The United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney (USSC) is committed to excellence in its postgraduate offerings. Our Masters of US Studies and PhD programs have been integral components of the Centre from its founding more than a decade ago.

Our programs have continued to go from strength to strength, evidenced in international placements and some of the most prestigious internship programs offered on the University of Sydney campus.

In 2018, there are exciting developments for our postgraduate offerings. First, a collaboration with the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies will deliver one of Australia’s first social sciences-focused data analysis units for postgraduates. Second, three new specialisations for our flagship Master of US Studies program draw on the core research and advocacy strengths of the Centre: politics, business and media. Third, new domestic and international scholarships will increase person-to-person contacts between the United States and Australia for our students.

Our programs provide a truly unique experiences for USSC students, and give unprecedented access to our world-class research, and our broad range of industry contacts within the private and public sectors.

Best of luck with your studies. We look forward to welcoming you to the Centre.

Simon Jackman
Chief Executive Officer
United States Studies Centre

Our programs at the University of Sydney

The United States Studies Centre offers full-degree programs at the University of Sydney, and units of study relating to politics, business, culture and research as part of full-degree programs administered by the University of Sydney.

For more information about the Centre’s scholarships, units of study and degree programs please visit: ussc.edu.au/postgraduate.

For more information about how to apply to degree programs at the University of Sydney please visit: sydney.edu.au.
Foreign policy, defence and strategy

Under the guidance of one of our research fellows, interns for our foreign policy, defence and strategy program will work part time for a semester in the areas of US foreign policy, the US-Australia alliance and Asia-Pacific strategy. Interns will be exposed to some of Australia’s leading experts on foreign policy, national security and the United States. Upon completion, each intern will produce a piece of research suitable for publication.

Up to four positions are offered each year to postgraduate students. Although this internship is available as a volunteer position for students outside of the University of Sydney, preferential treatment will be given to those currently enrolled in the Master of US Studies program or USSC units.

US Consulate General in Sydney

Each year, the US Consulate General in Sydney offers up to two postgraduate internship positions running over the summer break. Students interact with government officials and diplomats, receive credit towards their degree and gain invaluable, practical experience in the exciting world of diplomacy and international trade.

This full-time internship runs for six weeks and offers immersion into the areas of transnational commerce, media, economics, politics and management between Australia and the United States.

American Chamber of Commerce

As part of our close relationship with the American Chamber of Commerce, we offer up to four internship positions each year. This part-time internship provides students with unparalleled insight into Australia’s economic partnership with the United States.

“In AmCham, you will obtain a hands-on, meaningful work experience designed to enhance your academic and career goals. During the internship, you will network with colleagues and senior-level executives while participating in educational and professional activities designed to enhance your internship experience.”

Robert Hossary
General Manager NSW, AmCham

“Innovation and entrepreneurship

Two postgraduate internship positions will be offered in our new innovation and entrepreneurship research program. This program will cover data, business innovation and research to provide solutions to real-world problems.

“The innovation and entrepreneurship program examines factors driving business in an era of significant technological change by drawing on the experience of the United States with a view to informing the Australian approach. The internship provides experience transferable to businesses grappling with constant change.”

Claire McFarland
Innovation and Entrepreneurship Program Director

“Political science and public policy courses offered by the Centre are first rate. I found them invaluable in my subsequent work at DFAT, where I was a graduate, and completed a six-month rotation on the US desk. Perhaps the best thing about working in government is that you see the system from the inside.”

Dougal Robinson
Policy Officer, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Research Fellow, United States Studies Centre

Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme

Students enrolled in the Master of US Studies at the University of Sydney are eligible to apply for the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme. Placements are offered in both Democratic and Republican offices, personal offices and Committee staffs in the House and the Senate. Interns gain a unique perspective and unparalleled access to the US political system and institutions while they live and work in Washington DC for eight weeks from January to March.

Business

The US Studies Centre has multiple connections to the Australian and American business communities, hosting a regular “CEO to CEO” series with industry leaders across technology, construction and finance. Our postgraduate programs include curriculum from the University of Sydney Business School, and exclusive business-focused internship opportunities.

