

# UNESCO CHAIR IN INTER-CULTURAL AND INTER-RELIGIOUS RELATIONS

DEPARTMENT/UNIT	School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics or School of Philosophical, Historical & International Studies
FACULTY/DIVISION	Faculty of Arts
CLASSIFICATION	Level E (Full Professor)
DESIGNATED CAMPUS OR LOCATION	Clayton campus

## ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

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At [Monash](#), work feels different. There's a sense of belonging, from contributing to something groundbreaking – a place where great things happen.

We value difference and [diversity](#), and welcome and celebrate everyone's contributions, lived experience and expertise. That's why we champion an [inclusive and respectful workplace culture](#) where everyone is supported to succeed.

Together with our [commitment to academic freedom](#), you will have access to quality research facilities, infrastructure, world class teaching spaces, and international collaboration opportunities.

[Learn more about Monash.](#)

Monash Arts is one of the largest, most diverse and dynamic arts faculties in Australia, with particular strengths in the humanities, performing arts, languages and social sciences. We encourage the development of innovative studies that operate at the intersection of traditional academic disciplines. The faculty delivers programs via six schools and across six campuses, both in Australia and offshore, with courses ranging from undergraduate diplomas and degrees through to postgraduate coursework and graduate research degrees. Monash Arts is justly proud of the research capacity of its staff, who work at the cutting edge in their fields and carry this expertise and enthusiasm into their teaching. To learn more about Monash Arts, please visit our website: [www.monash.edu/arts](http://www.monash.edu/arts).

The UNESCO Chair will be based in either the School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, or the School of Philosophical, Historical and International Studies, whichever is most appropriate to the successful candidate's work.

The **School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics** is one of the largest Schools in the Faculty of Arts with 80 academic staff and 6,300 students. The School offers a wide-ranging undergraduate program in European and Asian languages and cultures, as well as postgraduate coursework degrees in Translation and Interpreting studies, Applied Linguistics and Tourism, and

graduate research supervision through the Linguistics and Applied Linguistics and Literary and Cultural Studies programs. Members of the academic staff in the School have a range of disciplinary expertise - from literary and cultural studies to history and the social sciences - with particular research interests in migration and mobilities, socio-cultural Asian and European Studies, and in intercultural and cross-cultural interactions.

The School is home to four centres and hubs delivering to this strategy and creating significant impact and engagement beyond academia: the Herb Feith Indonesian Engagement Centre, the [Monash Intercultural Lab](#), the Monash University Korean Studies Research Hub, and the Japanese Studies Centre.

The **School of Philosophical, Historical and International Studies** comprises a number of programs and centres with 70 academic staff and more than 6,000 students. Programmes include Philosophy; Bioethics; History; Medieval and Renaissance Studies; Ancient Cultures; Indigenous Studies; Jewish Civilisation, and Consciousness and Contemplative Studies. The School's teaching covers many of the key areas of human societies and includes programs at all levels including research degrees, postgraduate coursework, and undergraduate majors. The School has an active research community, with high performance in publishing and grants, as well as engaging with communities and audiences in Australia and beyond. The school has a longstanding reputation for excellence in religious and inter-religious studies, with expertise across Judaism, Islam and Buddhism.

Both Schools are highly engaged with international partnerships and projects and are poised to make a significant contribution to the three global challenges of Monash's Impact 2030 strategy: climate change, geopolitical security and thriving communities.

## POSITION PURPOSE

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The Faculty of Arts seeks to appoint a Full Professor as the incoming UNESCO Chair in Inter-Cultural and Inter-Religious Relations. The appointee will have a distinguished research record, an international reputation, and demonstrated expertise in any disciplinary area pertaining to intercultural and inter-religious exchange and social inclusion. The appointee will act as a key bridge builder between researchers, civil society organisations and policy makers, both nationally and internationally.

The work of the Chair and their team will support a proactive research program that aligns with UNESCO's aims of promoting the values of tolerance and understanding through dialogue, in the pursuit of peace and human development. Recognition of diversity and social justice constitute the foundation upon which such goals are conceptualized, pursued and achieved.

As a Professor, the appointee is expected to exercise a special responsibility in providing leadership and in fostering excellence in research, teaching, professional activities and policy development in the academic discipline within the relevant School, within the University and within the community, both scholarly and general.

**Reporting Line:** The position reports to the Head of School

**Supervisory Responsibilities:** Not applicable

**Financial Delegation:** Not applicable

**Budgetary Responsibilities:** Not applicable

## **APPOINTMENT PERIOD**

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The professorial appointment will be a continuing appointment in either the School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics or School of Philosophical, Historical & International Studies (dependent on the appointee's disciplinary area) and will include the role of UNESCO Chair in Inter-Cultural and Inter-Religious Relations for an initial period of up to four years with opportunity for renewal.

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

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Specific duties required of a Professor and UNESCO Chair in Inter-Cultural and Inter-Religious Relations may include:

1. Actively engage in a specialist research area in line with the Faculty's research strategy, by maintaining a substantial active publication record and supervising and mentoring early career researchers and research students
2. Foster research excellence through securing competitive research grants and other external research funding opportunities, leading significant research projects building and leading high performing research teams and collaborative networks
3. Provide strong and committed leadership in teaching, curriculum development and research mentoring and training by actively participating in the Faculty's curriculum planning and development processes in addition to monitoring the quality of individual teaching in the relevant discipline
4. Take responsibility for the leadership and management of the academic team, including recruitment and selection, performance management and staff development ensuring equitable management of staff workload.
5. Provide innovative and effective leadership for the expansion of the Faculty's graduate research program by attracting high quality doctoral and master students
6. Maintain and broaden collaborative partnerships with relevant faculties and schools within the University and with the broader community
7. Maintain and broaden collaborative partnerships with external agencies and communities, including other UNESCO Chairs, both nationally and internationally making a significant contribution to the profession and to the discipline
8. Other duties as directed from time to time

## **KEY SELECTION CRITERIA**

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### **Education/Qualifications**

1. The appointee will have:
  - A doctoral qualification or equivalent accreditation and standing and recognised as a leading authority in the relevant discipline.

### **Knowledge and Skills**

2. Evidence of outstanding scholarly activity of an international standard in the relevant discipline area, including significant publications in the highest impact journals, a consistent record of high level research engagement and productivity and a demonstrated continuing commitment to one or more programs of research

3. Highly developed interpersonal and communication skills including the ability to liaise well with other academics, to mentor and develop staff and to represent and advocate for the school/department as a contributing member on various board and committees within the Faculty and the University
4. Evidence of collaborative and interdisciplinary research projects and the ability to foster a research culture with less-experienced researchers
5. Demonstrated ability to attract external funding in the form of both national competitive grants and other research income and in building links with industry, government, funding and professional bodies
6. Evidence of sustained relationships with relevant industry, business, government, community and professional bodies coupled with vision for the future needs
7. A vision for the future needs and development of Intercultural and/or Inter-Religious studies within Australia and internationally, from research and educational perspectives
8. Proven professional leadership qualities and capacity for executive administrative responsibilities

## **OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION**

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- Travel to other campuses of the University may be required
- There may be a requirement to work additional hours from time to time
- There may be peak periods of work during which taking of leave may be restricted

## **GOVERNANCE**

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Monash University expects staff to appropriately balance risk and reward in a manner that is sustainable to its long-term future, contribute to a culture of honesty and integrity, and provide an environment that is safe, secure and inclusive. Ensure you are aware of and adhere to University policies relevant to the duties undertaken and the values of the University. This is a standard which the University sees as the benchmark for all of its activities in Australia and internationally.