ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER EDUCATION

2018
TREE OF KNOWLEDGE

This artwork was painted for Western Sydney University in support of the Indigenous Education initiatives.

It provides an Aboriginal perspective of education at Western Sydney University and is about the University, what it does and where it is situated.

These large ancient trees were highly regarded and met many needs of our people. Beneath the large branches was the traditional place for learning and knowledge sharing. The trees were a source of food, fruit, nuts, seeds, clothing, shade, shelter, building materials and even some natural medicines. In the centre of the painting is the Tree of Knowledge which is at the centre of Aboriginal Education.

Set under the cool branches, learning takes place. The telling of stories, learning song and dance occur. This is where we learn about our culture, country, lore and people, as well as make artefacts and or decorate personal items. This is why it is the Tree of Knowledge.

Each of the small circles with trees represents our Western Sydney campuses: Parramatta, Bankstown, Campbelltown, Penrith, Hawkesbury and Nirimba. The trees are surrounded by yellow circles with green dots and represent people associated with learning. Yellow ochre and white along with green dots on red ochre represent the buildings and places of learning. The U shape is a traditional representation of a person and is utilised in the painting to represent students. The square shape between students represents books, computers and electronic learning tools.

Our environmental campuses are represented by the many different shades of green in the painting and all are connected by motorways and highways which students and staff use to travel to and from the University. The small circles without trees represent the cities and suburbs where students who attend courses at Western Sydney University reside. The Parramatta River is on the left hand side and Hawkesbury Nepean is on the right hand side with the Cox’s River to Warragamba. The blue represents the water and the surrounding yellow dots represent the sand banks.

AS A MATTER OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CULTURAL PROTOCOL, AND OUT OF RECOGNITION THAT ITS CAMPUSES OCCUPY THEIR TRADITIONAL LANDS, THE WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY ACKNOWLEDGES THE DARUG, THARAWAL (ALSO HISTORICALLY REFERRED TO AS DHARAWAL), GANDANGARRA AND WIRADJURI PEOPLES AND THANKS THEM FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF ITS WORK IN THEIR LANDS (WESTERN SYDNEY AND BEYOND).
REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE
We’re ranked amongst the top 3% of universities in the world, with a growing international reputation for research-led, student-centred learning. Western Sydney University is the first university in the country to commit to incorporating formal study and assessment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in its courses, which is a major achievement for the University.

LEADERSHIP IN FORMAL STUDY
Western Sydney University is committed to providing higher education pathways for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and contributing to the process of reconciliation. We are an education institution which shares with the Australian community the cultures, languages, history and contemporary experiences of Australia’s First Peoples.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students will be supported throughout their studies by dedicated support staff located in the Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education.

OUR RESEARCH HAS GLOBAL IMPACT
We see learning and research as connected aspects of the student experience, putting you close to world-leading research that is changing lives in the communities we serve.

OUR STUDENTS SIT AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING WE DO
Our student-centred approach offers you the choice of on-campus, online and blended study options combined with work-integrated learning. Through work experience placements, internships and volunteering opportunities, you’ll get the real-life experience, practical skills and knowledge you’ll need for your future career.

OUR STUDENTS ARE PARTNERS IN LEARNING
Unlike the traditional lecturer-down approach, our pioneering model of co-created learning treats our students as partners in their education.

OUR CURRICULUM PREPARES YOU FOR TODAY’S WORLD
We work with our community, business partners and industry leaders to develop course content that meets the needs of employers, the jobs of the future and responds to the challenges of a global workplace.
Future thinking.
Unlimited possibilities.
The Academy at Western Sydney University.

Success is not just about getting a degree, but developing the critical thinking and leadership skills to support a successful career.

It’s about learning skills for your chosen life, not just a job.

The Academy at Western Sydney University offers advanced degrees that prepare you to thrive in the face of change and seize success at every opportunity. Whether your dream is to achieve as a professional, an entrepreneur or an academic, you will learn to think differently and creatively in whatever you do.

The Academy offers high-achieving students a unique, hands-on approach to learning in an interdisciplinary environment. It draws on the unique experience of leading thinkers, social change agents, community leaders, and high-achieving students both past and present.

With a focus on ethical leadership and critical thinking, built on the pillars of academic rigour, community engagement, and professional and personal development, The Academy offers students access to:

- unprecedented opportunities for industry and real life experience
- world-class research, researchers, teachers, experts and innovation labs
- travel to national and international leadership experiences and conferences
- a range of professional and personal development workshops
- internship, service learning and volunteering opportunities
- personalised career planning
- applied leadership experience in student-led, community-focused projects.

