

# YOUR RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES IN THE HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

## STUDY FLINDERS HONOURS



### **Fine tune your research, in any area you're interested in with an Honours degree at Flinders.**

Study what you're interested in, or explore some of the amazing opportunities already available to you.

Honours research projects can be studied across a wide range of interests, including festivals and the human experience, German imperialism or the culture of food in space.

Some Honours projects include paid bursary opportunities up to \$5,000 each.

Contact the supervisor attached to the project to begin your Honours journey, or contact [HASSenquiries@flinders.edu.au](mailto:HASSenquiries@flinders.edu.au) if you have any questions.

**There are a range of opportunities for Honours students to work with Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences scholars on existing research projects. There are also bursaries available as below.**

### **INDIGENOUS HONOURS STUDENT BURSARY \$5000 EACH X2**

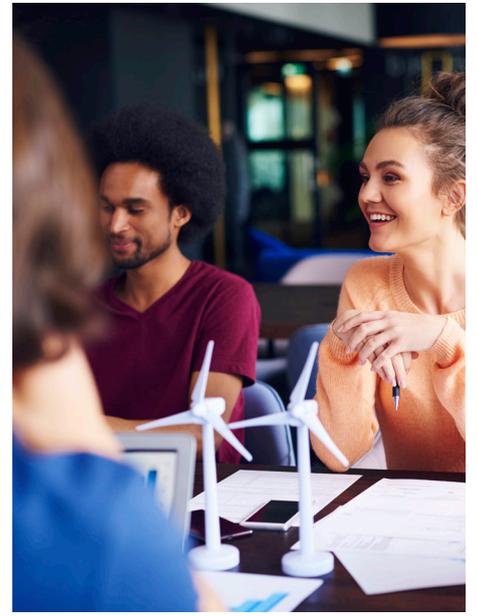
As part of the College's commitment to the University's Reconciliation Action Plan, we are delighted to announce two student bursaries of \$5000 each, for Indigenous students undertaking Honours in HASS in 2021. Students may come from any disciplinary area within the College and undertake a project of their own choice. Supervision and mentoring will be tailored to each student's needs from among the College's academic researchers.

To express an interest in this scheme, please email as follows: BA students [jane.haggis@flinders.edu.au](mailto:jane.haggis@flinders.edu.au); BCA students: [tom.young@flinders.edu.au](mailto:tom.young@flinders.edu.au)

### **HISTORY HONOURS STUDENT BURSARIES \$3000 EACH X3**

There are three opportunities for students majoring in History or cognate CHASS disciplines, to undertake research on the following projects.

To express interest in any of the three bursaries, please email [alessandro.antonello@flinders.edu.au](mailto:alessandro.antonello@flinders.edu.au)



### PROJECT 1: THE RED CROSS AND HUMANITARIANISM

Professor Melanie Oppenheimer is seeking a student who is interested in working on an Australian Research Council (ARC) funded project entitled 'Resilient Humanitarianism: The League of Red Cross Societies, 1919–1991'. The project focuses on a history of the League of Red Cross Societies (now the Geneva-based International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent). It aims to advance the concept of 'resilient humanitarianism' and provide global policy makers and NGOs with historical insights to help inform, shape and transform future humanitarian debates. Further information on the Resilient Humanitarian project can be found here: <https://sites.flinders.edu.au/resilient-humanitarianism/>

The student may focus on the following areas of interest concerning the League of Red Cross Societies:

- children and humanitarianism – the Junior Red Cross
- nursing and humanitarianism
- humanitarianism and conflict.

**Area of interest:** History, Humanitarianism

**Supervisor:** Professor Melanie Oppenheimer  
[melanie.oppenheimer@flinders.edu.au](mailto:melanie.oppenheimer@flinders.edu.au)

### PROJECT 2: GERMAN IMPERIALISM IN AFRICA, ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

What drove Germany's global foreign policy (Weltpolitik) and colonial policy (Kolonialpolitik) prior to the First World War? What economic and social pressures was it a response to? How did German imperialism interact with and disrupt societies in Africa, Asia and the Pacific? Intersecting with postcolonial and decolonising approaches to imperial history, this project offers the opportunity to study the history of a major European imperial power and its relationship with the Global South. Professor Matt Fitzpatrick is seeking an honours student interested in working on one of the following topics:

- the history of a particular German colony in Africa, Asia or the Pacific
- the effects of German colonialism on those whose territory they colonised
- German colonists in South Australia
- German global shipping and commerce prior to the First World War
- the First World War and its effects on German colonialism.

