

# HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

## CONTACT DETAILS

**Executive Dean:** Professor Nicholas Harvey

**Registrar:** Mr Robert Ewers

**Email:** humss.office@adelaide.edu.au

**Web:** www.hss.adelaide.edu.au

The Faculty has an impressive research reputation across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. It includes specialised Research Centres in the areas of Australian Indigenous Research and the History of Food and Drink.

The Faculty's commitment to fostering research opportunities has been further enhanced by the creation of the Australian Institute for Social Research during 2004. It is one of Australia's largest interdisciplinary social science research organisations and brings together:

- The Centre for Labour Research
- The Don Dunstan Foundation
- The National Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information Systems (GISCA)
- The Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU)
- The Social Health Unit.

## Research Areas

Research in the Faculty can be undertaken in a broad range of disciplines. Current research interests and recent projects in these areas are listed in the following pages:



## HISTORY AND POLITICS

**Phone:** 61 8 8303 374 **Fax:** 61 8 8303 3443

**Email:** historyandpolitics@adelaide.edu.au

**Web:** www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/historypolitics

### History

- Art history: Australian; contemporary; modern
- Australian and indigenous history; frontier violence; comparative Indigenous history focussing on Australia, North America and New Zealand; land rights; European representations of Aboriginal people; welfare in Australia; South Australian history
- Commercial history: Chinese overseas business; colonial era commercial history in Southeast Asia
- European colonial communities in the Netherlands Indies; historical biography; history and memory; legal and social history; nationalism and identity in Australia in relation to 'the new British history'; plantation theory and practice; social and economic change in Indonesia in the 19th and 20th centuries; state formation in Yugoslavia; toleration and repression in 17th century England; sugar production, trade and consumption in Asia during the colonial era
- European history; medieval history; heresy; religious history; the English revolution; early modern history; French history

- Genders and religion/history/race in Australia/representation; history of feminism in Australia, Britain and US
- Historical perspectives/biography
- History of food and drink: cuisine in 18th-century mediterranean France; drinking in late-medieval and early modern Europe; food and literature; history of Australian food; medieval cuisine
- History of the Cold War
- Material culture and presentation of history in museums
- Medical history; Health policy, especially the history of AIDS in an Australian and global context
- Russia: economic history; Soviet secret police; Soviet/post-Soviet-American relations
- United States History: Social and Cultural, Race and Slavery, Maritime, 19th and 20th century
- 20th century history: international terrorism; genocide; World War I and World War II.

### Politics

#### Area Studies

- Geopolitics of Northeast Asia and the Middle East
- North American politics
- Post-socialist politics in Russia and Eastern Europe
- South Pacific politics
- Southeast Asian politics
- West European politics.

#### Australian Politics

- Aboriginal studies
- Australian Liberal and Labor governments
- Parliamentary and constitutional reform
- Public policy theory and practice
- Republicanism.

#### Comparative Politics

- Comparative British/Australian politics
- Development theory
- Gender and issues in liberalism
- Humanitarianism and conflict
- Human rights in the Third World
- India's political economy
- Liberal democratic theory

- Political economy of suicide and homicide
- Political economy of the Third World
- Political obstacles to development
- Political leadership
- Political management of economic reform
- Voting and suffrage.

#### **Feminist Political Theory**

- Citizenship and community theory
- History of feminist thought
- Politics of sexuality
- Women and policy.

#### **History of Political Thought**

- Communitarianism
- Development and prehistory of liberalism and stoicism
- English Utilitarianism, Socialism and Utopian thought
- French political thought and early French socialism
- Hobbes, Locke and the Liberal tradition
- Nationalism.

#### **International Politics**

- Alienation and terrorism
- Asymmetric conflict
- Australian foreign policy
- Balance of power in Asia
- Chinese foreign policy
- Concepts of power in the Asia-Pacific region
- Critical security studies
- Human rights and international justice
- International political economy
- International politics of culture
- International relations theory
- Russian foreign policy.

#### **Political Theory**

- International relations theory
- Language, identity and cultural membership
- Political communication, language and rhetorical theory
- Politics of film, media and popular culture
- Social capital

- Theories of ethics and identity
- Theories of justice.

#### **Radical and Cultural Theory**

- Cultural criticism and critical theory
- Market socialism
- Marxism and anarchism
- Media and cultural theory
- Political theory of the community
- Post-colonial theory
- Post-structuralism and post-modernism
- Theories of ideology and discourse.

