

## UTS Graduate Research: Potential Projects for HDR Students Spring 2020

### Humanities, law and education

Supervisor	Faculty	Project title	Description
Alan McKee <a href="mailto:Alan.McKee@uts.edu.au">Alan.McKee@uts.edu.au</a>	FASS	The evolution of pornography	Pornography is evolving rapidly. Social changes such as the rise of feminist, queer and ethical perspectives have led to the emergence of new forms of pornography. Technological changes including greater use of interactive online technologies have blurred the lines between social media, pornography and sex work. I invite proposals for any projects that gather empirical data, in consultation with sex workers' rights organisations, about the evolving nature of pornography.
Alex Baumber <a href="mailto:Alexander.Baumber@uts.edu.au">Alexander.Baumber@uts.edu.au</a>	FTdI	Social licence of the sharing economy	Sharing economy platforms like Airbnb and Uber have surged in popularity in recent years, but have also attracted controversy due to impacts on surrounding communities, employees/contractors and competing operators. This project considers the factors that influence whether such platforms are able to obtain a "social licence to operate" from affected communities. This draws on research into social licence in other sectors, such as mining, energy and agriculture, where factors such as trust, fairness, confidence in governance and adaptability have been linked to success in obtaining a social licence. However, such models also require adaptation to consider the unique characteristics of sharing economy platforms, including who should be included within the "affected community" and what qualifies as a "sharing" practice.
Alex Baumber <a href="mailto:Alexander.Baumber@uts.edu.au">Alexander.Baumber@uts.edu.au</a>	FTdI	Resilient utopias	The aim of this research project is to identify factors that enable intentional communities (e.g. eco-villages) to be resilient over time. Intentional communities are communities that have been intentionally designed to enable lifestyles based on shared core values that differ from the mainstream, with the term "utopia" sometimes applied to such communities. While some intentional communities succumb to external or internal disturbances after a relatively short period of time, others demonstrate longevity in the presence of a range of potential threats. Long-lived intentional communities such as Auroville in India and Findhorn in Scotland, both established in the late 1960s, may be able to provide insights for newer intentional communities. Previous research has identified some longevity factors for intentional communities, such as recruitment strategies, conflict resolution and adaptability. However, the persistence of intentional communities is yet to be explored through the lens of resilience thinking. Resilience in complex systems is "the capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and reorganize while undergoing change so as to still retain essentially the same function, structure, identity, and feedbacks". It is more than simply "bouncing back" from a disturbance, as it involves adaption over time. Research across diverse socio-ecological systems has identified a range of enabling conditions for resilience, including diversity, openness, nestedness, reserves, modularity, feedbacks, monitoring, leadership and trust.

