degree, below are the details of some of the recent graduates of the School of Social Sciences.

Dr Therese Kenna, PhD (2009)
Thesis title: Private Community? The lived experiences of privatism and community in the development and management of a private residential estate in Sydney, Australia
Therese is currently employed as a Lecturer in Urban Geography, University College, Cork, Ireland. Research from her PhD has been published in journals such as Australian Geographer, Urban Policy & Research and Geography Compass.

Dr Ngaire McCubben, PhD (2008)
Thesis title: Living Cultural Diversity in Regional Australia: An Account of the Town of Griffith
Ngaire is a Project Officer for the New South Wales (NSW) National Parks and Wildlife Service, coordinating tourism and recreation related business/activities in Far Western NSW, and more recently in Sydney.

Dr Kelly Richards, PhD (2007)
Kelly is currently employed at the Australian Institute of Criminology in Canberra as a Research Analyst. Her current research areas include cybercrime victimisation, young people’s contact with the criminal justice system as victims, witnesses and offenders, and children’s experiences of witnessing domestic violence.

Dr Ann Dadich, PhD (2005)
Ann is currently employed as a Research Fellow at the Centre of Industry and Innovation Studies (CInIS), College of Business, UWS, undertaking research in community psychology, social policy, and service systems. Her research has been presented in peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and conference papers.