Visit westernsydney.edu.au/thecademy for more information.
THINK BIG
SUPPORT FOR SUCCESS

BADANAMI CENTRES
As an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student you can look forward to learning in a friendly and supportive environment at Western Sydney University, one which promotes independent thinking and diversity.

The Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education was established to provide support and encouragement for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. There is a centre located on each campus to provide a range of services and support to guide our students through their studies, helping to make their time at university enriching and enjoyable.

Badanami can provide information about the range of services available across the University from study skills courses to careers advice, counselling and even study abroad opportunities. Facilities available in each centre include study areas, computers, printing, fax and phone, kitchen and lounge. Students can drop in to Badanami at any time to study or relax.

BADANAMI SERVICES
- Provide study support and guidance
- Provide support through the enrolment and orientation process
- Co-ordinate leave of absence, withdrawal, scholarships and cadetships
- Provide pastoral and cultural support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
- Act as an advocate on behalf of students
- Administer the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Tutoring for Success Program (TFS).

STUDENT SUPPORT OFFICERS
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Information Officers (SIOs) are located at the Badanami Centre on each campus to provide support and advice to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

SIOs are available to:
- support new students through the transitional stage of adjusting to university life and academic culture
- assist students to develop an appropriate course of action for any issues they may face during their time at university
- assist students with their Tutoring For Success (TFS) applications.

STUDY SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS
THE TUTORING FOR SUCCESS PROGRAM (TFS)
The Tutoring for Success Program (TFS) enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to receive individual or group tuition with qualified tutors.

You may be eligible for up to two hours tuition per week for each unit of study, plus an additional five hours each semester for exam preparation.

Tuition sessions can be either individual, or for a group of students studying the same program. The Tutoring for Success Coordinator is available to arrange tutors across a broad range of program areas. Tutorial assistance is tailored to meet the particular needs of the individual student or group of students and there is no cost to the student for this service.

HOW TO APPLY
You should contact the Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education to complete a Tutoring for Success Application Form and to discuss your educational requirements.

CONTACT DETAILS
For more information, please contact The Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education on:
- 1800 032 923 or
- westernsydney.edu.au/badanami

MATES
MATES is a peer-mentoring program for students just starting their university study, or returning to study after some time. New students are matched with students in later years of study. This helps you make friends, network with other students and gain knowledge and skills to settle into life at university.

For more information, visit westernsydney.edu.au/mates or email mates@westernsydney.edu.au

HELPING YOU PASS
Peer Assisted Study Sessions
Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) is a student-centred learning program. In PASS you will work with other students to understand the content of your unit/s and develop various study strategies to help you improve your academic performance. Each PASS group is run by a facilitator who has successfully studied the unit previously. PASS is free and voluntary.

If you have any further enquiries, please email pass@westernsydney.edu.au
PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

Western Sydney University has a unique set of scholarships on offer. They reflect the University’s strong commitment to excellence and opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Our scholarships support students who have diverse interests and skills.

We work closely with business, industry and the community to ensure we offer scholarships that meet the needs of our students. Our scholarships provide our students with support and give them the opportunity to establish professional relationships while they study.

Naturally, a portion of our scholarships acknowledge high-performing students. These scholarships are open to those undertaking any undergraduate degree, with many offering industry links.

If you are a mature age student, or from a rural or disadvantaged background, or identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, you may qualify for one of a wide range of scholarships we have on offer.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Take the time to examine our scholarships and make the most of the opportunities for success.

For details on scholarships, including the eligibility requirements and how to apply, refer to:

- westernsydney.edu.au/scholarships
- call 1300 897 669

There are many scholarship opportunities on offer with Western Sydney University or externally.

For information on external scholarship opportunities, refer to indigenousscholarships.com.au

Jackson Marlow-Conway
BACHELOR OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

“The staff at Western Sydney are all very supportive. I feel like I have a strong team in my corner and that’s very motivating as a first year student.

The Bachelor of Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security is a great course to study and the academics are amazing.

I even turned down an offer from another university to study at Western and wouldn’t change it for anything.”
Western Sydney University is committed to providing higher education pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS ALTERNATIVE ENTRY PROGRAM

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alternative Entry program is a Western Sydney University initiative aimed at increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in undergraduate courses across all areas of study. Whether you are currently working, unemployed, studying at TAFE or coming straight from high school, as a prospective student you are not required to have completed the HSC or any other qualifications to apply to study at the University via the program.

The program duration is two days and includes assessment workshops in literacy and numeracy, and an interview to discuss your course of interest. Revision workshops for numeracy are also available.