			The aim of this research is to understand the role that such factors may play in the resilience of intentional communities and whether other factors should also be considered.
Anne Gardner <a href="mailto:Anne.Gardner@uts.edu.au">Anne.Gardner@uts.edu.au</a>	FEIT	Learning from engineering internships/work placements	All domestic engineering students at UTS complete 2 x 6 month internships. This project is to explore what and how students learn in these internships focussing on how the learning is different to what happens in class. Different aspects that could be explored include comparing the learning outcomes from virtual vs physical internships, and/or investigating what work supervisors learn from the students, also if there are different accessibility issues and learning outcomes for different student cohorts (eg. female students, international students), or the differences in the learning outcomes from the 2 x 6 month internships compared to the 12 week work placements required for Engineers Australia accreditation. The expected project methodology is qualitative or at most, mixed methods. The theoretical perspective can be defined by the student but must align with the focus of the project. Some example theories are self determination theory, actor network theory, Bourdieu, and theory of practice architectures. The outcomes of this project will contribute to the narrative and design of the professional practice programs in FEIT and across Australia.
Craig Batty <a href="mailto:Craig.Batty@uts.edu.au">Craig.Batty@uts.edu.au</a>	FASS	Using creative writing to explore the future(s) of our world: Speculative fiction, global crises and the potential for impact	How might creative writing help us to imagine a world we do not yet know? How could fiction help us 'future proof' society and propose new ways of living? This PhD needs a candidate who is able to bring together fiction writing (prose or screenplay) with a passion for speculative futures and and society/technology/the environment. Using either a creative practice methodology (e.g., writing a novel or a screenplay) or using creative writing as a method within a participatory action research methodology (e.g., working with groups to imagine their own futures through writing workshops), the PhD aims to create public awareness of the power of fiction in the way we understand our world. At the core of the PhD is a creative and critical exploration of what might lie ahead for society and how, through devising future scenarios and relationships, we might respond. Potential candidates will have a strong or emerging track record in either fiction writing or using writing workshops for public engagement and impact. The specific form and focus area is open to negotiation with the supervisors.
Didar Zowghi <a href="mailto:Didar.Zowghi@uts.edu.au">Didar.Zowghi@uts.edu.au</a>	FEIT	Digitisation of teaching and learning in the time of crisis	Teaching and learning technologies have been rapidly utilised in schools and universities in response to Covid-19 crisis in order to deliver courses online. This just-in-time digitisation and technology adoption (TA) has forced many changes to occur in online teaching and learning. There is a lack of systematic and robust approach to this technology adoption in times of crisis, especially in education domain. Technology Adoption has been the subject of great interest and research for decades, with many frameworks and approaches developed and utilised. However, a detailed study of TA in massive online education delivery at times of crisis is lacking. This research project aims to utilise and analyse massive amount of public domain online teaching and learning data to study the challenges and consequences of this TA. This research will also collect valuable qualitative data from teachers and students at forefront of this mass digitisation at universities in Australia and overseas to develop a robust

			framework for the assessment of effectiveness of this form of technology adoption in the education domain during the times of crisis.
Gabrielle Carey <a href="mailto:Gabrielle.Carey@uts.edu.au">Gabrielle.Carey@uts.edu.au</a>	FASS	The secret of schizophrenia: it is recoverable	<p>Stories of recovery from schizophrenia are largely absent from public discourse, policy concern and social epidemiological data sets, as well as from popular culture forms such as films and television. This suggests a persistent belief - throughout the health system and in the popular imagination - that schizophrenia is not recoverable. This project will investigate stories of recovery from schizophrenia through the lens of lived experience. One of the main objectives is to identify, analyse and communicate which psychosocial factors, support programs and psychosocial treatments most effectively contribute to recovery from schizophrenia, according to people who have been successfully living with the condition. It will also interrogate aspects of psychosocial treatments only offered through private healthcare to help determine what is missing from public healthcare approaches to psychosis in Australia, with the intention of providing detailed evidence for service users, families and policy-makers. The longer-term aim of this project is to shift expectations about recovery in Australia and to lift recovery rates to a standard evident in other societies. At present, of the 250,000 Australians diagnosed with schizophrenia, only 14 per cent are expected to recover. Unemployment is also very likely (67 per cent), along with a reduced life expectancy of up to 32 years (SANE Australia; NMHC 2012). The fact that recovery is possible mostly remains a secret.</p> <p>[Note: an ethics application for this project has been approved]</p>
Gabrielle Carey <a href="mailto:Gabrielle.Carey@uts.edu.au">Gabrielle.Carey@uts.edu.au</a>	FASS	Families as first responders: the impact of substance abuse disorder on the family	<p>This project will document the stories of families trying to get help for a son, daughter or sibling suffering from substance abuse disorder, a common experience that remains shrouded in secrecy and shame. These stories will tell tales of addiction, emergency departments, crime, rehabilitation centres, relapses, heartbreak, healing and recovery - bearing witness to a silent epidemic that is affecting thousands of families across the country, as evidenced by the dozens of Family Drug Support groups regularly meeting in cities and towns all over Australia. When it comes to the war on drugs, families are the first responders. They are also, often, the unacknowledged victims of substance abuse. Some of the many negative impacts include shame, guilt, financial hardship, family violence, stress-related illness and enforced leave from paid work in order to carry out the essential unpaid work of caring. This will be a narrative-based project, telling stories of families and their frequently frustrating attempts to navigate the health care system in an attempt to find treatment for their loved ones. The aim is to give voice to those who carry the responsibility for caring for those who cannot care for themselves, for whom hospitals have no beds and for whose condition there is currently no agreed treatment model. It will have a particular focus on family interactions with hospitals, health and social services, police and the justice system. Current research into drug and alcohol use primarily focuses on the users; this project will focus on the carers of users.</p>