The prospective student will focus on one of the topics above and develop a guiding research question in partnership with Professor Fitzpatrick.

**Area of interest:** History, Colonialism

**Supervisor:** Professor Matt Fitzpatrick  
[matthew.fitzpatrick@flinders.edu.au](mailto:matthew.fitzpatrick@flinders.edu.au)

### PROJECT 3: OCEANIC HISTORIES IN AUSTRALIA

How have communities lived with and thought about marine environments? What are the histories of human–ocean connections in Australia? These are some of the big questions that Dr Alessandro Antonello is asking in his research on the environmental history of oceans. Globally, oceans are currently under significant environmental stress from a range of factors, but climate change, overfishing and pollution are among the most severe problems. Understanding and adapting to current problems requires understanding of the past. Dr Antonello is seeking a student who is interested in studying marine and coastal communities in Australia in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In particular, he is hoping to encourage work on one of the following topics in relation to Australia's southern coasts:

- the history of fishing communities and industries
- coastal development, including new coastal and marine infrastructures, ports and marinas, and housing developments
- offshore oil and gas exploration and exploitation in Australia
- histories of law, policy and management of the marine environment, including conservation and protected areas.

The prospective honours student will work with Dr Antonello to identify a topic which interests them, and which will be appropriate in scope for an honours thesis.

**Area of interest:** History, Environment

**Supervisor:** Dr Alessandro Antonello  
[alessandro.antonello@flinders.edu.au](mailto:alessandro.antonello@flinders.edu.au)



## **ATAM HONOURS STUDENT BURSARIES: 2 SCHOLARSHIPS, \$5000 EACH X2**

This scholarship has been established to provide financial assistance for full-time honours students studying performing arts at Flinders University. The scholarship has been established as a result of a generous donation from the Adelaide Theatre & More Social Club Inc. (ATaM). Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit, a demonstrated ability and commitment to the performing arts, and a demonstrated interest in pursuing a performing arts career or a doctoral program in the performing arts. Application is through the Scholarships office with closing date of January 10 2021.

**Area of interest:** Performing Arts

Contact: [thomas.young@flinders.edu.au](mailto:thomas.young@flinders.edu.au)

## **PROPOSED PROJECTS IN HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

The following projects do not have bursaries attached but do allow students to pursue Honours research with leading scholars in Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences.

### **WOVEN BASKETS AND FIBRE OBJECTS OF THE RIVERLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

This project involves a material culture analysis of woven baskets and other fibre objects housed in the South Australian Museum. The objects to be analysed were created by the ancestors of the River Murray and Mallee Aboriginal Corporation, and the project is being conducted in collaboration with this community. Analyses will involve considerations relating to raw materials, methods of manufacture and style. Archival

research will also be a component of this research. This study would be the first of its kind for the region.

**Area of interest:** Archaeology

**Supervisor:**

Associate Professor Amy Roberts  
[amy.roberts@flinders.edu.au](mailto:amy.roberts@flinders.edu.au)

### **WOODEN OBJECTS OF THE RIVERLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

This project involves a material culture analysis of wooden objects (e.g., boomerangs, digging sticks, shields) housed in the South Australian Museum. The objects to be analysed were created by the ancestors of the River Murray and Mallee Aboriginal Corporation, and the project is being conducted in collaboration with this community. Analyses will involve considerations relating to raw materials, methods of manufacture and style. Archival research will also be a component of this research. This study would be the first of its kind for the region.

