

Information

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Cover image

Book cover taken from *Ten pound Poms Australia's invisible migrants* by A. James Hammerton and Alistair Thomson.

Disclaimer

Monash University reserves the right to alter course content, procedures, fees and regulations should the need arise. Students should carefully read all official correspondence and other sources of information for students (such as websites and official university notice boards) to be aware of changes to the information contained in this document and alterations to units.

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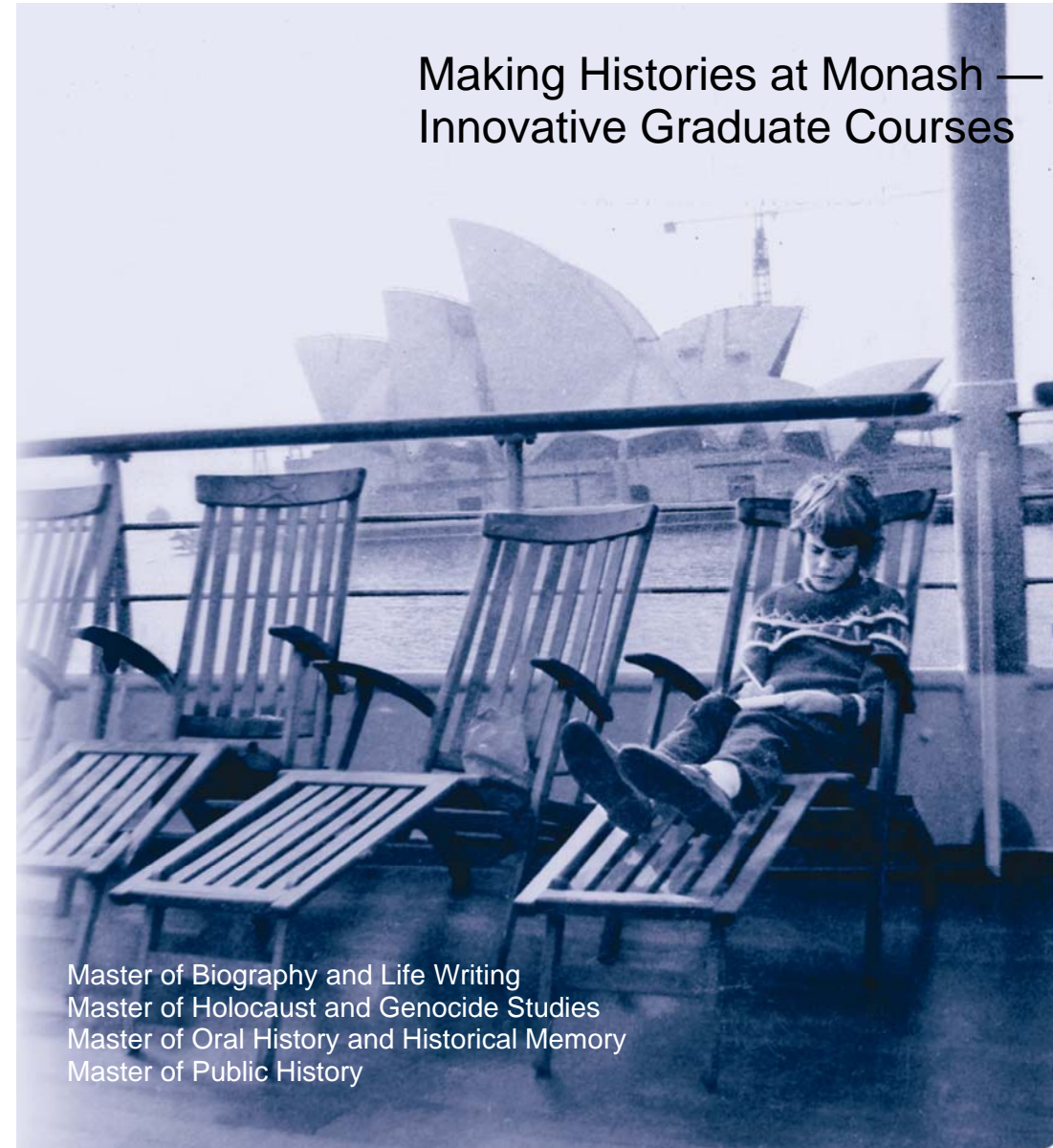
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School of Historical Studies

