

THE EVERYDAY LABORATORY

Our region as a living lab

The Everyday Laboratory is the School of Humanities and Social Science's new Work-Integrated Learning initiative. We will use our city and region as a living lab for teaching and learning.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA



OUR SIX THEMES:

1. The Bridge of Hope Innocence Initiative Newcastle
2. Digital Worlds: Regional Histories in Contemporary Focus
3. Arts Communication
4. True Crime
5. Coal, Climate and Post-Industrial Transition
6. Gendered Violence: Understanding Impacts and Healing

A poet reads at the Newcastle Baths. Credit: Claire Albrecht

A NEW WAY OF LEARNING

The School of Humanities and Social Science's Everyday Laboratory (EL) offers a new approach to Work-Integrated Learning, enabling you to engage with local sites and organisations, build networks in the community, and add professional skills to your graduate profile.

The EL connects arts and social science students across a range of courses to the places and spaces surrounding the University. The courses will link classroom activities, online tasks, assessment items, research projects and placement opportunities to sites, places, exhibitions, events and institutions in our region.

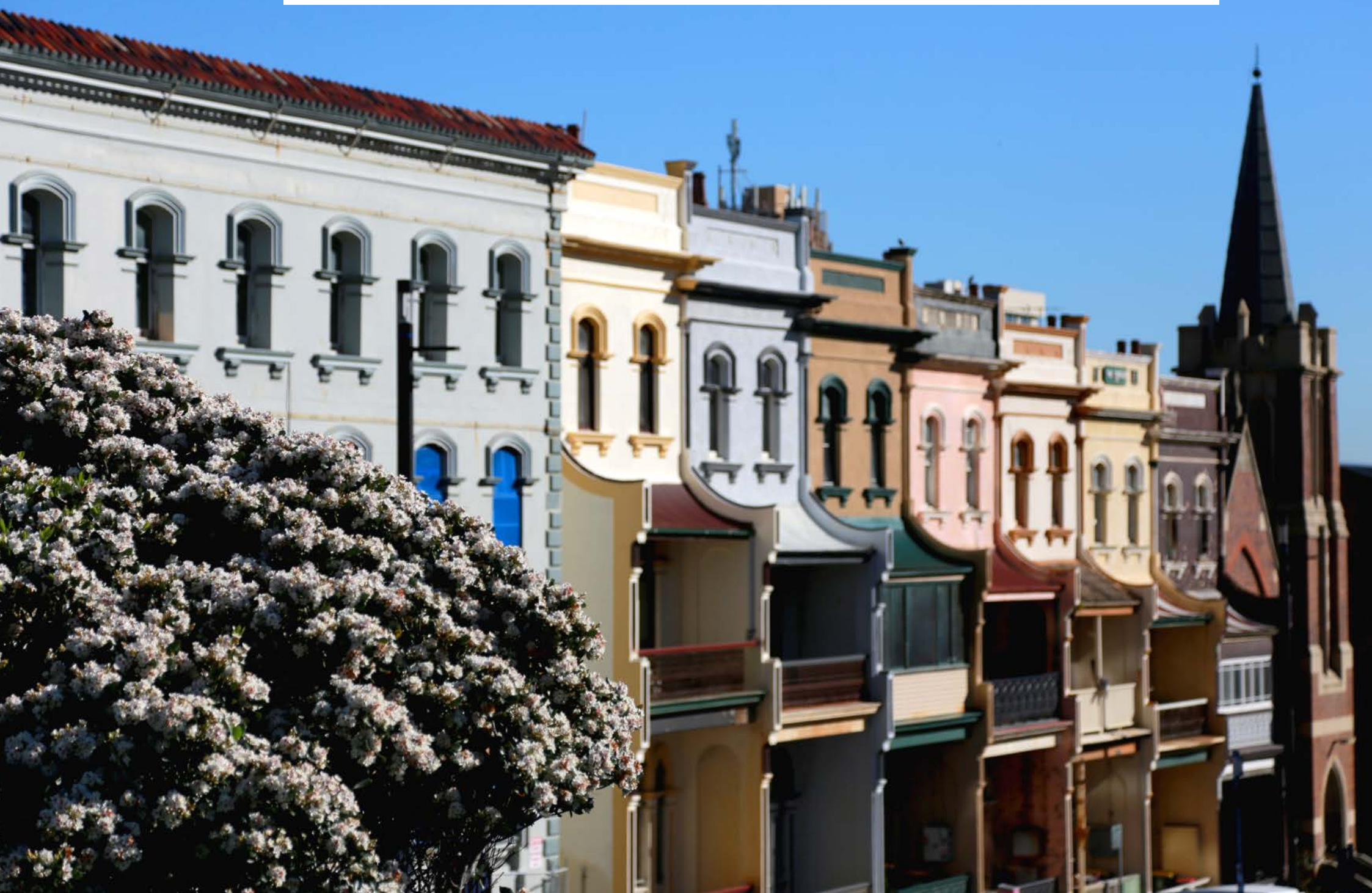
Examples include museum and gallery exhibits as places for observation and review, historical walks, engaging with large events like the Newcastle Writers' Festival or This Is Not Art, writing for the local press and underground media, editing for publishers, creating websites and content, blogging and vlogging, making podcasts or digital stories, ethnographic experiences, and more.

