

# POSITION DESCRIPTION



## Research Fellow Creative and Cultural Research



### POSITION DETAILS

Position Title	Research Fellow Creative and Cultural Research
Classification	Level B
Position Number	7016018
School/Office	Institute for Culture and Society
Division	Provost

### POSITION PURPOSE

The Research Fellow contributes to the Institute for Culture and Society's research excellence by undertaking innovative, interdisciplinary research that advances creative practice and scholarly inquiry. The role focuses on research creation, arts based and practice-based methodologies, art science collaboration, and engaged cultural research, with an emphasis on producing both high quality scholarly and non-traditional research outputs, securing external funding, and delivering meaningful societal impact.

The Research Fellow generates policy relevant insights into creative research and practice by integrating artistic innovation with engaged inquiry. Working across disciplines, the role fosters collaboration between Arts and STEM, supports transdisciplinary research initiatives, and assists in developing externally funded projects grounded in practice led research.

The appointee will bring their expertise to furthering the development of one or more of the Institute for Culture and Society's research program areas, including Automated Worlds, Borders and Migration, Environment and Technology, Queer Cultures, and Urban Futures.

### KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. Undertake original, high-quality research in creative practice, art-science, and transdisciplinary and engaged research, delivering independent contributions to the Institute's research priorities.
2. Produce high-impact research outputs, including peer-reviewed publications, creative works, and exhibitions, applying innovative and practice-led methodologies.
3. Contribute to securing externally funded research by developing competitive grant

- applications, particularly for national schemes and Category 2, 3 and 4 income.
4. Contribute to the development and maintenance of research collaborations across Western Sydney University and internationally, supporting global and cross-cultural research initiatives.
  5. Design and deliver high-quality teaching in undergraduate and postgraduate programs, integrating research-led and practice-based approaches where relevant.
  6. Supervise honours, Masters, and HDR candidates to successful and timely completion, particularly in creative and practice-led research.
  7. Contribute to research impact by supporting partnerships with industry, cultural institutions, and communities, and contributing to policy, public scholarship, and knowledge exchange initiatives.
  8. Contribute to professional and engagement activities including exhibitions, festivals, and short course development that extend research reach and industry engagement.

## QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

1. A PhD or Professional Doctorate in a relevant discipline such as communication, media arts, cultural studies, creative arts, , or a related field.
2. Strong track record in interdisciplinary and practice-led research, including delivery of high-quality scholarly outputs and non-traditional research outputs such as creative works or exhibitions.
3. Demonstrated success in securing external research funding and developing competitive grant applications, including national or industry-funded schemes.
4. Proven ability to build and sustain collaborative research partnerships across academia, industry, and community, including experience working in cross-cultural or international contexts.
5. Experience in supervising higher degree research students and delivering effective teaching and curriculum development in relevant disciplines.
6. Excellent communication, project management, and research leadership skills, including the ability to contribute to and deliver outcomes within collaborative and externally funded research projects.
7. Commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, including demonstrated experience in or capacity for respectful engagement with Indigenous communities and knowledges.

## KEY RELATIONSHIPS

- **This position reports to:** Director, Institute for Culture and Society
- **This position supervises:** Nil. (may oversee research assistants, project staff, and HDR candidates as part of research activities)
- **Key internal relationships:**
  - Director of Research, Institute for Culture and Society
  - Directors of Research Programs
  - Chief Investigators and members of interdisciplinary research teams
  - Academic colleagues across the Institute, Schools and Faculties
  - Professional and support staff across the Institute and wider University
- **Key external relationships:**
  - Research collaborators and partner organisations (including cultural institutions, industry, and community groups) including arts and cultural organizations in Western Sydney.
  - Funding bodies and grant agencies

- Professional associations and networks
- National and international research partners

## CHALLENGES

- Managing concurrent research, teaching, supervision, and grant development responsibilities while meeting expectations for high-quality research outputs and impact.
- Working within complex, cross-cultural and community-based research partnerships, balancing academic objectives with industry, policy, and community priorities.
- Contributing to the translation of creative and practice-led research into recognised academic outputs, research impact, and funding opportunities within evolving evaluation frameworks.

## UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS

The University expects that all employees are aware of, and comply with legislation and Western's policies and procedures relevant to the position, including but not limited to:

- Code of Conduct
- Work Health and Safety and Wellbeing Management System
- Enterprise Agreement or Award
- Anti-discrimination principles, Equal Employment Opportunity and staff and student equity.

**Approved by: People and Culture Partner**

**Date: 29 June 2026**