**Area of interest:** Archaeology

**Supervisor:**

Associate Professor Amy Roberts  
[amy.roberts@flinders.edu.au](mailto:amy.roberts@flinders.edu.au)

### **THE MATERIAL CULTURE OF FOOD IN SPACE**

As part of the International Space Station Archaeological Project, we are looking for a student to investigate the material culture of food and eating on board the ISS. Data comes from twenty years of NASA archives and astronaut accounts. What utensils are used and adapted to the challenges of consuming food in microgravity? What preferences do crew exhibit in where, how and what they eat? How does this compare

to earlier space stations, such as the Russian Mir? This is a chance to work with an international team of space archaeologists to uncover new knowledge about how humans adapt to space environments – with the ultimate aim of contributing to the design of future missions to the moon and beyond.

**Areas of interest:** Archaeology of the contemporary past, space technology, foodways

**Supervisory team:**

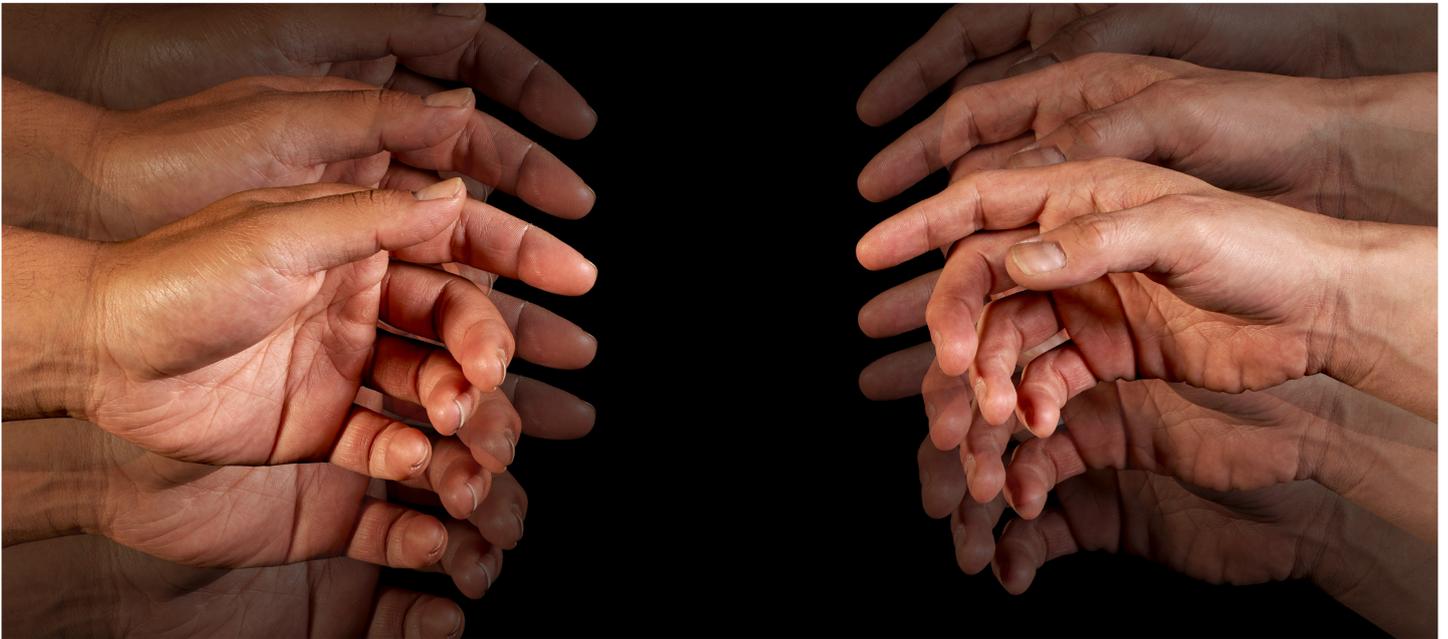
Associate Professor Alice Gorman  
[alice.gorman@flinders.edu.au](mailto:alice.gorman@flinders.edu.au)  
Associate Professor Justin Walsh  
(Chapman University, California)

### **SOCIAL REGULATION DURING COVID-19**

This project examines the myriad forms of social control and regulation during the COVID-19 pandemic. It investigates individuals' experiences of the regulations and control that have been put in place by new laws and asks how these regulations have shaped their behaviour and activities. A significant line of inquiry will be understandings of privacy and the social responsibility. The project will rely on qualitative data, particularly interviews.