“The lessons I learned from my studies have proved vital for my current role at the US Department of Commerce in Australia. I promote foreign direct investment into the United States, helping Australian companies benefit from, and contribute to, the flourishing ecosystem of invention and inspiration in the United States.”

Georgina Harrowell (pictured)
Commercial Specialist, US Department of Commerce Master of US Studies

Media

With more than 1,000 media appearances per year, USSC experts are in high demand by Australian and international media for analysis of the United States. In addition, the US Studies Centre has produced multiple graduates now working for major media outlets. These include the ABC, SBS, The Australian and Fairfax.

“My job in the media is a direct result of the subjects I studied at the Centre. The program opened my mind to new perspectives, helped clarify my goals and introduced me to enthusiastic students who made class discussions a pleasure. Completing the Master’s program was a smart choice – given my time over, I would do it again.”

Justin Burke
Journalist, The Australian
Master of US Studies

“To be eligible for our internships students must enrol in one of the following: USSC6204, USSC6205 or USSC6213.”

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**Specialisations**

**Media**
You can now take your media practice to the next level with a combination of theoretical subjects on American media, and practical training subjects, in partnership with the Department of Media and Communications. Students can train in public relations, feature journalism, online media, broadcast journalism, or social media communications and marketing.

**Business**
The Master of US Studies is now one of the few postgraduate programs in Australia that allow a dual business and humanities qualification, with our new specialisation for 2018. Develop skills in international business, finance, entrepreneurship or marketing from the Business School alongside your degree.

**Politics**
Students pursuing a specialisation in politics will immerse themselves in political discourse, engaging with the Centre’s academics and researchers in lectures, and attending USSC events with key political figures. Students can also complete units of study in Government and International Relations or Security Studies to fill out their specialisation.

**Graduate Diploma**
Our one-year Graduate Diploma program offers more options to delve deeper into the study of the United States, and the influence of its politics, culture and business practices on the world. Experience our broad scope of 13-week or intensive Winter School programs in politics, culture, media and business. In addition, enjoy the freedom to study up to four units of study from our wide selection of cross-listed units.

**Data science**
Part of the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies’ Master of Data Science, the DATA5207 unit of study is now also available to Master of US Studies students. This unit of study provides skills in quantitative data science — skills that are in high demand by employers across numerous fields. Using the open source statistics software R, students will receive training in applied data science research methods with a focus on real-world social science problems, such as polling data, crime rates and health statistics.

“Skills in collecting, examining, understanding and communicating the meaning of data have become progressively significant for gaining the best jobs. This unit of study will help students gain a critical understanding of quantitative research, and acquire practical skills using different research methods and tools to answer relevant questions.”

Shaun Ratcliffe
Lecturer, Political Science

**Scholarships**

**Diplomatic Link Scholarship**
The Diplomatic Link Scholarship is offered to all international applicants currently residing in Australia who are on a diplomatic visa (subclass 995) or are dependents on a diplomatic visa. This scholarship automatically awards up to $7,500 pa for eligible students enrolled in the Master of US Studies, Graduate Diploma in US Studies or Graduate Certificate in US Studies programs, or the Master of Arts (Research) through the US Studies Centre.

**Australia-America Connection Scholarship**
The Australia-America Connection Scholarship offers up to $2,000 each semester for domestic students undertaking a full-time load in the Master of US Studies or Graduate Diploma in US Studies. To apply, students must submit their academic transcript, resume and a statement of intent.

**International Leaders Scholarship**
The International Leaders Scholarship offers up to $2,500 each semester for international students undertaking a full-time load in a Master of US Studies or Graduate Diploma in US Studies. To apply, students must submit their academic transcript, resume and a statement of intent.

ussc.edu.au/postgraduate
UNITS OF STUDY

**US Constitution**
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**Key Issues in American Culture**
Students in this unit will look at cultural landmarks that defined the American (and global) psyche. This unit of study aims to investigate the demarcations between 'high' and 'low' culture through written texts and visual art.