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Making Histories at Monash — Innovative Graduate Courses



Master of Biography and Life Writing
Master of Holocaust and Genocide Studies
Master of Oral History and Historical Memory
Master of Public History

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Master of Public History

A new History Graduate Course Centre based at the Monash Caulfield campus will support four linked Master courses – taught by international leaders in their fields – that explore theory and practice at the cutting edge of contemporary historical studies and applied history. The linked courses offer students a very wide range of choice and the opportunity to put together a program that meets their own particular interest.

A core aim of each of these courses is to train and support graduates who wish work in a wide range of historical fields, both within and beyond the university. A limited number of Commonwealth Supported Places (HECs) are available for each course.

Graduate culture in a new venue

From 2009 these four graduate courses will be formally linked as part of a new History Graduate Course Centre at the Monash Caulfield campus. Graduate course staff and students will enjoy the social and intellectual experience of new learning in a supportive and inter-disciplinary environment.

The Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation has generously agreed to share a new social and learning space in the Caulfield campus's modern Building H. History graduate course teaching will take place at Caulfield on Monday to Thursday late afternoon and evenings and students will be encouraged to study and socialise with students and staff from the different courses, and to develop a collective history graduate student identity. We expect that this graduate identity will come to include graduate students in other School of Historical Studies Masters courses such as Civil Ceremonies and Jewish Studies, who will also be studying at Caulfield.

History graduate courses recruit both full time and part time students, including many students who wish to resume study after some years in the work force and who need to combine study with work and other commitments. For these students, the Caulfield campus, with its central position and excellent public transport links, is readily accessible, and advance timetabling within afternoon-evening teaching slots will help students to plan their study to fit in with busy lives.

Further details

Contact Liisa Williams at liisa.williams@arts.monash.edu.au for any enrolment queries, or email the appropriate course convener:

For further details about the Monash history graduate courses, see the School of Historical Studies website www.arts.monash.edu.au/historical-studies/pgrad/coursework/

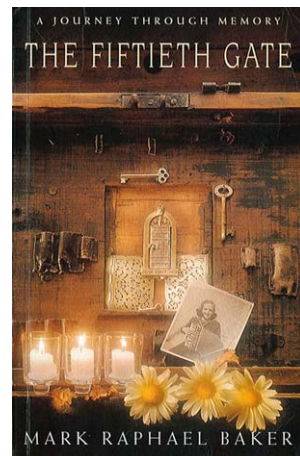
Student profile



Jayne Josem writes about the 'exciting' projects and placements of the Public History course at Monash that led to her current role as Curator at Melbourne's Jewish Holocaust Centre: 'I worked for the Museum of Victoria on their "School Playgrounds" exhibit. I wrote a history of the early years of community radio station Triple R FM and I volunteered on an exhibition for the Jewish museum.'

I conducted research for the Centenary of Federation to produce an honour roll of 100 Australian women achievers throughout history. Most importantly I began volunteering at the Jewish Holocaust Centre. As it happened my timing was excellent because the curator had decided that it was time to retire. We worked together for 6 months, during which she imparted much knowledge, and then she left me "holding the baby".'

As part of her Public History course Jayne also took a unit from Biography and Life Writing – this cross-over shows how each of the Masters courses is enriched by options from the other linked courses.



Mark Baker's prize-winning book about Holocaust memory, *The Fiftieth Gate* (Harper Collins, 1995)

Master of Oral History and Historical Memory – new from 2009

Convener: Professor Alistair Thomson
alitair.thomson@arts.monash.edu.au

Oral history illuminates the lived experience of hidden histories and produces riveting historical documentary in books, radio and television, museum exhibitions and multi-media production. Historical memory is central to the contemporary cultural politics of witnessing, commemoration and reconciliation.

This new course integrates theoretical and practical study in two fields on the frontier of contemporary historical studies.