**Areas of interest:** Sociology, qualitative empirical research, socio-legal research, social sciences

**Supervisor:** Professor Sharyn Roach Anleu  
[Sharyn.roachanleu@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Sharyn.roachanleu@flinders.edu.au)



### **BETTER DAYS? HOPE AND OPTIMISM IN PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE**

This project centres the role of hope and optimism in people's plans for their future. Students are encouraged to challenge dominant discourses of risk and vulnerability in the context of climate collapse and deepening socioeconomic inequalities by undertaking interviews asking people to reflect on how the possibilities of 'better days' inform their planning and action for personal or social change. Research participants may include activists, socioeconomically marginalised people or young people, though students will be supported to work with other groups of particular interest to them.

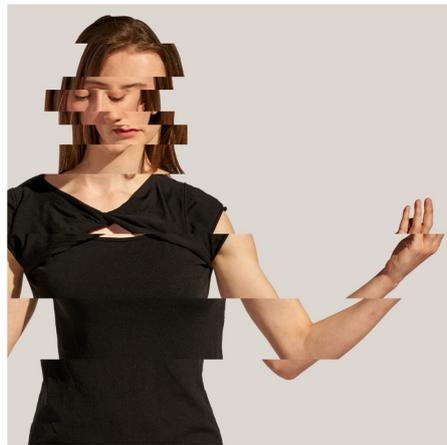
**Areas of interest:** Sociology, inequalities, social change

**Supervisor:**

Associate Professor Kristin Natalier  
[kris.natalier@flinders.edu.au](mailto:kris.natalier@flinders.edu.au)

### **FEMINIST PROVISION OF ABORTION CARE IN AUSTRALIA IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH SECTOR: THE UNIQUE CASE OF THE PREGNANCY ADVISORY CENTRE IN ADELAIDE, SA**

This project explores the campaign for public sector abortion clinics in South Australia in the 1980s, the establishment of one in 1992 (the Pregnancy Advisory Centre in Woodville) and its ongoing success as the only stand-alone public abortion clinic in Australia. The student will work in the interdisciplinary areas of area of History and Women's and Gender Studies, as part of a group of Flinders academics and PhD students researching various aspects of abortion politics and provision in Australia, the USA and beyond. It will involve media and documentary research and possibly oral history interviews.



The PAC, which is unique in Australia, and the provision of abortion care in SA entirely through the public sector, is the envy of the rest of the country. There have been other explicitly feminist abortion clinics in Australia in the last forty years, both private and community-based, but none of these has survived into the twenty-first century. The success of the PAC in providing affordable care, setting standards and leading the field is unique and needs to be documented and analysed. This project will make an important contribution to research about the provision of abortion care in Australia and will be a useful support in advocating for better services and promoting reproductive rights and justice.

**Areas of interest:** women's & gender studies; reproductive rights and reproductive justice, abortion, feminist history, feminist activism, public health, (South) Australian history

**Supervisor:**

Associate Professor Barbara Baird  
[barbara.baird@flinders.edu.au](mailto:barbara.baird@flinders.edu.au)

### **TECHNOLOGY AND SUBJECTIVITY: A FEMINIST PHILOSOPHICAL ANALYSIS**

Using a feminist lens, this project questions the perception of technology and the digital world as neutral and unbiased and uses feminist philosophy to examine the effects of the entanglements of subjectivity and technology in our contemporary lives. If we take seriously the entanglement of our lives with technology, then we must be concerned when the technology reproduces sexist and racist stereotypes. The project takes Rosi Braidotti's fluid understanding of subjectivity as that which 'takes place in between nature/technology; male/female; black/white' (Braidotti 2008, 6) as a starting point for these investigations, and the student will have the opportunity to explore various feminist philosophical perspectives, including a range of themes in the field of Feminist Technoscience Studies. The student will be encouraged to consider a case study – for example, gender bias in AI – and ask how feminist theory can help to identify and challenge these problems. Ultimately, the project will explore how the insights of feminist philosophy can help us to think deeper about the types of subjects, human and non-human, we are becoming.