**American Film and Hollywood**
Covering the comprehensive history of the world's largest cultural phenomena from the 1920s to today, this unit will investigate the development of the 'studio system' and its aftermath.

**US Media: Politics, Culture, Technology**
Gain an understanding of the development of 'new' media in modern political discourse, and the intersection with more traditional modes of 'old' media. Investigate contemporary debates in journalism today, and how they apply to a changing media landscape.

**The Politics of Money in America**
This unit of study explores the social and political effects of economic policy in the United States, and the relationship between the private and public sector within the country.

**The US Business Environment**
This unit is one of the core units for students wishing to complete a specialisation in Business for the Master of US Studies, and will explore the regulatory bodies and trade and investment environment that makes the United States an economic powerhouse.

**US Strategy in the Asia-Pacific**
This second in the triumvirate of foreign policy subjects related to China and the United States is designed to provide an understanding of the upcoming challenges in the bilateral relationship between Washington and Beijing.

**American Exceptionalism**
Gain an understanding of how the idea of America as a 'chosen' nation has not only influenced American culture, but also America's political system and interactions with the rest of the world.

**US-China Relations**
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Students have the opportunity to join the United States Studies Centre in a research capacity through Higher Degree by Research programs. Our team of resident academics and researchers cover a broad range of research interests from culture and history, to foreign policy and defence. Coupled with access to visiting international scholars, the Centre is able to provide research students a unique academic experience.

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**
Students can pursue a Doctor of Philosophy in which they produce a major piece of research over three to four years. This original piece of research is typically 80,000 words in length and is considered to be a significant contribution to its specific field of enquiry.

**Master of Philosophy**
Candidates for the degree of Master of Philosophy research and write a thesis of 40,000–60,000 words on an approved topic under the supervision of a member of the academic staff.

**Master of Arts**
The Master of Arts (Research) is designed to meet the needs of students who would like to extend their studies beyond their undergraduate degree, primarily by thesis, but do not have an undergraduate honours degree or other qualification that would allow entry into a Master of Philosophy or Doctor of Philosophy.

**Research units of study**
The USSC also offers individual units of study for postgraduate students looking to develop their skills in research, ranging from USSC6916 Research Essay in US Studies, or our extended Treatise project (USSC6201, USSC6202, USSC6203).

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**Events**
The USSC hosts more than 100 events per year, including Joe Biden during his vice-presidential tenure, and Senator John McCain in 2017. In addition, the USSC hosts a dedicated series of student-facing events each year.

**Media**
USSC experts regularly appear in both Australian and US media outlets across multiple platforms. Centre staff have recurring media spots with ABC News and Sky News, and write for publications such as The New York Times, Vox and the U.S. News & World Report.

**Our research programs**
Graduates with skills in research are becoming increasingly desired by employers, as the value of research is being recognised across an ever-expanding list of industries. The US Studies Centre’s research output is a vital resource for government leaders and policymakers, academics and researchers, the private sector, the media and the public. In addition to academic research, the Centre plays an important role developing public policy recommendations.

**Foreign policy, defence and strategy program**
Our foreign policy, defence and strategy program (Alliance 21) examines the historically strong Australia-US relationship and works to address the challenges and opportunities ahead as the alliance evolves in a changing Asia.

**Innovation and entrepreneurship program**
The United States has long been regarded as one of the most innovative nations in the world, largely due to the presence of firms conducting global R&D and developing emerging technology, the sophistication of its financial market (particularly for financing new ideas), and an enduring culture of entrepreneurship. Our innovation and entrepreneurship program explores the factors driving US leadership on these fronts and the linkages and themes between the United States and Australia.

**Trade and investment program**
Our trade and investment program critically examines trends, challenges and opportunities in the US-Australia investment relationship.

“Our policy recommendations on issues such as the housing affordability crisis, immigration reform and company tax rate changes have been discussed at the highest levels of government. As the work of the USSC proves, there is an ever-increasing demand for graduates with well-developed research skills.”

Jared Mondschein, Research Associate