Altogether distinctive in the Australian context, the PhDSPT is a four-year program that begins with an intense year of coursework and training, combining serious theoretical and conceptual work with a strong commitment to engaging with the enormous challenges of our era. The demanding and rigorous year of coursework, comprised of four North American style doctoral seminars, provides students with a deeper understanding of the great debates in social and political thought, and better prepares them for the task of undertaking original investigations of their own.

The program is also committed to a cohort model of doctoral training. Each year there is one intake of PhD applicants, who begin the coursework and training together, forming a mutually supportive community of inquiry sustained by close contact with academic staff and students from other cohorts. All members of the program, staff and students, learn from and support one another from the beginning to the end of the PhD. The degree will be awarded as the Doctor of Philosophy in Social and Political Thought.

CALLING FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Applications from International and Domestic candidates are now being accepted for admission for 2017. Visit www.isj.acu.edu.au to find out what your Expression of Interest must include.

After assessment and approval of your Expression of Interest, applicants will be encouraged to apply for admission and scholarship to ACU.

Domestic students can apply for an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) Scholarship.
International students can apply for an International Postgraduate Research Scholarship.
Indigenous students can apply for an ACU Indigenous Postgraduate Research Scholarship.

DEADLINE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: 16 SEPTEMBER 2016
www.isj.acu.edu.au
All doctoral students participate in seminars, workshops, and supervisory relationships with outstanding academic staff engaged in cutting edge research.

Students develop a deeper understanding of the great debates in political and social thought, and the complexities of socially engaged research, and develop original investigations within a strong intellectual community sustained through close contact with academic staff and other students. Our students come from diverse disciplines (philosophy, political science, sociology, anthropology, geography, political economy, Indigenous studies, gender studies, literary studies, film, art history) and many also have activist experience. Some projects are purely theoretical, and some combine theory with diverse forms of empirical and action research.

All students are engaged in practically oriented and theoretically sophisticated research projects that aim at the creation of a more just, participatory and sustainable world. Our current students have come to the Institute for Social Justice from all over the world, including Austria, Australia, Canada, China, Germany, Iran, Iraq, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Turkey, UK, and Ukraine.

I initially approached doctoral study with a big idea in much need of form and direction. Commencing the ISJ Doctoral program with a year of course work sharpened my focus, strengthened my theoretical base, and helped me develop more disciplined practice in critical thinking, reading and writing.

Joining the creative, collegial energy and incredible diversity of people drawn together in ISJ is important to me. Being part of the annual Sydney School for Critical Social Thought has boosted my confidence as a scholar, being able to view my work in relation to others, and generate great connections, locally and globally.