Convener Al Thomson came to Monash in late 2007 from the University of Sussex where he established an international reputation for teaching and research in the fields of oral history and life history research, and was elected President of the International Oral History Association. Al's oral history books – *Anzac Memories* (Oxford University Press, 1994), *Ten Pound Poms* (Manchester University Press, 2005) and *The Oral History Reader* (Routledge, 1998 and 2006) have pioneered new approaches to memory and oral history.

At Monash he joins colleagues such as Professor Bain Attwood who are leading researchers in Australian historical memory.

Master of Holocaust and Genocide Studies – new from 2008

Convener: Associate Professor Mark Baker
mark.baker@arts.monash.edu.au

This interdisciplinary and cross-Faculty course considers the nature and causes of genocide and international efforts to prevent crimes against humanity. It explores the history of particular instances of genocidal conflict, the gender politics of violence, the treatment of Australia's indigenous population, and the themes of memory, trauma, testimony and reconciliation. It highlights the importance of oral testimony and the act of witnessing, drawing upon Monash's University's acquisition of the Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive.

Convener Mark Baker is the recently appointed Director of the Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation. Mark is the author of the prize-winning book about Holocaust memory, *The Fiftieth Gate* (Harper Collins, 1995) and has taught widely in the area of genocide studies.



Photographer: Emmanuel Santos

Master of Public History

Convener: Dr Seamus O'Hanlon
seamus.ohanlon@arts.monash.edu.au

The Master of Public History initiated by Graeme Davison in 1989 and now convened by Seamus O'Hanlon is a vocational program that has trained a generation of Victorian public historians who hold key posts in museums, heritage work, archives and professional history.

The program, which is supported by the Monash Institute for Public History, has excellent links with public history organisations and professionals, and students will have a number of opportunities to build industry networks through assessment tasks. This course can be taken at Caulfield or through distance learning.

Seamus O'Hanlon is an urban historian who has worked across several fields of public history. His publications include *Together Apart; boarding house, hostel and flat life in prewar Melbourne*, (ASP, 2002) and *Go!: Melbourne in the Sixties* (Circa, 2005).

Master of Biography and Life Writing

Convener: Professor Barbara Caine
barbara.caine@arts.monash.edu.au

This course reflects the tremendous contemporary interest in both reading and writing biographies and life stories. It explores theoretical issues in biographical work, including the ethical, moral and legal questions that often surround biography. It also offers practical approaches to archival and oral source materials.

We consider the history of both biography and autobiography, and some of the ways in which psychoanalysis, feminist theory and postcolonial studies have affected understanding of biography and life writing. Students will research and write a biography or life story.

Barbara Caine has published extensively in women's history, the history of feminism and biography including, most recently, *Bombay to Bloomsbury. A Biography of the Strachey's* (Oxford University Press, 2005). She is writing a book on *History and Biography* for the Palgrave MacMillan series on History and Theory.

Course structure

Full details, including entry requirements, are available at www.arts.monash.edu.au/historical-studies/pgrad/coursework/ or email the appropriate convener.

Students typically take 4 core and elective units (48 points) and a further 24 points comprising a research project and / or placement. Credit may be granted for prior learning.

The course duration is three semesters full-time. A fast-track option (in which a research project is completed over the summer period) can reduce Master's study to one year full-time or two year part time. Students can exit with a Graduate Certificate of Arts (with 24 points) or a Graduate Diploma in the named subject (48 points).

Core units from each course will be offered as electives on the other courses and thus facilitate interdisciplinary cross-fertilisation, for example between life writing and oral history, or public history and holocaust studies. Joint research seminars will introduce students to diverse and complementary research theory and method.

Most students will take 'placement' units with partner organisations that develop work experience in a range of applied history contexts, including museums, community history, heritage work, oral history, native title and the history media.

Taught units include:

- Genocide and colonialism
- History, biography and autobiography
- History and heritage
- History and memory: oral history, life stories & commemoration
- History and the museum
- Holocaust memories
- Local & community history
- Family history and genealogy
- Public history placement
- Reading and writing Australian history
- Reading and writing biography and life stories
- Recording oral history: theory and practice
- Research methods in biography