The EL comprises six loosely organised themes, each encompassing a range of relevant courses from different disciplines. The themes offer a different form of specialisation than traditional majors. Breaking down the discipline silos, they forge interdisciplinary links around shared issues and challenges.

The themes are designed for students who have career aspirations in these areas or want to add a professional edge to their generalist degree.

USER GUIDE

The **Everyday Laboratory** themes are designed for students interested in working on real-life issues in our local community and gaining essential professional skills and networks in the process. The six themes are curated suites of courses, linked by shared topics and a shared emphasis on authentic learning. Other than normal program requirements, there are no restrictions on the number or combinations of courses you can take. Simply enrol in the courses that appeal to you – **no sign-up or registration needed.**



Historic terraces and church on Watt Street. Credit: Claire Albrecht



Jamie North Rock suspension 2017 at The Lock-Up. Credit: Dean Belitich

THE BRIDGE OF HOPE

THE INNOCENCE INITIATIVE NEWCASTLE

This placement theme enables you to participate in the re-evaluation of criminal cases that may be miscarriages of justice. When undertaking a placement with the Bridge of Hope Innocence Initiative Newcastle (BoHIIN), you will work collaboratively with other students, academics and legal professionals on actual cases, analysing all the official evidence against the accused as well as any new information that has emerged since the court proceedings. The aim is to determine if the facts of the case support the hypothesis that a miscarriage of justice may have occurred, and, if so, provide information and advice to the alleged offender to assist them with seeking a review or a retrial.

Applicable Courses

CRIM3001 Criminal Justice Placement

HUMA2000 Humanities Placement: Local and Global Careers

HUSE3002 Human Service Practice Engagement Placement

SCHS3001 Social Sciences Supplementary Placement Course

SOCS3300 Social Science Placement

Coordinator: **Dr Xanthé Mallett**

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A 'connected' view from Shepherd's Hill. Credit: Claire Albrecht

DIGITAL WORLDS

REGIONAL HISTORIES IN CONTEMPORARY FOCUS

Digital technologies have revolutionised how we investigate and narrate historical worlds. Through the courses in this theme you will gain skills to bring the past to new audiences using digital modes. Historic texts, heritage artefacts and landscapes in Newcastle and the Hunter Valley are your living laboratory to engage in digital discovery, and the region's international networks add further opportunities for writing new histories of people, places and events. Experience the convergence of past, present and future in the University's GLAM^x Lab and contribute to the development of the *Dictionary of Newcastle*, a cutting-edge digital humanities collaboration with Newcastle City Library that provides online access to the region's untold histories.

Applicable Courses

AHIS2900 From Trench to Screen: Digital Studies of the Ancient World
ENGL2103 Writing for Arts and Culture
ENGL3408 Principles of Editing and Publishing
HASS3000 BA Project
HIST2051 Making Digital History: Curating for Public Audiences
HIST3621 Maps and Dreams: Aboriginal-Colonial Relationships in Australian History
HUMA2000 Humanities Placement: Global and Local Careers
HUMA2500 Digital Humanities
SOCA2020 Society, Space and Power

Coordinator: **Dr Julie McIntyre**
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Newcastle Writers Festival banners on King Street. Credit: Chris Patterson

ARTS COMMUNICATION

WRITE ABOUT ART AND CULTURE

If you want to develop skills in communicating about the arts, this theme is designed for you. The courses involved give you experience with a range of different forms of communication and cover the whole mediascape from print books and newspapers to new digital and social media. Activities include reviewing or reporting on cultural events in the region; undertaking editing and publishing tasks; or composing curatorial notes for exhibitions and digitised historical collections. You also get to engage with media professionals such as journalists, editors/publishers, curators, archivists, cultural entrepreneurs and literary authors.

Applicable Courses

ENGL2103 Writing for Arts and Culture
ENGL3014 Contemporary Writing Cultures
ENGL3302 Art of the Novel
ENGL3408 Principles of Editing and Publishing
HASS3000 BA Project
HUMA2000 Humanities Placement: Global and Local Careers
HUMA2500 Digital Humanities

Coordinator: **Dr Marie-Laure Vuaille-Barcan**

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Newcastle Courthouse facade from Hunter Street. Credit: Claire Albrecht

TRUE CRIME

UNDERSTANDING CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR

This theme allows you to develop work-ready expertise in the area of criminal behaviour. You will learn how to research and communicate about actual criminal cases, including cases from across the Hunter Region. Learning opportunities may include undertaking a placement in the University of Newcastle Legal Centre working on high-profile cases; guest lecturers by legal, law enforcement and media professionals; observing actual court cases in the public gallery; and attending other relevant events such as exhibitions, writers' festivals and public lectures. Interdisciplinary in nature, the True Crime theme establishes meaningful links between a range of social science and arts disciplines.