**Areas of interest:** Feminist philosophy and theory, post/decolonial theory, feminist activism, social movements, feminist cities, European Social and Political Philosophy

**Supervisor:** Dr Laura Roberts  
[laura.roberts@flinders.edu.au](mailto:laura.roberts@flinders.edu.au)

## CHILDREN AND BIOGRAPHY: READING, WRITING AND INFLUENCE

This project considers life writing for children. The project could be a creative project or literary studies thesis, but its basis would explore the history and recent popularity of life narratives (biographies, autobiographies, etc.) for children. These increasingly popular texts present some of the most pressing issues for children, such as the representation of knowledge, environmental change, health crises, education, and personal and cultural development. But there is little research on these texts or their significance to scholarship or to the community. The project would produce new knowledge on how these texts are produced and read, and the cultural work they do, and (potentially) foreground children's voices in discussions of how children read life narrative and are engaged in its production.

**Areas of Interest:** Life narrative, life stories, biography, children's literature

**Supervisor:** Professor Kate Douglas  
[Kate.Douglas@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Kate.Douglas@flinders.edu.au)

## ENGLISH LITERATURE: SUICIDE AND THE GOTHIC

This project examines the prevalence of suicide in the first wave of the Gothic Revival during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Why was self-destruction such a key trope of the Gothic in this period? How might contemporary attitudes and developing knowledge have influenced Gothic representations of suicide? The student will select key texts to examine how these representations of what is at times inexpressible might respond to both contemporary sociohistorical contexts as well as the aesthetic and affective needs of the Gothic mode.

**Areas of Interest:** English literature, cultural history, history of emotions, creative writing

**Supervisor:** Dr Eric Parisot  
[eric.parisot@flinders.edu.au](mailto:eric.parisot@flinders.edu.au)



## THE LINGUISTIC LANDSCAPE OF CENTRAL ADELAIDE

Linguistic landscapes provide an exciting opportunity for understanding the use of languages in a particular speech community, and can inform us on the language practices of speakers within that community. For this project, students will investigate the visibility and public display of languages in central Adelaide, with the aim of describing the role of languages in the public domain in the city. A multidisciplinary approach will be especially welcome in order to capture the dynamics underlying the use of languages in Adelaide's linguistic landscape.

**Areas of interest:** Language in society, Language variation, Sociolinguistics

**Supervisor:** Dr Werner Botha  
[werner.botha@flinders.edu.au](mailto:werner.botha@flinders.edu.au)

## MULTILINGUALISM AT FLINDERS UNIVERSITY

Currently there is a dearth of research on the sociolinguistic realities of university students' language practices. Sociolinguistic profiles provide an exciting opportunity to understand the language dynamics and language practices of students, and can inform on the language needs and difficulties of students. The aim of this study is to provide a sociolinguistic profile of languages spoken and used among Flinders University students. This sociolinguistic profile will also be compared to the language profile of the greater Adelaide region. Students are encouraged to utilize a multidisciplinary approach to the topic.

**Areas of interest:** Language in society, Language variation, Sociolinguistics

**Supervisor:** Dr Werner Botha  
[werner.botha@flinders.edu.au](mailto:werner.botha@flinders.edu.au)

## FEMINIST MEDIA AND CULTURAL STUDIES: FOCUS ON FEMALE PRACTITIONERS

What is the nature of women's impact on screen content and cultures, as practitioners, advocates, critics, and curators? This project aims to explore the intersections between women's media practice and screen content and cultures and seeks an Honours student interested in studying how women have had an impact on screen practice through their work in a variety of professional roles as writers, producers, directors, editors, animators, and VFX artists and as media critics, curators, and bloggers. You may be interested in studying the contributions of a single practitioner or those of a relevant professional organisation or advocacy group, such as WIFT. Research into all forms of media is welcomed. Ultimately the project would create new knowledge about women's active roles contouring screen cultures and contents while broadening public understanding of the myriad ways women make these contributions.