### **HUMANITIES**

**Phone:** 61 8 8303 6058 **Fax:** 61 8 8303 4341

**Email:** gerard.obrien@adelaide.edu.au

**Web:** www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/humanities

#### **Classics**

Staff in Classics at Adelaide cover a considerable range of research areas, but one area in particular is emerging as a common focus: Late Antiquity. This includes the literature, archaeology and philosophy of the period from around 300 up to 800 AD (without adhering very strictly to these limits).

- Cultural history of ancient Macedonia and the reception of ancient Greek theatre and drama
- The influence of ancient Greek philosophy, science and medicine in the history of ideas
- How concepts of landscape, culture and identity were formed in Roman elegiac poetry
- Non-verbal communication in Late Antiquity
- The social and cultural impact of glass and glass technology in the Late Roman and early mediaeval world
- 4th century poetry of Prudentius
- 5th century writer Nonnus of Panopolis
- Aristotelian and Neo-Platonist philosophers of Late Antiquity
- Late Antiquity and Islamic glassware.

#### **English**

Staff in the Discipline of English conduct research and supervise in a broad range of areas, including:

#### **Creative Writing:**

- Creative non-fiction; digital writing and writing for cross-media contexts; fiction
- Fictocriticism; life writing; poetry; the short story; the use of point of view as an ethical tool.

#### **Cultural Studies:**

- Adaptation of literary and theatrical sources; American film; Australian cultural studies; Australian film; popular culture, in particular film, television and music; women's sport.

#### **Periods, regions and genres:**

- African literature; American film and literature; Australian Indigenous writing; autobiography, memoir, life writing; British and Irish fiction 1880-1910; contemporary Australian writing; dialect poetry; diasporic Australian writing; drama; Early Modern culture; experimental fiction; gothic; literature of Kenya, Nigeria and Ghana; medieval English literature; nineteenth and twentieth-century Australian literature; poetry and poetics; science fiction; South African literature (colonial, anti-apartheid, and post-apartheid); the short story; tragedy.

#### **Skills and Methods:**

- Business communications; contemporary Australian publishing and editing (including the use of electronic media);
- Discipline-specific pedagogic research; English as a Second Language and ESL learners; scholarly editing; the teaching of creative writing.

#### **Themes, modes and concepts:**

- Asylum narratives; colonial and post colonial studies; constructions of identity; culture, ideology and politics; ecocritical studies; ecopoetics; ecphrasis; gender in narrative; hybridity; illness narratives; interdisciplinarity; masculinity in Australian culture; melancholy and writing; realism; social memory and culture; the afterlife of Virgil's Aeneid in literature; the critical history of catharsis; the history of the language (especially semantic change and regional varieties of English); the literature of migration and exile; the representation of class and gender; utopian narrative and theory; writing and reconciliation.



Demography, or the study of populations, gives us a powerful insight into how Australia's population will change. Professor Graeme Hugo believes clear vision is vital to planning for future communities. People say hindsight is always 20/20. But what if we had a partial but accurate view of Australia's future and could plan with certainty? Considered one of the world's top three in his field, Professor Graeme Hugo, a Federation Fellow at the School of Social Sciences from 2002-2007 is helping us see 'over the horizon'. And his work provides valuable insights into trends in the Australian and Asian populations.

“In ten years the number of people over 65 will have doubled, how do we provide effective

services, policies and infrastructure? And in this 'Age of Immigration' how do we reduce brain drain and capitalise on brain circulation?”

Globalisation has seen a massive increase in population movement between nations. Professor Hugo's research is looking at ways in which policy interventions can result in better outcomes for countries of origin and destination of migrants as well as the migrant themselves.

“People are important. Detailed information on populations and the changes we can expect for the future are very important to create equitable, diverse and healthy societies.”

### Theories

- Genre theory; historical formalism; intersections of colonial discourse, postcolonialism, feminism and gender studies; narrative theories; postcolonial theories; realism; sexuality, the body and the gaze; theories of adaptation; theories of gender and embodiment; theories of tragedy.

### Writers:

- Academic staff of English are interested in supervising theses on a wide range of writers in relation to the theories, themes, periods and genres listed above. Additionally, there are specific research projects on the following writers: Chinua Achebe; Ayi Kwei Armah; Margaret Atwood; William Barnes; Thomas Bernhard; Charlotte Bronte; C.J. Dennis; Emily Dickinson; Sia Figiel; Abdulrazak Gurnah; Thomas Hardy; Bessie Head; Robert Lowell; Norman Mailer; Christopher Marlowe; Ngugi wa Thiong'o; Njabulo Ndebele; Adrienne Rich; Olive Schreiner; W.G. Sebald; William Shakespeare; Charlotte Smith; Christos Tsiolkas; Yvonne Vera; Zoe Wicomb.