WHEN IS THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS ALTERNATIVE ENTRY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM?
The two-day assessment workshops and interviews occur three times a year in June, November and January.

HOW CAN I APPLY FOR THE PROGRAM?
You can apply by completing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Alternative Entry Program Application Form.

The application form can be obtained by calling 1300 897 669 or downloaded from our website at westernsydney.edu.au/atsieducation.

WESTERN DIRECT APPLICATIONS
You can apply direct to Western Sydney University via the Western Portal at westernsydney.uac.edu.au/ws.

UAC
Complete an online application for admission via Universities Admissions Centre at uac.edu.au.

If you require admission advice or need someone to assist with your application, please contact Western on:

- 1300 897 669 or
- study@westernsydney.edu.au
Galen Cole

BACHELOR OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

“I am excited to be studying the Bachelor of Construction Management at Western Sydney University. Moving away from home to study was a big change for me and I have made new friends and am really enjoying my time living on campus. The academics and support staff are all very motivating and I am looking forward to my future career as a site manager.”
UNIQUE PROGRAMS

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (PRIMARY) ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER EDUCATION

The Bachelor of Education (Primary) – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education (formerly AREP) is a four-year undergraduate program. This degree gives you the skills and understanding to teach effectively across the Kindergarten to Year 6 curriculum range. It comprises a full suite of foundation, primary curriculum, and school-based subjects, including a range of professional experiences. A focus of the degree is to extend your personal literacy and numeracy skills, and develop your cultural perspectives as they relate to schools and communities.

The course is offered at the Bankstown campus in block mode.

The practical component is undertaken in schools in students' home communities and in Sydney. This block mode is designed to afford students the capacity to remain in their community to fulfil their family, career, cultural and social responsibilities.

Studying a block mode program requires students to attend five residential schools per year, each lasting approximately one to three weeks. Travel, accommodation and meal costs to attend workshops are funded for Abstudy approved students.

BACHELOR OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

This is a three-year undergraduate degree offered in block mode for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

The degree is offered at Penrith campus and provides the skills and knowledge for work in various fields in the community sector including community development, welfare, advocacy, youth work, case management and allied health.

Students are required to attend six residential visits of one week duration per year. Travel, accommodation and meal costs to attend workshops are funded for Abstudy approved students.

A Diploma of Community and Social Development is also available. The Diploma comprises eight units delivered across one year of study.

TO FIND OUT MORE OR APPLY
Visit: westernsydney.edu.au/atsieducation
Call: 1300 897 669
Email: study@westernsydney.edu.au

BLOCK MODE MODEL PROGRAMS FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER EDUCATION

The block mode model is designed to help our students remain in their community so they can fulfil their family, career, cultural and social responsibilities. The Bachelor of Education (Primary) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education and the Bachelor of Community and Social Development are both offered in the block mode model.

Studying a block mode program requires students to attend residential on-campus visits each year, lasting between one and three weeks.

Travel, accommodation and meal costs to attend workshops are funded for Abstudy approved students.

Students can apply for tutorial assistance. The Tutoring for Success Program (TFS) enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to receive individual or group tuition with qualified tutors.

You may be eligible for up to two hours tuition per week for each unit of study, plus an additional five hours each semester for exam preparation.
Who Do You Think You Are?
Who Do You Think You Are? will provide students with practice in the analysis of historical documents, family narratives, autobiography, as well as political and social issues around a project that will give a context for their own personal story.

Students will start developing skills in oral history work, locating and retrieving archival documents, and compiling their own ‘family tree’. Students will also learn about the idea of identification.

This unit is available to all undergraduate students who have open electives.

Indigenous Landscapes
Indigenous Landscapes aims to explore traditional Indigenous Australian ways of knowing landscapes. The unit incorporates the University’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander core curriculum content that acknowledges and values pre-colonial Australian history and land use practices. Content includes traditional land management practices, protected area management, joint management/co-management, Native Title, Land Rights, Indigenous lore versus statute law, sustainable land use, cultural heritage and heritage landscapes.

THERE ARE 11 UNITS AVAILABLE FOR STUDY

LEVEL 1 UNITS
Contextualising Indigenous Australia
This compulsory unit will provide a comprehensive overview of Indigenous Australian cultures, histories and identities. The scope of the unit spans pre-colonisation to the twenty first century across Australia and all relevant fields of study. Students will have the opportunity to hear from a diverse range of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education specialists including academics, artists, performers and community elders.

INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN STUDIES MAJOR

The Indigenous Australian Studies Major at Western Sydney University offers students the opportunity to acquire key cultural competencies that will enable them to understand and work more effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians in professions in areas such as the arts, communications, media industries, education, government and non-government organisations, policy, health, sciences and community services.

Students will be required to undertake a minimum of eight units (subjects) to achieve their major in Indigenous Australian Studies. Our students also have the opportunity to graduate with a minor in Indigenous Australian Studies by completing four units.

Our students also have the opportunity to graduate with a minor in Indigenous Australian Studies by completing four units.

INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN STUDIES MAJOR
LEVEL 2 UNITS

Pigments of the Imagination
Pigments of the Imagination challenges the accepted view that there is such a thing as race based on skin colour and that identity is based on this notion. Western Sydney University students will be encouraged, by critically analysing a range of cultural texts, to re-imagine Indigenous and non-Indigenous relations. This unit is available to all undergraduate students who have open electives.

Revaluing Indigenous Economics
This unit will examine Australia’s Indigenous economy and its dynamics. It will challenge students to reflect on the significant contribution Indigenous Australians have made, and continue to make, to our growing economy. Students will be introduced to a number of enterprise development case studies in the arts, mining and land development, tourism and the environment, sports and small business.

From Corroborees to Curtain Raisers
This unit will provide students with an understanding of the historical framing and cultural re-framing of Indigenous Australians in the live arts. Students will be provided with a theoretical understanding of the politics of representation through examining and reflecting on the transitional shifts that Indigenous artists have made.

Students will be introduced to a variety of Indigenous artists and their creative works.

From Ochre to Acrylics to New Technologies
This unit examines the emergence of the Indigenous Australian visual arts movement. It provides students with a body of knowledge which explores the transition of art-making as it emerged from a historical cultural practice. Students will have the opportunity to participate in site visits and engage with a number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visual artists.

This unit is available to all undergraduate students who have open electives.

LEVEL 3 UNITS

Bridging the Gap: Re-engaging Indigenous Australian Learners
This unit will provide students with knowledge and skills to develop teaching strategies that will assist to bridge the education gaps existing for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners. Students will gain knowledge of quality teaching frameworks to engage all learners. The unit focuses on empowering students to effectively teach Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies.

This unit is available to all undergraduate students who have open electives.

The Making of the ‘Aborigines’
The Making of the ‘Aborigines’ explores the complex human relations and historical forces that have constructed Indigenous Australian people as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. It will involve a critical examination of a range of contemporary social and political issues impacting on, and being engaged by, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

This unit is available to all undergraduate students who have open electives.

Learning Through Indigenous Australian Community Service
Our students gain the opportunity to apply their disciplinary knowledge and skills in an Indigenous Australian cultural context. Students will undertake a 50-hour placement over 10 days, gaining cross-cultural awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community affairs including cultural protocols, decision-making and leadership. This experience provides our students with a level of cultural understanding and competency that can lead to improved communication skills and effective partnering with Indigenous people, organisations and communities.

This unit is available to all undergraduate students who have open electives.

Rethinking Research with Indigenous Australians: Independent Study Project
This unit will provide students with an opportunity to undertake an Independent Study Project that will engage them in a partnership with Indigenous Australians. Students will develop effective communication skills as well as a level of cultural competency. The Independent Study Project will expose students to the complexities of the cultural inter-relationships and the politics of undertaking research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: westernsydney.edu.au/studyias
Western Sydney University’s School of Medicine recognises the large Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in Western Sydney and the need for more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors.

The School of Medicine on Campbelltown campus offers state-of-the-art learning spaces and facilities for medical training.

As a first and second year student, you will participate in weekly problem-based learning (PBL) activities in addition to lectures, resources, clinical practice and research. From third to fifth year, you will rotate through clinical placements across Western Sydney and rural NSW locations, such as Lismore and Bathurst, ensuring the utmost competence and confidence in your future career.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants should have successfully completed at least the equivalent of the NSW HSC. It is desirable, but not essential, to sit the UMAT (Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test).

The most important criteria for admission will be assessment of the applicant’s desire to study medicine and their likelihood of succeeding in the course.