Applicable Courses

ABOR3999 Aboriginal Professional Experience
CRIM1020 Introduction to Criminology
CRIM2020 Media Criminology
CRIM3010 Crime Power and the State
ENGL3001 True Stories
HIST2006 Australian Underworlds
HUSE2003 Juvenile Justice
SOCS3200 Applied Social Research Project

Coordinator: **Dr Justin Ellis**

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Archival photo of Newcastle coal. Credit: University of Newcastle Cultural Collections

POST-INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION

COAL AND CLIMATE IN THE HUNTER REGION

The Hunter region is going through substantial economic and social transformation brought about by changes to the industrial base of the local economy. This interdisciplinary theme gives you an understanding of this transition, allowing you to engage with the impact of climate change on local communities and with the contested politics of coal. You will study the changing social relations of post-industrial transition both in the classroom and in practice via excursions to local sites and relevant organisations including community organisations, local government bodies, climate organisations, businesses and more. There will also be guest lectures by local experts, and you will have the opportunity to undertake a larger research project in this area.

Applicable Courses:

ABOR3999 Aboriginal Professional Experience
ENVS2002 Environmental Legislation and Planning
HIST2065 A Sunburnt Country: Australian Environmental History
SOCA1020 Introduction to Social Anthropology
SOCA2020 Society, Space and Power
SOCA2065 Environment and Society
SOCA3850 Indigenous People of the Contemporary World
SOCS3300 Social Science Placement
SOCS2300 Ethical Debates in the Social Sciences

Coordinator: **Dr Hedda Askland**

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Clocktower lit orange for 16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women Credit: Eduard Pagria

GENDERED VIOLENCE

UNDERSTANDING IMPACTS AND HEALING

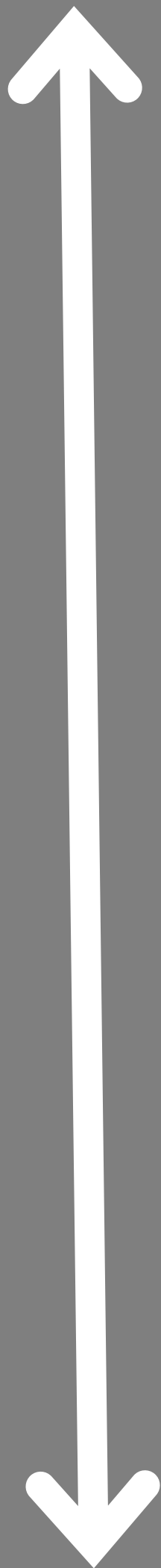
This theme provides you with the opportunity to explore the study of gender and sexual violence. Domestic and institutional sexual violence continues to be a significant risk factor for communities across the Central Coast and Hunter regions. Courses will address why sexual violence occurs, perpetrator culture, the impacts of trauma on victims and outcomes of successful treatment pathways. You will be able to engage with community-based and local government organisations, contribute to the 16 Days of Activism project, go to relevant exhibitions, attend public inquiries and court cases and hear from experts and activists in the field.

Applicable Courses:

ABOR3999 Aboriginal Professional Experience
HUSE2005 Gendered Violence
HUSE3005 Working with Groups and Communities
SOCA2700 Gender, Religion and Power
SOCS3200 Applied Social Research Project
SWRK2005 Violence, Abuse and Trauma: Theory and Practice
SOCS3300 Social Science Placement

Coordinator: **Dr Kathleen McPhillips**
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WHAT CAN YOU DO IN THE **EVERYDAY LAB** ?



- Report from the **Newcastle Writers Festival** or the **This is Not Art festival**
- Go on guided field trips to local sites, museums, galleries, institutions and businesses
- Work on exciting digital projects in the **GLAM^x Lab** and study the University Library's **Cultural Collections**
- Explore potential miscarriages of justice as a collaborator at the **Bridge of Hope Innocence Initiative Newcastle**
- Become a contributor to the online **Dictionary of Newcastle**
- Undertake extended **placements** with local businesses, government institutions, not-for-profit organisations and more
- Collaborate with the **16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence initiative**
- Attend public inquiries and court cases
- Produce content for **local print and online media**
- Learn **literary editing and publishing** from industry professionals
- Try out new research methodologies such as **walking research, auto-ethnography** and **digital cartography**
- Undertake a placement with the new multi-arts initiative at **Nobbys Head – Whibayganba**
- And much more!