

GRADUATE PROFILE

Alistair Vaughan graduated with a BA Honours degree in Anthropology. He is currently working as an Anthropologist at the Yamatji Marpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) in Western Australia (WA). YMAC is a native title body that represents traditional owners in the Murchison Gascoyne region and the Pilbara, in matters of native title and heritage protection. Alistair has been working on large native title claims which involves a broad range of both desktop research and applied research in the field, and he has also begun to undertake a more substantial role in the heritage protection sphere with regular trips to the Pilbara in order to undertake ethnographic heritage surveys.

Alistair said the best part of being a UQ student was "having access to first class academic and sporting facilities while also having the opportunity to build extensive and lasting friendships and professional networks". During mid-semester break in the final year of his BA, Alistair undertook an Aurora Anthropology Internship with Miriuwung Gajerrong Corporation in Kununurra, WA. He said "my internship with MG Corporation was an unforgettable experience in so many ways and left an indelible mark in my mind of the Kimberley region and peoples who call it their home". The internship gave Alistair insights into many of the concepts studied during his BA, and enabled him to apply these concepts to practical, real life settings.

Alistair Vaughan on fieldwork



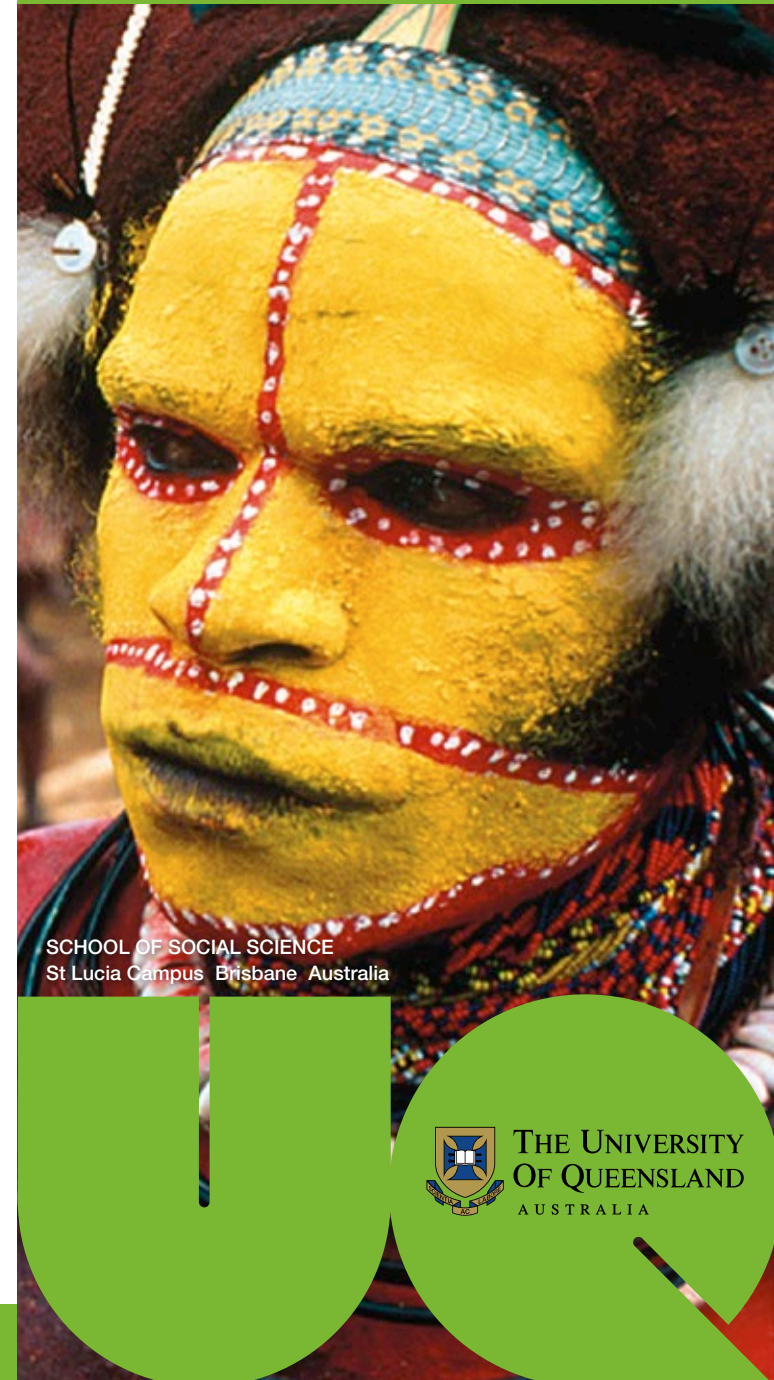
FURTHER INFORMATION

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THE UNIVERSITY
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ANTHROPOLOGY

Anthropology is the study of diverse human life and experience in different parts of the world. Anthropologists study cultures in all their richness, in settings that are both distant from and familiar to the researcher.



Anthropology addresses the way cultural traditions continue and change over time and how we can understand and explain human beliefs and behaviour.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Anthropology teaches people how to understand cultural difference, so graduates can be employed in government, industry or community organisations working with people of many diverse backgrounds and lifestyles. In Australia, this could mean work on migrant or ethnic issues, on how and why people may be prepared to adopt new technologies, or on resolution of Aboriginal native title claims and negotiation of resource developments like mining, tourism and fishing. International work might involve economic and social development in Pacific Island countries, attitudes to environmental conservation across the globe, or corporate attempts to engage with the wide range of societies in Asia.

Career areas include:

Aboriginal Land Councils & consultancy firms	Native Title Researcher Project Officer Cultural Heritage Manager
Government Departments (eg Health; Natural Resources, Parks & Wildlife; Environmental Protection Agency; Indigenous Affairs; Environment & Heritage)	Policy Advisor & Researcher Positions associated with land, environment and cultural heritage Liaison Officers Mediators and Facilitators
International Development (eg AusAID, NGOs)	Aid Project Officer Researcher Country Officer
Museums	Museum Director Curator, Collection Manager Community Liaison Officer
Education	Teaching anthropology in universities and social science in schools (in conjunction with education qualifications)
Tourism	Cultural Interpretation Tourist Operator or Manager Site Officer
Health	Medical Anthropologist (cross-cultural health issues)
Business/ Private Sector	Consumer Researcher Human Relations Manager Researchers in corporate culture

COURSES AND PROGRAMS

The School of Social Science offers a range of exciting and useful courses for those wishing a career in anthropology, offering training that relates to employment in industry and government departments, museums, organisations interested in undertaking various land, environment and cultural heritage related research, as well as social impact assessments, gender impact studies and evaluation projects.

Undergraduate students can complete a single or extended major in anthropology within the Bachelor of Arts program, or undertake courses as electives in another program.

Introductory courses are:

- Introduction to Anthropology: People, Cultures and Societies
- Anthropology of Current World Issues: An Introduction

Examples of advanced courses are:

- Anthropology of Aboriginal Australia
- Medical Anthropology
- Environmental Anthropology
- Aboriginal Heritage: Anthropological and Archaeological Perspectives
- Ritual, Religion and Performance

Postgraduate students can undertake a fourth-year honours program, a research higher degree (PhD or MPhil), or enrol in the Master of Development Practice.



Maker unknown, c1956,
UQ Anthropology Museum



Aboriginal sea country in Australia