**Areas of interest:** Media and cultural studies, feminist production studies, screen history

**Supervisor:**  
Associate Professor Julia Erhart  
[julia.erhart@flinders.edu.au](mailto:julia.erhart@flinders.edu.au)



## FILM ARCHIVING AND PRESERVATION

Film archiving and preservation enrich our understanding of cinema history. This project invites students to work across a range of audiovisual collections on campus, including the South Australian Film Corporation Collection and State Film and Video Library of South Australia collection of 16mm motion picture films. Students will audit and catalogue collections and work collaboratively with a range of stakeholders to develop film preservation protocols. This project provides a platform for exploring larger questions around cultural heritage management, canon formation, and film history.

**Areas of interest:** Film preservation, archiving and cultural heritage management, Australian cinema, film history

**Supervisors:** Dr. Nicholas Godfrey, Dr. Tully Barnett, Associate Professor Julia Erhart  
[nicholas.godfrey@flinders.edu.au](mailto:nicholas.godfrey@flinders.edu.au)

## DOCUMENTARY AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES (INCLUDING MOCAP)

Contemporary documentary media in the 2020s is hybridising and colliding with experimental technologies. It is becoming live and performed, captured and manipulated, interactive and immersive. It engages with archives in creative new ways. How are new technologies like motion capture expanding the capacities of documentary media and its established claims to truth? Creative and critical studies projects welcome.

**Areas of interest:** Creative and performing arts, screen critical studies, screen production, visual effects and entertainment design

**Supervisor:**  
 Associate Professor Julia Erhart  
[julia.erhart@flinders.edu.au](mailto:julia.erhart@flinders.edu.au)

## FESTIVALS AND THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE

Here in the “Festival State,” we’re well aware of the ways in which festivals define us collectively, project an attractive image to the outside world, and generate economic benefit. Though humans have been gathering for festivals for thousands of years, attention is typically given to the content and context of festivals, to what they’re about and how they reflect a society at a particular moment in time. But what about the inner experience of festival-going, the embodied dimension, that affective encounter with live performance and with others that motivate or even compel us to return the same festival year after year? This project looks at the inner experience in festivals featuring live performance, what it does to and inside the individual, and how it generates bonds and new communities forged by the festival experience.

**Areas of interest:** festivals, creative and performing arts

**Supervisor:**  
 Associate Professor William Peterson  
[william.peterson@flinders.edu.au](mailto:william.peterson@flinders.edu.au)

## ACTING AND PRESENCE IN THE DIGITAL AGE

For over a generation now, digital platforms have captured and manipulated the shape and form of an actor, generating avatars, quirky, loveable and sometimes scary humanoid animals, as well as humans with powers and shapes that transcend the human. Yet within this new landscape, the actor somehow remains necessary, with the actor in a Motion Capture suit often serving as the starting point for digitized transhuman creations. What then is it that makes the actor necessary in this process of creating human-like characters in digital platforms? What does the actor bring to the creative process and why do humans respond as they do to characters that originate from

the digitally recorded movements of a human actor in a MoCap suit? Practiced projects that involve the use of The Void, our dedicated VR/MoCap Studio are strongly encouraged, as are audience-focused projects that look at perception and reception.

**Areas of interest:** Motion Capture and Virtual Reality, acting, audience studies, digital media

**Supervisor:** Associate Professor William Peterson  
[william.peterson@flinders.edu.au](mailto:william.peterson@flinders.edu.au)



FLINDERS UNIVERSITY  
 MUSEUM OF ART

## STUDENT RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS WITH FUMA

The following projects are for students to undertake research in any relevant discipline within CHASS, on collections held by FUMA.

### About Flinders University Museum of Art

Flinders University Museum of Art (FUMA) is located south of Adelaide’s city centre on the University’s main campus at Bedford Park. Recently expanded and refurbished, the museum was formally established in 1978 to house and manage an expanding collection of art, actively acquired for teaching and research purposes since 1966. Today FUMA is custodian of some 8,000 Australian and international works spanning the fifteenth to twenty-first centuries, making it one of the largest public collections of art in South Australia. FUMA serves the University and wider community as an academic resource and dynamic site of cultural and intellectual exchange through its cross-disciplinary and collaborative projects, exhibitions, research, education and public programs. In partnership with the Flinders University College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, FUMA currently welcomes expressions of interest on the following research projects.