Heather Ford <a href="mailto:Heather.Ford@uts.edu.au">Heather.Ford@uts.edu.au</a>	FASS	The ethics of smart speakers	The increased use of smart speakers to provide answers to common questions about the world provoke a series of important ethical questions that remain unanswered because of the technology's novelty. In addition to answering questions about the weather, smart speakers are beginning to act as a primary news source, as a reference source for facts, as a way of navigating the political, economic and social aspects of our lives. How should smart speakers attribute the answers that they provide to their human users? How should the algorithms driving smart speakers deal with conflicting facts about the world? On whose authority should smart speakers rely in order to achieve the necessary prioritisation of some answers above others?
Heather Ford <a href="mailto:Heather.Ford@uts.edu.au">Heather.Ford@uts.edu.au</a>	FASS	Wikipedia and breaking news	Articles about current events feature among the most popular on Wikipedia to edit and read and Wikipedia is one of the most popular websites in the world. Yet little is known about Wikipedia as both a source of breaking news and an historical record prioritised by search engines and digital assistants to provide us with apparently authoritative facts about the world. A number of questions remain. Who writes Wikipedia articles about current events? To what extent do international advocacy groups hijack narratives about these events for their own purposes? How do Wikipedia's automated tools advance certain narratives of an event at the expense of others?
Heather Ford <a href="mailto:Heather.Ford@uts.edu.au">Heather.Ford@uts.edu.au</a>	FASS	Wikipedia's representation of current events	Journalists may write the first draft of history, and historians document expert accounts by revisiting those sources after events have occurred. But Wikipedia editors are creating accounts of historic events in ways that are more powerful and certainly more popular than any single authoritative source. Although some work has been done to study history making on Wikipedia in Australia (e.g. Avieson, 2019; Phillips, 2016), there has not yet been a systematic study of how Wikipedia represents historic, Australian events and still many questions about Wikipedia's role in representing current events globally. This project would involve mapping articles about events in Australia on English Wikipedia and investigating how the narratives around those events are shaped according to Wikipedia's policy, software and the logics that underlie policy and practice.
Isabella Alexander <a href="mailto:Isabella.Alexander@uts.edu.au">Isabella.Alexander@uts.edu.au</a>	Law	Hacking Copyright in the 21st Century: Art, Law, History & Technology	The student will join a team investigating the tensions that underlie the legal treatment of visual works of art. The project will generate software and scholarship that trace the relationship between technology and visual copyright from the 18th century to contemporary regulation of the dissemination of digital image data via digital publishing platforms. Within the context of the project, doctoral research may investigate topics such as: How does copyright law influence the creation of art and the artist as a legal subject? How has the digital age transformed traditional relationships between creators of art, collecting institutions and the public? Developing software to investigate historical circulation and re-use of imagery in a digital humanities context. The successful applicant will be given research supervision, support and training, and will be expected to be an active member of the Project team. Depending on the topic, there may be the opportunity for a co-tutelle arrangement with