**For further information, contact**

Cris Carriage
Indigenous Programs
02 4620 3637
C.carriage@westernsydney.edu.au

**1 MBBS REGISTRATION FORM (COMPULSORY STEP)**

The Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) registration form is available online in July each year and is located on the School of Medicine webpage. For more information, visit westernsydney.edu.au/medicine

**2 UNIVERSITIES ADMISSIONS CENTRE (UAC)**

It is not compulsory, but encouraged, for Indigenous applicants to lodge an application with the Universities Admissions Centre NSW and ACT (UAC). For more information, contact UAC directly by calling 02 9752 0200 or visiting uac.edu.au

**3 UMAT (NOT COMPULSORY)**

It is not compulsory for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants to sit the UMAT, although you may if you wish. Please visit ACER (Australian Council of Education Research) for information and instructions on undertaking UMAT at umatweb.acer.edu.au
OUR CAMPUSES

BANKSTOWN CAMPUS
BULLECOURT AVENUE, MILPERRA
Nearest train stations: East Hills (transfer to bus), Bankstown (transfer to bus)

CAMPBELLTOWN CAMPUS
NARELLAN ROAD, CAMPBELLTOWN
Nearest train stations: Macarthur (walk to campus), Campbelltown (transfer to bus)

HAWKESBURY CAMPUS
BOURKE STREET, RICHMOND
Nearest train stations: East Richmond (walk to campus), Richmond (walk to campus)

PARRAMATTA CAMPUS
CNR JAMES RUSE DRIVE AND VICTORIA ROAD, RYDALMERE
Nearest train stations: Parramatta (transfer to bus), Rydalmere (walk to campus)

PARRAMATTA CITY
ONE PARRAMATTA SQUARE
Nearest train station: Parramatta (walk to campus)

PENRITH CAMPUS
GREAT WESTERN HIGHWAY, WERRINGTON
Nearest train station: Kingswood (walk or shuttle bus to campus)

NIRIMBA CAMPUS
EASTERN ROAD, QUAKERS HILL
Nearest train station: Quakers Hill (walk to campus)

LITHGOW CAMPUS
CNR BRIDGE AND MORT STREETS, LITHGOW
Nearest train station: Lithgow (walk to campus)

SYDNEY CITY CAMPUS
LEVEL 4, 255 ELIZABETH STREET, SYDNEY
Nearest train station: Museum Station (walk to campus)

SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK CAMPUS
LEVEL 4, 8 AUSTRALIA AVENUE, SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK
Nearest train station: Olympic Park Station (walk to campus)

For more information, visit: westernsydney.edu.au/campuses

westernsydney.edu.au
LIVING ON CAMPUS
BANKSTOWN
CAMPBELLTOWN
HAWKESBURY
PARRAMATTA
PENRITH
NIRIMBA
Western Sydney University offers a wide range of high-quality affordable accommodation options on our campuses. From townhouses to modern five bedroom and studio apartments, we’ve got something to suit all budgets. We’re a short walk from the main academic area of each campus, which means you can wake up and be in class in minutes.

For more about accommodation at Western Sydney, call 1300 897 669 or visit westernsydney.edu.au/village

**BANKSTOWN**
Located in Milperra, the Bankstown campus provides a warm, friendly, multicultural environment with modern, spacious buildings and landscaped gardens.

**CAMPBELLTOWN**
Located in the historic Macarthur region of south-west Sydney, the Campbelltown campus offers a unique balance between city and rural lifestyles.

**HAWKESBURY**
Located in Richmond in the Hawkesbury River Valley, north-west of Sydney, this stunning location is at the foot of the Blue Mountains and is an ideal place to study.

**PARRAMATTA**
Located over two sites in Rydalmere, between Ryde and Parramatta in Western Sydney, and also in the Parramatta CBD, this campus is a combination of heritage and contemporary buildings.

**PENRITH**
Located over three sites in Kingswood and Werrington, the Penrith campus is renowned for its state-of-the-art facilities and scenic grounds.

**NIRIMBA**
Located in the Nirimba Educational Precinct at Quakers Hill in Western Sydney, the Nirimba campus is home to The College, providing pathways to Western Sydney University. Courses include Foundation Studies and Diploma courses.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education
westernsydney.edu.au/atsieducation

Future students
westernsydney.edu.au/future_students

Events
westernsydney.edu.au/events

Facebook
facebook.com/westernsydneyu

Twitter
twitter.com/westernsydneyu

Instagram
#westernsydneyu

Call
1300 897 669

Email
study@westernsydney.edu.au
Maddison Mohan

BACHELOR OF COMMUNITY WELFARE

“I really enjoy studying the Bachelor of Community Welfare, the course is teaching me a lot. One thing I have learnt about is cultural diversity and I was given a good insight into this with great academics to engage with.

I have made a lot of new friends who are like-minded people studying at Western Sydney and the course will give me the necessary skills to work in my chosen career.

I am looking forward to working to improve communities and the lives of those who live there.”