### European Studies

This interdisciplinary programme is based upon the research interests of staff of the School of Humanities and it deals principally with history of ideas and the literature and culture of Europe from Antiquity to the present-day. Supervision is available in the following areas:

- Comparative literature
- European cinema
- History of ideas.

### French Studies

Staff of the Discipline of French Studies conduct research and supervise in a number of different periods and areas of French cultural production, from contemporary French society to the literature and social history of the 18th and 19th centuries:

- Applied linguistics
- Author study (wide range)
- Contemporary French society
- Francophone studies
- French cinema
- French crime fiction
- French literature (from the 18th century to the present)
- French poetry
- History of French exploration in the Pacific (in particular the Baudin expedition)

- History of ideas in the 19th century
- Literature and politics (from the 19th century to the present)
- Mediaeval French literature
- Romanticism, surrealism, existentialism, post-structuralism, autobiography
- 20th-century continental philosophy.

### Linguistics

Staff in Linguistics at the University of Adelaide cover a wide range of research areas including:

- Aboriginal linguistics, contact languages, Koorina language, Pacific linguistics and Pidgin and Creole linguistics, missionary linguistics, Norfolk Island language; toponymy (placenames)
- Corpus linguistics, computational linguistics, lexical semantics
- History of linguistics, systemic functional linguistics, linguistic research methods
- Language and the environment, discourse analysis, rhetoric and argumentation, media discourse, multimodal communication
- Language learning and teaching, literacy and student writing
- Language planning, language change, language preservation and language revival
- Sociolinguistics.

## Media

### Digital and Participatory Media and Innovation

- Blogging
- Citizen and video journalism
- Creative praxis and industries
- Collaborative technologies
- Community media
- Connectivity: generation, gender
- Digital story-telling
- Eco-media
- E-democracy and e-government
- E-learning and digital pedagogy
- Emerging media technologies
- Games
- Intranets and peer production
- Media literacies and learning
- Mobile technologies and practices
- Production/practice
- User-generated-content.

### Media Theory, Industry and Policy Studies

- Communication theory
- Cultural policy studies
- Film theory and practice
- Media censorship and regulation
- Media education policy
- Media ethics
- Media and policy management
- Screen industries (film and television)
- Strategic communications.

### Global Media Studies

- Asian print media
- Chinese media
- Communication for social change and development
- Indigenous and multicultural media
- Nepali media
- 'Nollywood' and African Cinema
- Popular media in the Asia-Pacific region
- Virtual African and Asian Diasporas.

## Media and Cultural Studies

- Alternative media
- Fictocriticism
- Gender, identity and representation
- Media and religion
- Visual culture
- Women in sport
- Writing practices
- Youth studies.

## Philosophy

- Aesthetics: pictorial representation and style; form and creativity; comparison between aesthetic and ethical judgments; naturalising aesthetic value; theories of pleasure; beauty and the sublime
- Ancient philosophy and history of ideas: stoicism and Epicureanism
- Cognitive science: neurocomputational models of cognition; delusions; theoretical foundations of cognitive neuropsychiatry; theories of perception; cognitive neuroscience; evolution of cognition
- Epistemology: self knowledge, memory
- Kant: aesthetics; epistemology; moral theory
- Legal philosophy: philosophy of criminal law; challenges to liberal legal theory
- Logic and philosophy of mathematics: paraconsistent logic, impossible pictures; deontic logic
- Metaphysics: mind; function; mental causation, reduction and emergence, program explanation, the determinable determinate relation
- Moral philosophy: metaethics; normative ethical theory; applied ethics (esp. medical ethics); bioethics; practical reason; consequentialism; naturalised theories of ethics; personhood; the moral status of non-human animals; Kantian ethics
- Philosophy of art: theories of art; structure of judgments of conceptual art
- Philosophy of film: aesthetics, ontology, and epistemology of film
- Philosophy of language: semantic realism; linguistic meaning and understanding
- Philosophy of mind: consciousness; mental representation; rationality; weakness of will; self-deception; naturalised theories of mind



- Philosophy of religion: systems of belief; revelation; reason
- Philosophy of science: philosophy of physics; space and time; quantum theory; scientific knowledge and method; theories of explanation; levels of explanation in cognitive science; cognitive approaches to philosophy of science
- Social and political philosophy: contemporary theories of justice; history of political thought; liberalism; paternalism; game theory.