### **PERFORMANCE AND THE VIDEO DOCUMENT: THE DONALD BROOK COLLECTION OF POST- OBJECT ART**

Initiated by one of Australia's leading theorists of conceptual art, the late Donald Brook (former Emeritus Professor of Visual Arts at Flinders University and art critic of The Sydney Morning Herald and Nation Review), the Collection is one of the most comprehensive holdings of Australian conceptual art of the late 1960s and 1970s in the nation and features some of Australia's pioneering performance artists including Mike Parr and Stelarc. Within this Collection students can investigate the genesis and history of video documentation of Australian performance art around questions of gender, politics, Modernism, conservation and digitisation. Students will learn to prepare a significance assessment of the video Collection and recommendations for conservation.

**Areas of interest:** Creative and visual arts, video and performance art, contemporary art, art history, cultural heritage management, conservation

#### **Supervisors:**

Associate Professor William Peterson,  
Associate Professor Julia Erhart  
[william.peterson@flinders.edu.au](mailto:william.peterson@flinders.edu.au)  
[julia.erhart@flinders.edu.au](mailto:julia.erhart@flinders.edu.au)

### **SHEDDING LIGHT ON JÓZEF STANISLAW OSTOJA- KOTKOWSKI: THE EDWARD STIRLING BOOTH COLLECTION**

As a result of the widespread devastation of the Second World War, Polish-born artist Józef Stanislaw Ostoja-Kotkowski migrated to Australia in 1949. In the early 1950s he worked at the Leigh Creek coalmines and was captivated by the local iridescent desert light, an influence which shifted the focus of his visual arts practice to the illustration of kaleidoscopic variations of light in an Australian context. He settled in the Adelaide Hills in 1955 where he occupied a cottage on the estate of Edward Stirling Booth for forty years, until his death in 1994. Donated by Mr Booth, the Collection of over 400 works reveals the development of the artist's practice from drawing and painting to experimental photography, particularly with laser kinetics. Students can analyse the development of Ostoja-Kotkowski's work within the context of postwar Australia and the early development of multimedia art forms. Students will also learn to prepare a significance assessment of the Collection.

**Areas of interest:** Creative and visual arts, multimedia art, contemporary art, art history, cultural heritage management, émigré experiences, post-Second World War society

**Supervisors:** Professor Peter Monteath,  
Professor Penny Edmonds,  
Associate Professor Cath Kevin.  
[peter.monteath@flinders.edu.au](mailto:peter.monteath@flinders.edu.au)

### **UNCOVERING THE ARCHIVE OF AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST ABORIGINAL ART CENTRE: THE PUKATJA/ERNABELLA ARTS COMMUNITY COLLECTION**

On behalf of the Pukatja community based in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands of Far North South Australia, Ernabella Arts Inc. deposited over 600 objects at Flinders University Museum of Art to consolidate cultural material for future generations of Pukatja and the wider community, and to ensure safekeeping. Representing key art historical developments at Pukatja, the Collection comprises ceramics, sculpture, textiles, paintings, prints and works on paper from the mid-twentieth century to the early twenty-first century. Students can examine the history and development of the Collection, the roles of women in contributing to and facilitating the Collection, and the Collection's national significance in line with protocols for community consultation. Students will also learn to prepare a significance assessment of the Collection.

*Please note that all projects undertaken with the Pukatja/Ernabella Arts Community Collection must adhere to relevant cultural protocols and are subject to community approval.*

**Supervisors:** Dr Natalie Harkin  
Dr Ali Baker  
Associate Professor Cath Kevin  
[natalie.harkin@flinders.edu.au](mailto:natalie.harkin@flinders.edu.au)

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**General enquiries**

Our friendly staff are available to answer your general questions about studying at Flinders:

**1300 354 633 (local call cost)**

**[flinders.edu.au/ask](https://flinders.edu.au/ask)**

**[askflinders@flinders.edu.au](mailto:askflinders@flinders.edu.au)**

**FLINDERS.EDU.AU**