

PHD STIPEND (x1 position)
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
JOONDALUP, WESTERN AUSTRALIA
3 YEARS each, FULL TIME (1.0FTE)

Overview

An exciting PhD stipend opportunity is available for a suitably experienced and motivated emerging researcher to join the School of Arts and Humanities. The HDR student will conduct their research based in the ECU Social Ageing (SAGE) Futures Lab in the School of Arts and Humanities, supervised by Vice Chancellor's Research Fellow, Dr Catriona Stevens.

The School of Arts and Humanities (SAH) aims to advance social justice in the world and to improve the quality of life for all. We seek to achieve more equal and positive social relations; to foster the realisation of individual human potential; and to enable diverse creative expression. Working together, students and staff increase the stores of human, social, and cultural capital as a foundation for progress towards a more just and inclusive society. We do this work with clear recognition that humans must respect, and sustain ourselves within, the natural environment.

The Opportunity

A new research entity within SAH, the ECU SAGE Futures Lab delivers a 'social care' approach to ageing across the life-course. Our research emphasises the role and value of the relationships in an individual's social support network (formal and informal), including with the environment (physical and structural), as well as the use of technologies to mediate local, virtual and distant support networks. This approach promotes the development of collaborative communities of care that extend people's support networks at every age, with a particular emphasis on culture, diversity and inclusion.

Based in the ECU SAGE Lab, you will be actively participating in a research community inspired by the notion of ageing futures, which highlights the social revolution needed to re-imagine our relationship to ageing. As populations around the world are living longer, we need to change the way we think about and prepare for older age. In the Australian context, addressing our ageing futures is also about understanding our increasingly diverse older population, with 1 in 3 older people born overseas.

In this field, you will collaborate with a team that is at the forefront of research that leads innovation in social and cultural care. Our work contributes social science perspectives and methodologies to the creative and caring professions with a focus on cultural and linguistic diversity and the role of social support networks to wellbeing across the life-course.

One PhD stipend is available to work with VC Research Fellow Dr Catriona Stevens in the ECU SAGE Lab and wide SAH research community. Your project will align with Dr Stevens' ongoing program of research with possible topic areas including:

- Migration trajectories and career aspirations of aged care sector care-workers and clinicians
- Education and training of care-workers, including those from culturally diverse backgrounds
- Cross-cultural communication and relationships between staff, clients and families in aged care services
- Social class and migration, particularly intra-ethnic class relationships and intersectional classed positions
- Abuse of older people occurring in culturally-diverse families and family-like relationships

PhD scholarship: PhD students will focus on a project that is informed by their prior training to Honours or Masters level in sociology, anthropology, or a closely related discipline, and uses qualitative methods, creative methods and/or mixed methods.

The PhD student will be supervised by the VC Research Fellow Dr Catriona Stevens and will participate in the ECU Higher Degree Research community while building capacity as a researcher. Contribution to Field of Research (FOR) 4410 as well as other interdisciplinary areas as relevant is expected.

Proposals are invited for a research project that aligns with the research community and work in the areas of *Migration and Care* and methodology that involves a one of or a combination of creative methods, qualitative methods, and/or mixed methods.

Benefits & Remuneration

This full time PhD stipend is for a period of three years.

ECU supports a work/life balance for staff. Benefits such as flexible working arrangements may also be negotiated to meet your personal circumstances.

ECU has an Award-winning Health and Wellness Program and an extensive range of staff benefits across entertainment, financial, health, travel and consumer goods and services.

For information on the benefits of working at ECU, please visit our website [Employment Opportunities Overview](#).

ECU is a smoke-free environment.

Contact

Interested applicants should contact Dr Catriona Stevens at c.stevens@ecu.edu.au for more information or to organise a telephone/Teams conversation.

Applicants should be available to commence studies in early 2024, pending successful completion of enrolment administration and visa application (where required).

ECU is a diverse and inclusive workplace reflecting the differences in society. Specific strategies and initiatives are in place to address underrepresentation of specific groups. Applications are encouraged from suitably qualified people from all backgrounds.