## SOCIAL SCIENCES

### Anthropology

**Phone:** 61 8 8303 5730 **Fax:** 61 8 8303 5733

**Email:** [anthropology@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:anthropology@adelaide.edu.au)

**Web:** [www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/socialsciences](http://www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/socialsciences)

- Aboriginal Australia; Australia; Europe; Melanesia and Oceania; South Africa; South Asia (Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan); Southeast Asia (Thailand, Laos, Indonesia, Timor-Leste); and East Asia (China)
- Applied anthropology; environmental anthropology; ethnography in anthropology; theory and methods of anthropology; post-modern ethnography; material culture
- Art and aesthetics in cultural process; belief systems and ritual symbolism; cosmology and myth; cultural constitution of identity ethnicity; multiculturalism, nationalism, regionalism; domestic organisation; feminist perspectives in ethnography

- Colonialism, the state and Third and Fourth world peoples; contemporary society
- Critical studies in social development, especially in the Asia-Pacific region; peasant society; rural society and the contemporary state; small communities in contemporary complex society; social and political organisation; social mobility; systems of hierarchy and inequality; systems of land tenure
- Gender relations; mass/popular consumption; media; medical anthropology; photography and the production of political symbols; Theravada Buddhism; visual anthropology.

#### Asian Studies

**Phone:** 61 8 8303 5815 **Fax:** 61 8 8303 4388

**Email:** [asian.studies@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:asian.studies@adelaide.edu.au)

**Web:** [www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/socialsciences/asian](http://www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/socialsciences/asian)

- Asia and: Nationalism and minority issues; social change; rural development; philosophy; politics and history; regional development; social and political reform; work and leisure; industrial change in Korea
- China and: Confucianism; rural studies; contemporary politics; migration; grammar; history of medicine; education; intellectual and cultural change; intellectual history; late imperial history; classical and modern literature

- Japan and: the Asia-Pacific; contemporary political issues; educational issues; environmental issues; foreign policy; defence and security; Australia-Asia relations; industrial change; youth culture and identity.

#### Gender, Work and Social Inquiry

**Phone:** 61 8 8303 3715 **Fax:** 61 8 8303 3345

**Email:** [sarah.hoggard@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:sarah.hoggard@adelaide.edu.au)

**Web:** [www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/socialsciences/gls](http://www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/socialsciences/gls)

- Australia: cultural studies; gender and cultural difference; popular culture and media representations; race relations
- Feminism and: literary history; generations of women; historiography; history: Australia and Britain, 19th and 20th centuries; media studies; post-modernism and post-colonial perspectives
- Gender and: health, particularly in relation to reproduction; violence
- Health: medical anthropology; social policy
- History: life stories; social movements
- Industrial relations; media and power; social movements; union structures and practice; urban politics, work and social life; youth and work
- Post-colonial histories; research methodology; theory
- Sexuality
- Women and: ageing and health; heritage; women in Australian society; work.

#### Geographical and Environmental Studies

**Phone:** 61 8 8303 5643 **Fax:** 61 8 8303 3772

**Email:** [jennifer.payne@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:jennifer.payne@adelaide.edu.au)

**Web:** [www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/socialsciences/ges](http://www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/socialsciences/ges)

- Asian demography
- Climate change
- Coastal management
- Environmental Change: Australia, South-East Asia and the Pacific
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Environmental planning and governance
- Environmental studies in biodiversity conservation and food security
- Human impact on lakes and wetlands
- Migration and development
- Migration policy
- Non-market valuation
- Population policy
- Regional development
- River monitoring
- Small-scale forestry
- Urban futures
- Urban management
- Water security.

### Professor Mobo Gao Director, Confucius Institute



The Confucius Institute welcomes Professor Mobo Gao as its new Director. Professor Gao is also Professor of Chinese Studies and a leading authority on the Chinese cultural revolution in the Maoist era. His latest book, *The Battle for China's Past: Mao and the Cultural Revolution*, is a reassessment of the Cultural Revolution. His research also covers studies of rural China, contemporary Chinese politics, and linguistics.

The Confucius Institute promotes the learning of Chinese language and culture, and a broader

and more informed understanding of China, both across South Australia and beyond. It seeks to help Australians to build and/or strengthen their economic and business links with China.

The establishment of the Confucius Institute with Shandong University consolidates longstanding ties with the University of Adelaide. Its official launch in 2007 coincided with the twentieth anniversary of the Sister State relationship between South Australia and Shandong Province.