			<p>one of the partner institutions (Exeter University or Copenhagen Business School) and/or cross-disciplinary supervision across UTS Faculties.</p> <p><b>ARC Discovery Grant funding</b></p>
<p>Job Fransen  <a href="mailto:Job.Fransen@uts.edu.au">Job.Fransen@uts.edu.au</a></p>	Health (including GSH)	Self-discovery as a learning tool in tertiary education (masters project)	While guided self-discovery methods are commonplace in some forms of primary or secondary education, self-discovery methods have rarely been investigated in a tertiary setting. Therefore, this project aims to investigate the effects of methods of guided self-discovery applied to teaching and learning in sport and exercise. For this project, we are looking for a student with a passion for improving learning in tertiary education.
<p>Kate Delmo  <a href="mailto:Kate.Delmo@uts.edu.au">Kate.Delmo@uts.edu.au</a></p>	FASS	Social media engagement in COVID-19 crisis communication	The aim of the project is to identify social media use of community members in supporting crisis communication messaging of various sectors (government, private, not-for-profit) about the COVID-19 global pandemic. Theoretical perspectives from crisis, disaster and risk communication may be used to map the types of grassroots activities that emerged in promoting 'community kindness' through social media, an integral part in building community resilience during The Global Lockdown period.
<p>Lai-Ha Chan  <a href="mailto:Lai-Ha.Chan@uts.edu.au">Lai-Ha.Chan@uts.edu.au</a></p>	FASS	Australia's 'third way' foreign policy option in the Indo-Pacific	The current strategic discussion and thoughts within Australia as a middle power in the Indo-Pacific is clouded by a binary option - either China or the US. This overlooks the possibility of strategic hedging, a 'third way' beyond this binary option. The pitfall of this binary option is that Australia will potentially risk in losing either its principal economic partner and market or its chief security and political ally. This project aims to explore the viability of 'strategic hedging' for Australia to mitigate its potential security risks that it is now facing, namely excessive reliance on China for economic growth; China's political and military domination of the region; and US reduction in its strategic commitment to the region.
<p>Martin Bliemel  <a href="mailto:Martin.Bliemel@uts.edu.au">Martin.Bliemel@uts.edu.au</a></p>	FTdI	Entrepreneurial ecosystems	What systems are there that support entrepreneurial activities and outcomes, and what feedback loops are there in that system? This research takes a qualitative behavioural approach to generate an aggregated view of how the ecosystem works. It extends beyond research on clusters/precincts (geographic co-location), networks (social structures) and innovation systems (which emphasise the innovation; here the emphasis is on the person, their actions and outcomes). Prior related research examples: 2016 report for DIIS, 2018 Chapter (1), 2018 Chapter (2), 2018 article in E&RD, and 2019 UIIN magazine article.
<p>Martin Bliemel  <a href="mailto:Martin.Bliemel@uts.edu.au">Martin.Bliemel@uts.edu.au</a></p>	FTdI	Entrepreneurial capability development	This research builds on our counterfactual study in 2017 about whether accelerators build or erode entrepreneurial capabilities. Entrepreneurial capabilities can be made accessible to anyone (2018 LinkedIn), and include quite generalised capabilities such as creativity, identifying opportunities, mobilising resources, and mobilising others. Along with for-credit programs on campus (E+T 2019) we have developed free online resources (2019 ATN project). However, there remains a huge challenge in developing a scalable approach to accurately measuring the development of entrepreneurial capabilities and confidence

			therein. Our pilot studies showed how quickly confidence (self-efficacy) levels change and how inaccurate current capability measures are. There must be better methods!
Martin Bliemel <a href="mailto:Martin.Bliemel@uts.edu.au">Martin.Bliemel@uts.edu.au</a>	FTdI	What is transdisciplinary research?	What transdisciplinary research is remains poorly understood. In 2018, we published an open access Special Issue on Transdisciplinary Innovation that got us a step closer to a shared understanding. This project starts with a systematic bibliometric analysis of transdisciplinary research. Using this analysis, we aim to identify the leading definitions and researchers in this space, and to include their interpretation of preliminary results. This may lead to a typology of TD research, a research agenda setting paper and/or the development of new TD research methodologies.
Ming Liu <a href="mailto:Ming.Liu@uts.edu.au">Ming.Liu@uts.edu.au</a>	CIC	Writing analytics for deep reflection	This PhD is fundamentally about harnessing computational intelligence to deepen human learning in contexts spanning formal education, professional practice, and community transformation. For more detail, please visit this webpage, <a href="https://simon.buckinghamshum.net/2020/02/phd-scholarship-writing-analytics-for-deep-reflection">https://simon.buckinghamshum.net/2020/02/phd-scholarship-writing-analytics-for-deep-reflection</a> . Successful candidates will be eligible for a 3-year Scholarship of \$35,000/pa for a full-time student (a substantial increase on the standard Australian PhD stipend of \$25,849). To this, you may be able to add potential teaching income from the many opportunities to work with Master of Data Science & Innovation students. In addition, as far as possible, CIC will fund you to present peer-reviewed papers at approved, high-quality conferences.
Nick Hopwood <a href="mailto:Nick.Hopwood@uts.edu.au">Nick.Hopwood@uts.edu.au</a>	FASS	How do families affected by adversity help their young children thrive? A study of practice, learning and agency	This project will theorise how agency arises in families affected by adversity, particularly in relation to how young children thrive despite difficult circumstances. It will explore the learning that happens as part of this process, including through interaction with services, community support, social connection, and working through challenges within the family. This will be a qualitative study tracing how change happens. Options for theoretical foci include cultural-historical perspectives (Vygotskian ideas of double stimulation or the social situation of development), or the theory of practice architectures (Kemmis et al).
Ramona Vijayarasa <a href="mailto:Ramona.Vijayarasa@uts.edu.au">Ramona.Vijayarasa@uts.edu.au</a>	Law	What difference does CEDAW make to domestic laws, policies and judicial decision-making?	A PhD candidate will join a small team working on research that examines the effectiveness of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in delivering change for women at the national level. A candidate will be invited to contribute to this body of knowledge by conducting a 3-country comparative study of how international women's rights law has influenced change to laws, policies and judicial decision-making at a national level. The student may choose a particular period of time or select a number of different areas of law (reproductive health, gender-based violence, labour law, family law etc.) and will be encouraged to develop a robust methodology to actually measure CEDAW's impact. Studies to date have been relatively limited in nature, either too narrow or too broad to achieve depth. For example, they have either tended to be individual country studies, which although very useful in advancing women's rights accountability in

			<p>that country, have not lent themselves to extracting lessons for application in other jurisdictions. Where comparative, their use of a limited set of indicators as proxies and broad nature have at times hindered the extraction of detailed conclusions. The candidate will need to draw upon both quantitative and qualitative skillsets in order to undertake a study of this kind. They may pursue either a comparative study of one region or a multi-regional study depending on skills. The candidate may consider looking at Australia as one of the countries, but this is not a requirement.</p> <p>The Faculty of Law has previously offered Quentin Bryce Scholarships in similar fields.</p>
<p>Tamson Pietsch  <a href="mailto:Tamson.Pietsch@uts.edu.au">Tamson.Pietsch@uts.edu.au</a></p>	FASS	<p>Educating the nation: the development of the Australian curriculum</p>	<p>This project will examine the politics and history of the national education curriculum in Australia. A national history curriculum was first proposed by John Howard in 2006 in the wake of the Cronulla riots with the specific aim of bolstering national cohesion. Since those first highly politicised debates, the national curriculum has become an increasingly important educational framework across English, Science, Maths, and History. While considerable pedagogical research has been undertaken into the Australian Curriculum, to date little work exists on its historical and political development. Jointly supervised by Associate Professors Tamson Pietsch and Anna Clark (FASS), it will explore how the origins of the curriculum in twentieth century nation-building shape its form and function today—in particular, how the national curriculum reflects an evolving conception of the nation in both policy and public discourse.</p>